

Q&A #4 – RFP – W6369-22-X043 – Data Science and Programming Training

RFP Issued: 17 May 2022

RFP Closes: **9 August 2022 at 2:00 pm**

Number	Questions/Answers/Amendments
Question 1:	Is the duplicate reference to “R Programming” in RT3 a typo that should say “Python Programming”?
Answer 1:	Refer to Amendment 1.
Amendment 1	<p><u>DELETE</u> RT3 - Rated Requirement - of the POINT-RATED EVALUATION CRITERIA in its entirety only and <u>INSERT</u> the following:</p> <p>RT3 - In addition to MT 8, the Bidder should clearly demonstrate the training provides more than five modules of each of the following Python programming topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Importing data; b) Functions; c) Algorithms; d) Packages; e) Data types; f) Data manipulation, including importing, cleaning, and joining data; and g) Data visualization.
Question 2:	For RT1, is it correct to interpret as 5 topics x 10 or more modules per topic, for a total of 50 or more modules to receive full points?
Answer 2:	Yes.
Question 3:	Can we submit an alternate option of remote live sessions?
Answer 3:	As these courses must be available to provide the training to people within 5 different time zones, and allow them to progress at their own pace, live sessions are not being considered.
Amendment 2	The Bid Solicitation end date is hereby extended to: 2:00 PM EDT on 19 July 2022
Question 4:	If a Bidder is not Canadian, will Canada consider governing law outside Canada or agree to remain silent on governing law?
Answer 4:	No.
Question 5:	Can Canada confirm the Initial Contract Period is one year?
Answer 5:	Yes. The Initial Contract Period is one (1) year from date of Contract Award.
Question 6:	Will Canada sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement before a Bidder discloses information on other customers who have used the Bidder's online service?
Answer 6:	All evaluators are required to sign and submit a Non-Disclosure Agreement to the Contracting Authority prior to receiving the Technical bid of any vendor.

Number	Questions/Answers/Amendments
Question 7:	Evaluation Criteria – MT4: If we don't develop curriculum and all content is provided within the online service, will Canada consider Bidder clarifications and exceptions?
Answer 7:	If the Bidder can clearly demonstrate that all the required learning materials are available within their online service they will be considered compliant for MT4.
Question 8:	Evaluation Criteria – MT3: Will Canada consider Bidder clarifications and exceptions?
Answer 8:	In order to be compliant for MT3 the Bidder must clearly demonstrate that it has the infrastructure and capacity to deliver online scientific training courses to a minimum of 100 students at the same time (concurrently).
Question 9:	Evaluation Criteria regarding "minimum of five modules" with each module "expected to take at least two (2) hours to complete": Will Canada consider Bidder clarifications and exceptions (various learning activities of varying length/duration)?
Answer 9:	A bid will be non-compliant if it does not meet the threshold of five modules of at least two hours each for the topics required in MT6, MT7 and MT8.
Question 10:	Section 6.7 Payment: As a subscription Service, payment is due at the start of the Service. Will Canada consider Bidder exceptions and clarifications?
Answer 10:	Refer to SACC 2010C (2021-12-02), General Conditions - Services (Medium Complexity) for all invoicing and payment information.
Question 11:	Resulting Contract Clauses, 6.3.1 General Conditions, reference 2010C (2021-12-02): If we have proposed modifications as appropriate for the subscription Service we provide and need to add terms and conditions that apply to use of our Service, will our bid be considered non-compliant and not considered?
Answer 11:	Modifying Canada's General Conditions as part of the bid will result in the bid being considered non-compliant.
Question 12:	Regarding "Canada to only pay for the number of students identified on the annual list of participants": We provide access to the Service on a named user basis, not concurrently. Will Canada consider Bidder clarifications and exceptions?
Answer 12:	The self-paced online training must be scalable, allowing Canada to only pay for the number of students identified on the annual list of participants.
Question 13:	Regarding "replace up to five (5) students identified on the participant list who have not completed more than 10 percent of their course within a Contract year at no additional cost": Will Canada consider Bidder clarifications and exceptions relating to reassignment?
Answer 13:	The Contractor's technical environment must enable the Technical Authority to replace up to five (5) students identified on the participant list who have not completed more than 10 percent of their course within a Contract year at no additional cost.
Question 14:	Regarding "All courses and material must be presented in the English language": Will Canada consider Bidder clarifications and exceptions as we have content primarily in English but some content is also available in other languages?
Answer 14:	At a minimum, all topics listed in Evaluation Criteria MT6, MT7 and MT8 must be presented in the English language.

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Question 15:	Annex "B" - Basis of Payment - Regarding "estimated" number of students: If pricing is provided on a named user basis for the number of users with access to the online Service, not as an estimate, and pricing is all-inclusive, excluding applicable duties, GST/HST, and excise taxes, will this exception disqualify us from the bidding process?
Answer 15:	Bidders are to complete Attachment 1 to Part 3, Pricing schedule and submit with their bid. As Canada is requesting self-paced online training for up to 100 people, the Basis of Payment will reflect the total estimated cost for the maximum number of students in a Contract year.
Question 16:	As Bidders will submit offers electronically via email, can Canada confirm the format instructions and environmental considerations do not apply?
Answer 16:	The environmental considerations as detailed within the RFP do not apply.
Amendment 3	The Bid Solicitation end date is hereby extended to: 2:00 PM EDT on 9 August 2022