

MANDATORY TECHNICAL CRITERIA AND POINT RATED TECHNICAL CRITERIA

The Contractor must demonstrate that they have a thorough understanding and extensive experience with wastewater, sludge/biosolids, landfill leachate, surface water, sediment, and tissue matrices and are able to generate technically valid results.

Only information contained in the proposal will be evaluated. Bidders must include all relevant information in their proposals. Evaluators will not consult other information sources (e.g. websites) unless they are specifically referenced in the proposal and valid links are provided.

Mandatory Technical Criteria

The bid must meet the mandatory technical criteria specified below. The Bidder must provide the necessary documentation to support compliance with this requirement.

Bids that fail to meet the mandatory technical criteria will be declared non-responsive. Each mandatory technical criterion should be addressed separately.

Criterion #	Mandatory Criteria	Page Reference in Bid	Met/ Not Met
M1	<p>The Bidder must hold an ISO 17025 – Testing and calibration laboratories accreditation.</p> <p>To demonstrate compliance, a copy of the accreditation must be submitted with the bid. An accreditation whose date of validity has expired, by bid closing date, will be declared invalid.</p>		
M2	<p>The Bidder must provide the fully validated analytical method document(s) for phthalates for all matrices. The method document(s) must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sample container types and volumes, preservation, holding times and storage conditions; • preparation, extraction and cleanup procedures; • instrumentation (e.g. LC/ESI-MS/MS); • procedure for analyte quantification by isotope dilution techniques; • description of the reporting limit employed; • description of the quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) system; • QA/QC criteria (acceptable blank levels, acceptable recovery ranges for labeled surrogates and spiked blanks, acceptable ranges for duplicate samples). 		

M3	<p>The Bidder must achieve the required reporting limits for 80% of the phthalates listed in Table 1 (## out of ## substances).</p> <p>To demonstrate this criteria the Bidder must provide documents confirming their reporting limits with their bid submission.</p>		
M4	<p>The Bidder's analytical methods must use the labeled surrogates listed in Table 1, or equivalent labeled compounds, for isotope dilution quantification. The use of additional surrogates would increase the quality of the method but will not be considered for evaluation.</p> <p>To demonstrate this criteria the Bidder must provide documents listing their methods, including this information, with their bid submission.</p>		

Point-Rated Technical Criteria

Bids that meet all the mandatory technical criteria will be evaluated and scored as specified in the table below.

Bidders must obtain a minimum overall point rated technical criteria score of 60% (300 of a possible 500 points) or higher

	Point Rated Evaluation Criteria	Cross Reference to Proposal (Supplier to insert)	Maximum Available Points & Minimum Score Required	Points Received
R1	<p>The Bidder should demonstrate experience conducting ultra-trace analysis (parts per billion, parts per trillion) of phthalates in aqueous samples such as surface water, landfill leachate, or municipal wastewater raw influent and treated effluent within the past forty-eight (48) months from date of bid closing.</p> <p>Analysis undertaken prior to method validation will not be considered as demonstrated experience.</p> <p>The Bidder must demonstrate this experience by providing a summary of the</p>		Maximum 100	

	<p>number of aqueous samples analyzed. The following information should be included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Client organization (may be government or private companies) - Dates ((MM/YYYY to MM/YYYY) - Number of samples <p>Points will be awarded as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 point for each surface water or wastewater effluent sample up to a maximum of 50 points, • 1 point for each wastewater influent or landfill leachate sample up to a maximum of 50 points. 			
<p>R2</p>	<p>The Bidder should demonstrate experience conducting ultra-trace analysis (parts per billion, parts per trillion) of phthalates in solid samples such as sediment, municipal raw sludge and treated biosolids within the past forty-eight (48) months from date of bid closing.</p> <p>Analysis undertaken prior to method validation will not be considered as demonstrated experience.</p> <p>The Bidder must demonstrate this experience by providing a summary of the number of solid samples analyzed. The following information should be included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Client organization (may be government or private companies) - Dates ((MM/YYYY to MM/YYYY) - Number of samples <p>Points will be awarded as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 point for each sediment sample up to a maximum of 50 points, • 1 point for each sludge or biosolids sample up to a maximum of 50 points. 		<p>Maximum 100</p>	
<p>R3</p>	<p>The Bidder should demonstrate experience conducting ultra-trace analysis (parts per billion, parts per trillion) of phthalates in biological tissue samples such as fish within the past forty-eight (48) months from date of bid closing.</p>		<p>Maximum 100</p>	

	<p>Analysis undertaken prior to method validation will not be considered as demonstrated experience.</p> <p>The Bidder must demonstrate this experience by providing a summary of the number of tissue samples analyzed. The following information should be included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Client organization (may be government or private companies) - Dates ((MM/YYYY to MM/YYYY) - Number of samples <p>Points will be awarded as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 point for each fish tissue sample up to a maximum of 50 points, • 1 point for each other tissue sample up to a maximum of 50 points 			
R4	<p>In the analytical method, the Bidder should provide a detailed description of how suspended solids in aqueous samples will be either included in the analysis or removed from the sample prior to extraction.</p> <p>Points will be awarded as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 points when solids are removed from the sample prior to analysis (e.g. filtration) • 50 points when solids are included in the analysis (e.g. liquid/liquid extraction) 		<p>Maximum 50</p>	
R5	<p>In the analytical method, the Bidder should provide a detailed description of how solids samples (containing anywhere from 2% to 30% solids) will be prepared for extraction.</p> <p>Points will be awarded as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 points when the solid and liquid phase are separated e.g. centrifugation or decantation • 50 points when the method avoids the need for phase separation e.g. Soxhlet extraction, sonication 		<p>Maximum 50</p>	
R6	<p>In the analytical method, the Bidder should specify how the reporting limit is determined in all matrices.</p>		<p>Maximum 50</p>	

	<p>Points will be awarded as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 point when the RL is determined according to the U.S. EPA MDL procedure** • 50 points when the RL is determined as a sample-specific detection limit based on signal/noise ratio in the sample matrix 			
R7	<p>The Bidder should demonstrate their leadership in the field of trace contaminant analysis in environmental matrices through participation in relevant Performance Evaluation (PE) or Proficiency Testing (PT) studies (round-robin studies and/or accreditation programs) within the past thirty-six (36) months from date of bid closing.</p> <p>The Bidder must demonstrate this leadership by providing the PE or PT results for compound groups such as PCBs, dioxins/furans, PBDE flame retardants, organochlorine pesticides, PAHs, or PFAS in relevant matrices (aqueous, solid, tissue).</p> <p>Points will be awarded as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 points per study completed for a maximum of 50 points 		Maximum 50	
	Total		500	

**United States Environmental Protection Agency. 2016. Definition and procedure for the determination of the method detection limit, Revision 2. EPA 821-R-16-006.
https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2016-12/documents/mdl-procedure_rev2_12-13-2016.pdf