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# Questions and Answers

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| 1.
 | Since this is a state program, will contractors be selected based on their region or will they be expected to work across the state?  |
|  | The RFQ solicitation seeks a single prime contractor that will lead a team of engineers/architects. The prime contractor, with its subcontractors if any, will be expected to work across the state. |
|  | Can we submit our qualification independently as LEED AP architects, or will contractors with complete teams (contractors and architects) receive high scoring? |
|  | To meet the minimum qualification, a firm submitting an RFQ must either be a private or public entity that employs engineers and architect(s) or has put together a team with engineers and architects. The firm must have a complete team in order to meet the minimum RFQ qualifications. (Page 22 of the RFQ solicitation) |
|  | What the full contracting requirements are for this opportunity?  Do we need to have an MSA?  Will we have Terms and Conditions in place before contract award?  Will you accept red-line contracts?   |
|  | This RFQ solicitation is not an MSA. The Standard Agreement, Attachment 6 in the RFQ, is the document the Energy Commission will use to enter into agreement with the firm (prime contractor). In addition, red-line edits of the terms and conditions in the Standard Agreement will not be accepted.  |
|  | Might you be considering geothermal for heating and cooling as part of this program? |
|  | Although geothermal is not specifically mentioned in the Scope of Work, yes, BSP/EPP Program will consider requests for geothermal heating and cooling evaluation from BSP/EPP applicants.  |
|  | Are tasks under Task 1 (Agreement Management) paid activities, with the exception of any special meetings requested by the contractor?  |
|  | Yes.  |
|  Q.6 | Is each applicant entity limited to one funding request NTE $20,000, or could a school district, special district etc. apply for multiple technical support grants if they could demonstrate that they were prepared to take action at multiple sites requiring assistance?  |
| A.6 | A Bright Schools Program (BSP) or Energy Partnership Program (EPP) applicant is limited to one funding request up to $20,000. However, the BSP/EPP applicant may apply for a subsequent technical assistance after the BSP/EPP applicant implements the recommendation(s) from the first technical assistance provided. |
| Q.7 | Is there a page limit requirement for the Contractor’s RFQ response? |
| A.7  | No. However, a portion of the SOQ is evaluated on completeness and thoroughness as well as clarity, succinctness. (Evaluation of SOQ, page 31 of the RFQ solicitation) |
| Q.8 | Are there any limitations or rules that would prohibit the Selected Prime Contractor to implement the work that is developed under this contract?   |
| A.8  | Prime Contractor and its subcontractors shall have the right to respond to publicly-advertised solicitation issued by EPP or BSP Program Participants for engineering/engineering consulting work. The Prime Contractor and subcontractors may enter into other contracts with EPP or BSP Program Participants directly, so long as such contracts are based on a competitive selection process or any selection process authorized by law. See Attachment 6 of the solicitation, Standard Agreement, page 24. |
| Q.9 | Understanding that the maximum funding amount is limited to $20,000 per Work Authorization, if the owner is interested in hiring the Prime Contract to manage the design-build installation of the project that is identified/developed under this contract, are there any rules or restrictions that would prohibit the selected Prime Contractor from engaging directly with the owner to manage the implementation of the projects? |
| A.9  | Prime Contractor and its subcontractors shall have the right to respond to publicly-advertised solicitation issued by EPP or BSP Program Participants for engineering/engineering consulting work. The Prime Contractor and subcontractors may enter into other contracts with EPP or BSP Program Participants directly, so long as such contracts are based on a competitive selection process or any selection process authorized by law. See Attachment 6 of the solicitation, Standard Agreement, page 24. |
| Q.10 | If a work authorization is capped at $20,000 and if there 10 projects per year, that comes out to $200k/yr and doesn’t match the $2.1 million at the end of a 3-year period. Is that correct or is there more money for each project?  |
| A.10 | The three-year contract is a maximum of up to $2.1million. Past participation from BSP/EPP applicants have been 10-12 application per year. Actual volume of work might vary, and could be as much as $2.1 million over the course of the three-year agreement. The work scope provides that there is no work guarantee, since each individual piece of work is handled through a work authorization. The three-year contract amount also includes funding Task 1 (Agreement Management) in the Scope of Work of the RFQ. |
| Q.11 | Is the Prime Contractor required to have a registered P.E on staff?  |
| A.11 | Yes. ( Minimum Qualifications, page 22 of the RFQ Solicitation) |
| Q.12 | What staff must have a LEED AP designation?  |
| A.12 | At least one person on the team must be LEED AP. The LEED AP is an architect.(Page 22, Minimum Qualifications) |
| Q.13 | The RFQ mentions that a firm submitting multiple SOQs is grounds for rejection. Does this mean we cannot submit on separate teams as subcontractors? |
| A.13 | A private or public entity may join separate teams as a subcontractor. A subcontractor is not subject to submit an SOQ directly to the Energy Commission. The firm (prime contractor), as head of the team, is the entity directly responsible for the SOQ submittal and will be subject to rejection if it submits multiple SOQs. |