

SOURCE SELECTION SENSITIVE
 JMAS III RFP USCA-09-R-0024
 VENDOR QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

SEQUENCE NUMBER	RFP REFERENCED SECTION PAGE	VENDOR QUESTIONS	AO RESPONSES TO SUBMITTED VENDOR QUESTIONS			
AO-1	L.4.2.2 - Page 30	Reference Section L.4.2.2, Past Performance - Government Wide Acquisition Contracts (GWAC) (i.e., GSA Millennia Lite, GSA 8(a) STARS, etc.) are task order-based Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (ID/IQ) contracts. Please confirm that these ID/IQ contracts can be cited as Past Performance assuming the descriptions demonstrate "comparable services of a similar size, scope, and complexity".	IDIQ contracts can be cited for past performance if they are for comparable services of similar size, scope, and complexity.			
AO-2	L.4.2.3 - Page 30-31	Reference Section L.4.2.3, Key Personnel - Please confirm that only the Project Director is to be proposed as Key Personnel and a resume for only the Project Director is required.	Yes. You are correct.			
AO-3		Will the Government consider establishing small business subcontracting requirements and small business subcontracting goals for this procurement?	The AO appreciates and encourages small business participation but is exempt from the Small Business Act.			
AO-4	L.4.2.2, M.1.2.2 - Pages 30 & 32	Reference Section L.4.2.2 Past Performance and Past Experience, and Section M.1.2.2, Technical Approach Evaluation - Please clarify the difference between Past Performance and Past Experience.	The past performance evaluation shall be based upon the responses from a series of questions asked of the provided references. Past experience will be evaluated based on the narrative provided to assess the Offerors ability to successfully perform similar work within the size scope, and complexity required by the solicitation.			
AO-5	M.1.2.1 - Page 30-31	Reference Section M.1.2.1, Technical Acceptability Evaluation, specifically "the proposal shall be evaluated to determine whether the Offeror acknowledges and certifies it can meet the requirements" – Since a technical approach addressing the Functional Areas (Software Engineering, Communications, and System Integration) is not requested or required, please describe the form and content for the acknowledgement and certification that the US Courts requires with the proposal.	The offeror shall acknowledge acceptance of, and certify its ability to meet each of the requirements set forth in the Statement of Work (SOW). This acknowledgement should consist of a certification for SOW sections C.5, C.6, and C.7 stating that the Offeror can provide the required services.			
AO-6	C5.1.32 - Page 9	Reference Section C5.1.32- Please confirm that the CMMI Level 3 certification requirement applies only to the Offeror's team member which is designated to lead the performance of the specific task orders requiring CMMI Level 3.	The referenced section requires experience working in a CMMI Level 3 environment, not certification. Individual task orders will contain specific experience and/or certification requirements.			
AO-7	M.2 - Page 32	Reference Section M.2, Contract Awards - Of the stated three to six contract awards will the Government please consider reserving a limited number of awards to small businesses? What is the Government's goal in awarding to small businesses for this procurement?	The AO appreciates and encourages small business participation but is exempt from the Small Business Act.			
AO-8	L.4.1 - Page 29	Section L.4.1 indicates that the contractor does not have to provide a discussion of the technical requirements of sections C.5, C.6, or C.7 of the RFP, but only needs to certify that we understand the requirements and that we can perform the work. Can you confirm whether the previous statement is true or not?	This is correct. See Response to AO-5 above.			
AO-9	C.5.3, Page 10	Page 10, paragraph C.5.3 – Will the use of laboratories identified in C.5.3.0, be specified in the task orders? Will the cost of the use of those laboratories be GFE or contractor provided?	The requirement and costing for provision and use of technical laboratories, prototypes and pilot systems will be described in individual task order requests. GFE will be identified in individual task orders.			
AO-10	J-5, J-6	B – J-5 and J-6 Labor Hours - It is unclear what purpose or function the large number of technician hours will be used for. The labor category descriptions are overly broad and include both hardware and software. Would the government consider dividing the technician labor categories and hours into hardware and software so that the contractor can appropriately bid the correct labor rate for the skill effort required?	No. The labor categories and hours in J-5 and J-6 apply to all functional areas and tasks described in C-5 and C-6.			
AO-11	C.5.2.11 - Page 10	C.5.2.11 Procure install and integrate communications systems - Does the AO intend the contractor to procure the communication systems and in turn resell them to the government, or is the contractor to supply labor services to assist the judiciary in their procurement of communication systems?	If tasked, the contractor will supply the services to assist the judiciary in the procurement and possibly the deployment of the communications system.			
AO-12	C.6 - Pages 10-12	C.6 - General Tasks - The list of General tasks includes duties that do not appear to be mapped to a labor category; for instance acceptance testing and project management. Please clarify as it is unclear how the contractor will determine what labor category to bid for a future task proposal that includes testing or project management?	Individual task requests will be issued after contract award which will include a statement of work. The task request will specify the labor categories or will require the offeror to propose the labor category most suitable to accomplish the task(s).			

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AO-13	C.2, Page 7	On page 7, Section C.2, first paragraph, last sentence ends "... three functional areas are further addressed in Section C.5." Should C.6 General Tasks also be included?	Yes, Section C.6 General Tasks requirements may be required under the three functional areas indicated.			
AO-14	E.2.3 - Page 14	E.2.3 Written Acceptance/Rejection - Please clarify the statement concerning Contractor receipt of written comments from the Government to draft and final reports. The statement denotes that even in its final status, a final deliverable is subject to comments from the Government.	The is correct. Upon review of the final deliverable, the Government may discover changes that were omitted in the written comments to the draft that are required in the final deliverable.			
AO-15	L.4.2.1.1, Pages 29-30	Reference: Section L.4.2.1.1 on pages 29 and 30 - The following sentence reads: "1. <u>Recruitment</u> : The Offeror shall describe its plan and company approach/policy for ensuring responsive access <u>to quate</u> [emphasis added] numbers of personnel with the qualifications and experience required under this solicitation." Text appears to be missing. Please clarify.	The sentence should read: 1. <u>Recruitment</u> : The Offeror shall describe its plan and company approach/policy for ensuring responsive access <u>to adequate</u> numbers of personnel with the qualifications and experience required under this solicitation. See Revised Section L.4.2.1.			
AO-16		May the proposal be hand delivered to One Columbus Circle, Washington, D.C. 20544? What arrangements need to be made to hand deliver?	Yes. Building Security will direct you to the loading dock in the rear of the building for delivery. Photo identification is required to enter the building. Vendors are encouraged to allow sufficient time to proceed through security.			
AO-17	L.2, Page 29	Are there any standards for the proposal in terms of font, font size, margins, or graphic type size?	No.			
AO-18	J.6, B.2	Will responses to government evaluate both Government Site rates and Contractor Site Rates?	Yes. See the revised Section J.6 Pricing Tables			
AO-19	L.2.2, Pages 28-29	Is there a page limit for either Technical Proposal or Business Proposal?	No.			
AO-20	M.1.2.1, Page 31-32	The RFP indicates that the contractor is to acknowledge understanding of the technical requirements. Is there a page limit for this acknowledgment? What is to be addressed within this acknowledgement?	No. See response to AO-5 above.			
AO-21	H.2-65.7, Page 19	The cost proposal requirements indicate a plan for multiple project directors. (Attachment J.6) Does AOUSC require the contractor to submit resumes sufficient to support the estimated five positions (using a annual hours estimate of 2,080 hours)? Are all Project Directors required to be Key Personnel or only one as referenced in Section H.2-65.7	See response to AO-2 above.			
AO-22	C.2, Page 7	Please provide details regarding the task orders issued under the prior JMAS IDIQ contract including award dates, award value, synopsis of work performed, and recipient of the award	Task Orders under the prior JMAS IDIQ contract consisted of the following functional areas: Service Area 1, project management planning, and acquisition support; Service Area 2, IT technical support, testing, and quality assurance support; the period of performance for the contract is 2004 - 2009; the value of task order awards ranged from the minimum guarantee \$20,000 to \$45,000,000; The contractors under Service Area 1 who received task order awards are Bearing Point, Nortel/PEC, and Robbins Gioa. The contractors under Service Area 2 that received task awards are Nortel/PEC, SRA, and L3.			
AO-23	L.4.2.2, Page 30	Does this refer to 1) Offeror's Level of Effort in their role as Prime/Subcontractor or 2) the percentage of program completed?	Section L.4.2.2 refers to the offeror's level of effort in their role as prime/subcontractor.			
AO-24	C.7.1, Page 12	Section C.7.1 implies that there will be a single Project Director for this contract and that the Project Director shall be considered Key Personnel. However, Section B.2 (Pricing) requests CLIN 1 through CLIN 5 be based on 10,400 hours of the Project Director's time annually. Should we assume that the Government requires five (5) Project Directors? If so should we submit five resumes, as these are Key Personnel?	The Project Director position pricing shall be included in overhead. The Project Director hours in Section B.2. are replaced with a Task Lead - See Revised Section B.2 Attachment J.6 Pricing Tables and Revised Section J.5.1.3 Resumes Attachment J. 5, where it is to read the contractor shall submit resumes for individuals proposed on each task order.			
AO-25	L.4.2.3, Pages 30-31	Section G.1.1 (Process for Awarding/Administration of Task Orders) stipulates that "A Task Request will be used to specify work to be accomplished by the Contractor to satisfy a particular requirement." L.4.2.3 requires that the offeror submit with its proposal the resume of the Project Director to be assigned to the contract. In as much as each Project Director's relevant work experience, which is subject to evaluation, depends upon the nature of the Task Request to "satisfy a particular requirement", how can this offeror possibly submit a resume which meets the relevance test without first being exposed to the particular requirements of the anticipated Task Requests? This offeror requests that Section L.4.2.3 be removed and that it be preserved as a requirement for the issuance of Task Requests.	The Offeror is required to submit a resume for their proposed Task Lead as part of their proposal. The labor category description is located in Section J, Section 5.3.1 Section L.4.2.3 remains unchanged.			

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AO-26	C.7.1, Page 12	RFP, Section C.7.1, Project Director and Attachment J.6 Pricing Tables, B.2 Pricing for Required Services - Section C.7.1 requires that "The Contractor shall provide a project director..." Attachment J.6 includes the Project Director as a Billable Labor Category. Please confirm that the Project Director is a billable position which will be ordered when the contractor is awarded a Task Order under this contract.	See response to AO-24 above.			
AO-27	J.6	Attachment J.6 Pricing Tables - The total hours shown for the labor categories are all multiples of 2080 hours. If a Task Order requires staff for a full year, will contractors bill 2080 hours per person for the year?	The Contractor will invoice monthly in arrears for the hours incurred on a task order.			
AO-28	L.3.4, Page 29	Pricing, L.3.4 - This section contains the following sentence: "Offerors should utilize only those pricing schedules for the support area being proposed." However, Attachment J.6 and Section C define only one support area with three functional categories. This offeror recommends that the government delete the last sentence of L.3.4 to eliminate confusion.	The last sentence of Section L.3.4, "Offerors should utilize only those pricing schedules for the support area being proposed", is deleted. See Revised Section L.3.4.			
AO-29	M.2, Page 32	Since Subsection M.2 details the evaluation criteria, what type of responsibility will be determined, as stated in Subsection 3-70?	In accordance with the Judiciary Procurement Procedures (JP3) Section 3.3.2 (c)1-4 the AO determines responsibility by looking to see if a contractor has adequate resources to perform the work under the contract or is suspended or debarred.			
AO-30	M.2, Page 32	What information will the Government use to determine whether an offeror is responsible?	See response to number AO-29 above.			
AO-31	M.2, Page 32	What is the threshold that an offeror must meet to be determined responsible?	See response to AO-29.			
AO-32		Will the Government consider proposals for one or two of the three functional areas of Software Engineering, Communications and System Integration? Essentially can there be awardees for specific functional areas and not for all 3 areas?	No, the Government will consider only those Offerors who acknowledge acceptance of, and certify its ability to perform each of the requirements set forth in the Statement of Work (SOW).			
AO-33		Are the Offerors required to have CMMI certifications for bidding on this RFP?	See response to AO-6 above.			
AO-34		Is it the US Courts intention to award several of the IDIQ's to qualified Small business?	See response to AO-7 above.			
AO-35		Are there specific page limits for any of the sections of the proposal?	No			
AO-36		Will the Courts provide additional reference materials, such as the Guide to Judiciary Policies and Procedures, Volume XIII (page 6)?	Additional reference materials, such as the Guide to Judiciary Policies and Procedures will be provided upon written request. The request should include the specific section reference requested.			
AO-37	L.4.1, Page 29	The evaluation criteria for the solicitation does not mention Contract Compliance (Section L.4.1). What is the AO expecting bidders to provide in this section and how will this content be evaluated?	Section M.1.2.1 specifies the evaluation process to determine technical acceptability regarding contract compliance.			
AO-38		If we are proposing subcontractors as part of our bid, are we required to provide a completed Section K for each of our subcontractors?	A separate Section K for each subcontractor is not required.			
AO-39	L.4.2.2, Page 30	Page 30; Section L.4.2.2: Past Performance and Past Experience. This section provides a list of information that must be submitted for each previous government or commercial projects/contracts performed within five (5) years of proposal submission. The information requested in #1. Name and Description of project; and #2. Contract Number/Project Number is the same information requested in #3. Brief Description of the Project (including contract number and award date). The only new information in #3 is the Award Date. Should #3 actually read Award Date only? We suggest that these first three items be: 1. Name of Project; 2. Contract Number/Project Number; and 3. Award Date. We also suggest that the Brief Description of the Project could be at the bottom of the table that would hold items 1 -11, which is followed by the larger narrative description.	#3 should read award date only. The brief description of the project shall remain under #1 and list the project title and/or a brief one sentence summary of the project. See Revised Section L.4.2.2.			
AO-40	K	In responding to the requirements of Section K, is using the registered certification on the Online Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA) sufficient?	No. Section K of the RFP is to be completed.			

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AO-41	J.6	Attachment J.6: Are the 10,400 hours per year requested in the Project Director labor category correct? Please clarify.	See response to AO-24 above.			
AO-42		The job families of Engineer and IT Analyst are nearly identical and in some cases identical in their qualification. Given the similarities how do the courts differentiate between the two families? Can the courts describe practical examples where each family would be used over the other?	Attachment J.5 identifies the contract labor categories along with requirements for general experience, specialized experience, functional responsibility, and minimum education. More specific information regarding expertise areas will be provided in the individual task requests.			
AO-43		May a Prime use a combination of past performances for both subcontractors and prime?	Yes; however, if using past performance for subcontractors, please indicate the name of the subcontractor and the percentage of work under the referenced contract/order performed by the subcontractor.			
AO-44		May a Prime bid on only one of the disciplines, i.e. Software Engineering, Communications etc.	No.			
AO-45		May a firm bid as both a Prime and then subcontract to another potential prime?	Yes.			
AO-46		Are there any incumbents? If yes, what are the names of the incumbents?	Yes. See Response to AO-22 above.			
AO-47		Does the RFP have a small business subcontracting requirement?	See response to AO-3 above.			