



April 13, 2021

The following (Q&A) will serve as Amendment #1 to NYSIF's Request for Quotes (RFQ) for Industrial Hygienist services, bid number 2021-11-INS. Material in this Amendment supersedes any contradictory material in the RFP.

A. Section 4 of the RFQ is hereby deleted and replaced in entirety by the following:

4. METHOD OF AWARD & DISTRIBUTION OF WORK

NYSIF will award contracts based on Region; NYSIF anticipates multiple awards for each Region. Please refer to Attachment 3, "Map of Regions" for the geographic areas of responsibility. Bidders must specify which region(s) they are seeking a contract for work, and Bidders may contract in more than one region. Contractors will be placed on a panel for each Region awarded.

REGION	MAXIMUM AWARDS
Region 1: Western NY	3
Region 2: Finger Lakes	2
Region 3: Southern Tier	2
Region 4: Central NY	2
Region 5: Capital Region	3
Region 6: North Country	2
Region 7: Mid-Hudson	3
Region 8: New York City	5
Region 9: Long Island	5

NYSIF will issue Statements of Work (SOW) to awarded panel Firm(s) based upon the geographical location of the work. Panel Firm(s) will be required to submit responses to the SOW detailing the project specifics (e.g. scope, deliverables, effort, cost, etc.). Work will be awarded based on an evaluation of the proposals.

No minimum amount of work is guaranteed.

RESERVED RIGHTS:

1. NYSIF reserves the right to request proposals from ALL contracted Firm(s), regardless of region, if it is determined to be in the best interest of NYSIF.
2. If the contracted Firms in a Region are unable to complete an assignment for any reason, NYSIF reserves the right to assign the work to Firms awarded in adjacent Regions.

Please note that the due date for the submission of bids **remains unchanged**. All bids are due April 21, 2021, by 2:00 p.m.(eastern).

Sincerely,

Lindsay Ralbovsky

Lindsay Ralbovsky
Contract Management Specialist

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENIST
RFQ #2021-11-INS
Amendment 1

Question #	RFQ Page #	RFQ Section and Sub-Section Reference #/Heading	Question	NYSIF Response
1	6	Mandatory Requirements	Can 2 small companies go as a Joint Venture Bidder?	No. A single Prime company must submit a proposal with other associated vendors as subcontractors to their bid. Please note, the Prime vendor must meet all mandatory requirements.
2	1	3. Contract Terms & Approval	<p>Page 1 states that the contract value resulting from the procurement will not exceed \$500,000. Since it is a 5 year contract and the NYSIF is anticipating a maximum of 47 awards, the value of the contract to the respondents is roughly \$2,000/year. The proposal cost will exceed that projected 1st year revenue. Would the NYSIF consider reducing the number of contracts awarded to make this worth more to those making the effort to pursue the contract?</p>	<p>See attached cover letter for a revised version of Section 4.</p> <p>The awards listed under Section 4 are the Maximum number of awards; however, the actual number of awards under this solicitation may be less. It will be dependent upon NYSIF's projected needs.</p> <p>The volume of work is unknown as it is dependent on NYSIF's Policy Holders needs and the location of the Policy Holder. As such, NYSIF cannot provide an estimation on the value of the subsequent awarded contracts.</p> <p>Please note, there is no minimum amount of work guaranteed under this contract.</p>
3	76	Appendix M IV. MWBE Utilization Plan	Does a WBE respondent firm need to include a MBE utilization plan?	No, however NYSIF still encourages bidders to use certified firms where feasible.
4	99	Appendix S II. SDVOB Utilization Plan	Does a WBE respondent firm need to include a SDVOB utilization plan?	No, however NYSIF still encourages bidders to use certified firms where feasible.
5	7	13, A/Scope of Services/Respirator Fit Testing	Please provide the type of method/media to be used for Qualitative fit testing (e.g. Bitrex, smoke test)	Media used should be based on OSHA standards for the mask being tested. It is NYSIF's expectation that the awarded Firm(s) will have the background, knowledge, and expertise to determine the appropriate media/method.

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6	7	13, A/Scope of Services/Respirator Fit Testing	Please provide an estimated number of Qualitative fit tests that would be needed to be performed as the cost is determined based on how much time it takes to perform tests based on number of tests.	The estimated number of qualitative fit tests is unknown. NOTE: The "Hourly Rate" provided by Bidders on the Fee Schedule will be used when the Industrial Hygienist is visiting NYSIF's Policy Holder facilities. If applicable, the "Per Exam/Fitting Rate" will be used when clients are visiting the Industrial Hygienists testing facility for the exam/fitting.
7	7	13, A/Scope of Services/Respirator Fit Testing	Would it be an issue if the bidder has no testing facility for performing qualitative or quantitative fit tests?	No. This is a desirable service, but bidders would still be considered regardless of whether they can supply a testing facility.
8	7	13, A/Scope of Services/Air Quality Testing	Please clarify what hazardous substances would be tested for exposure as the cost for each substance is different for testing.	The hazardous substances that would need to be tested is unknown at this time. It is NYSIF's expectation that the awarded Firm(s) will have the background, knowledge, and expertise to develop the scope of services for the appropriate results to be determined.
9	7	13, A/Scope of Services/Noise Exposure Testing	Please clarify if the noise monitoring would be conducted using dosimeters for area noise readings or personal noise dosimeters on personnel for the individual noise exposure.	Either form of testing may be requested. It is NYSIF's expectation that the awarded Firm(s) will have the background, knowledge, and expertise to determine the scope of services for the appropriate results to be determined.
10	7	13, A/Scope of Services/Noise Exposure Testing	How many noise readings would be expected on a single time testing.	It is NYSIF's expectation that the awarded Firm(s) will have the background, knowledge, and expertise to develop the scope of services for the appropriate results to be determined.
11	7	13, A/Scope of Services/conduct 4-meter tests	Please clarify what are the 4 parameters that are being tested in the confined space.	Typically, Oxygen (O2), Carbon Monoxide (CO), Hydrogen Sulfide (H2S), Methane (CH4) or other combustible gases; however, it is NYSIF's expectation that the awarded Firm(s) will have the background, knowledge, and expertise to develop the scope of services for the appropriate results to be determined.

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12	7	13, A/Scope of Services	Please clarify how would be hourly rates work for the onsite work/testing and office work preparing reports, providing clarifications and recommendations, ordering equipment for tests etc. Will the CIH be paid at the same rate as established in Appendix Z schedule for all the work the CIH performs for a service?	The Industrial Hygienist would be paid at the hourly rate established on the Appendix Z for the hours they are physically onsite and the hours they devote to NYSIF-specific tasks at their workplace. Please refer to Section 16 "Location and Travel" for additional information on how travel is addressed in the bidder's rates.
13	8	14, cost factors	Does a bidder need to provide rates of each region for each year separately or will the rates submitted on Appendix Z for a region stay the same for 3 years?	Bidder needs to provide rates for each region, however they only need to provide a single fee schedule for each region as the rates remain fixed for the first three years of the contract. Please refer to Section 15 "Escalation" for additional details.
14	2	4, method of award & distribution of work	Please clarify if the maximum awards mentioned for a region in this section are for a single year or for 5-year period of the contract.	All awards will be for 5-year term contracts.
15	6	12, Mandatory Requirements	Please clarify if all the work under this mandatory requirement needs to be performed by a CIH or can a IH perform the work under the guidance of a CIH.	Yes, an IH can perform the service under the guidance of a CIH.
16	7	13, A/Scope of Services/Respirator Fit Testing	Where should the bidder charge for supplies and materials for renting and using the equipment for qualitative an quantitative fit testing?	Bidders are to provide all-inclusive rates under the Appendix Z "Fee Schedule." The Fee Schedule provides for hourly rates, per exam fitting rates, and ancillary equipment. It is the responsibility of the bidder to ensure they can provide the full scope of services at the rates established in their fee schedule.
17	7	13, A/Scope of Services/Air Quality Testing	Where should the bidder charge for supplies and materials for renting and using the equipment for air quality testing and lab costs with the testing for samples	Please refer to response to Question 16.

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18	7	13, A/Scope of Services/Noise Exposure Testing	Where should the bidder charge for supplies and materials for renting and using the equipment for noise exposure testing and lab costs with the testing for samples	Please refer to response to Question 16.
19	7	13, A/Scope of Services/conduct 4-meter tests	Where should the bidder charge for supplies and materials for renting and using the equipment for conducting 4meter-test and any lab costs associated with the testing	Please refer to response to Question 16.
20	1	2, purpose of this RFQ	it is mentioned under this section that the value of the resulting contract from this procurement will not exceed \$500,000. Please clarify if the value of the contract is for 5 year period or it is not to exceed \$500,000 per year.	The value of the resulting contracts from this procurement will not exceed \$500,000 for the entirety of the 5-year term.