

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS [Amendment #2]

Question: 1. What is the expected size of this project?

Answer: 110 aides, 25-30 nurses

Question: 2. We would like to confirm that this project’s initial duration is for 3 months.

Answer: Duration is for an entire school year (August to June), plus ESY (Extended School Year)

Question: 3. Does the DCPS expect to reward this bid to an incumbent supplier?

Answer: No

Question: 4. Why is the district utilizing a solicitation for the services requested in this bid?

Answer: For DCPS to have enough staff to comply with those students whose IEP indicates the support of a dedicated aide, contracted staff is necessary.

Question: 5. Can the District please clarify how needs for vendor supplied contractors will be disseminated to awardees post award?

Answer: The District will provide service assignments to the successful awardee after the post award conference,

Question: 6. Can the district please provide evaluation criteria, along with points or percentages for the determining award?

Answer: In accordance with section L.1 METHOD OF AWARD, specifically L.1.1:

L.1.1 The District reserves the right to accept/reject any/all bids resulting from this solicitation. The CO may reject all bids or waive any minor informality or irregularity in bids received whenever it is determined that such action is in the best interest of the District. GAGA-2022-I-0186 – DEDICATED AIDES AND NURSES 52 L.1.2 The District intends to award a single contract resulting from this solicitation to the responsive and responsible bidder who has the lowest bid

Question: 7. How many references are required?

Answer: This Invitation for Bids does not require references.

Question: 8. When is the estimated contract award date, and start date for services?

Answer: June 27, 2022

Question: 9. How will the district communicate award status to vendors?

Answer: The District will email a Notice of Non-Award to unsuccessful vendors and email a Notice of Award to the successful bidder.

Question: 10. How many vendors is the district currently utilizing for the provision of services listed in this solicitation?

Answer: One

Question: 11. How many vendors does the district expect to award a contract to for the services requested in this solicitation?

Answer: One

Question: 12. Can the district please provide incumbent information and current bill rates for contracts in place for similar services?

Answer: That information is available via a FOIA request.

Question: 13. Can the district please list all supplies, equipment, and materials that vendors are responsible for providing to contracted employees?

Answer: The prospective bidder/vendor is required to provide technology (Laptops, tablets, mobile phones and all other electronic devices to their employees.

Question: 14. What are the district expectations of contract providers to assist in Medicaid reimbursement documentation services?

Answer: In accordance with section C.5.1.17:
The Contractor shall furnish upon request to DCPS, the Medicaid agency, the Federal Government or their designees, information related to business transactions in accordance with 42 CFR 455.105(b).

Question: 15. Will the district be providing the crisis prevention intervention training required for contracted personnel?

Answer: Aides will be trained in Safety Care, if appropriate and necessary for support of the student.

Question: 16. Does the district expect a specific crisis prevention intervention or restraint training, or will the district accept vendor developed training which covers all applicable topics?

Answer: At this time, DCPS uses Safety Care for our crisis prevention intervention.

Question: 17. For the Nurses and Lead Nurses, is there a preference between RNs or LPNs?

Answer: LPN's are appropriate to medically support most students. An RN is necessary to manage LPN's. Medical needs and assigned medical staff are based on the medical complexity of the student and doctor's orders.

Question: 18. Will contracted personnel receive oversight and direction on FBA and BIP documents?

Answer: The FBA is used to develop the BIP. Aides will be provided with guidance on how to implement BIP's if assigned student has one.

Question: 19. Can the district please define "personnel materials" that are referenced on page 11, section C.5.1.10?

Answer: Personnel materials are considered: personnel file for each staff person providing services under this contract that contains an application for employment, professional references, and verification of applicable credential/certification, etc.

Question: 20. In the event distance learning is required, can the district please confirm that laptops/tablets will be provided by the district for contracted personnel?

Answer: Laptops are not provided to contracted staff. The contractor must provide Laptops/tablets to their staff.

Question: 21. Will our nurses be required to ride the bus with these students? If yes, what is the student acuity/diagnosis of each student needing transportation services?

Answer: No, dedicated nurse do not ride the bus with students to and from school but may be needed should the student participate in field trips. The medical diagnoses will vary based on the student participating in field trips.

Question: 22. Can the district confirm that transportation safety and guidelines will be provided for any instance where contracted personnel is required to ride a bus with a student?

Answer: The local school team will provide the aide with safety protocols when supporting a student on a field trip.

Question: 23. Who, from the district, will provide clinical oversight and support for contracted Nurses?

Answer: The contractor will provide a Registered Nurse who will provide clinical oversight for the assigned nurses.

Question: 24. Who, from the district, will provide oversight and direction for contracted Aides?

Answer: Contracted aides are managed by the contractor in conjunction with the school principal where assigned. Aides are provided with guidance by the school team, including the classroom teacher. The contractor must provide a supervisor to respond to school questions and issues involving their aides. Supervisors must be able to meet in person with school staff when requested.

Question: 25. Are there any financial penalties if a vendor is not able to hit the 51% District Residents New Hires Requirements, but best efforts are made OR is there an alternative option for negotiation?

Answer: In accordance with section F.3.1
The Contractor shall submit to the District, as a deliverable, the report described in section H.5.5 which is required by the 51% District Residents New Hires Requirements and First Source Employment Agreement. If the Contractor does not submit the report as part of the deliverables, the District shall not make final payment to the Contractor pursuant to section G.3.2.

Question: 26. Can Section C.5.1.13 be updated so the District notifies the Contractor of low performance, based on a mutually accepted grading system?

Answer: Due to the nature of the required services, the Contractor shall remove low performing paraprofessionals and nurses immediately and replace with appropriate personnel.

Question: 27. Can Section H111 and all DC Resident Requirements be removed from the contract obligations?

Answer: No. Section H.1.11 are the District of Columbia Government requirements.

Question: 28. When are reserved sections provided to the Contractor?

Answer: When the solicitation states reserved, it does not apply. It is used to maintain numbering and spacing.

- Question: 29. Can unusual incident language under H.19.1 be made mutual?
- Answer: No. H.19.1 is standard District language and is required in all District solicitations.
- Question: 30. Can the Contractor have the ability to advertise this Agreement?
- Answer: The prospective bidder/contractor should have immediate staffing capacity available for the start of services on June 27, 2022.
- Question: 31. Can the Contractor indemnify for “sole negligence” only under ISF and the 2010 Standard Contract Provisions?
- Answer: No.
- Question: 32. How does 5b of the 2010 Standard Contract Provisions apply to COVID services and Vaccination services?
- Answer: 5b of the Standard Contract Provisions (July 2010) is “Inspection of Supplies”. GAGA-2022-I-0186 is for services.
- Question: 33. Can liquidated damages be removed from the contract obligations?
- Answer: No
- Question: 34. Can 16. Termination for Convenience be made mutual under the 2010 Standard Contract Provisions?
- Answer: No, this is standard District language. The District of Columbia Government can terminate for convenience when it is in the best interest of the government
- Question: 35. Can #47 be removed from the 2010 Standard Contract Provisions?
- Answer: No. Any contract in excess of \$1M shall not be binding or give rise to any claim or demand against the District until approved by the Council of the District of Columbia and signed by the CO.
- Question: 36. In section B.4.1 the base year is listed as “June 27, 2022 THRU September 30,2022), however under the item description the period covered under all three CLIN’s is “7/1/2022 to 9/30/2022”
- Answer: The period stated in Section B.

Question: 37. Can you confirm which start date is correct?

Answer: June 27, 2022

Question: 38. In section B.4.1 in CLIN 0001 the Quantity Minimum hours of 3750 is greater than the Quantity Maximum hours of 1750. Is this correct?

Answer: No. The correct Maximum hours for CLIN 0001 is 17,250.

Question: 39. Can you confirm if sections H.13.10 through H.13.12 are future requirements under this solicitation?

Answer: Sections H.13.10 and H.13.12 are applicable to the Base Year and all subsequent option years.

Question: 40. Does the bidder have to bid in all categories? Can you bid on paraprofessionals or Nursing Services separately?

Answer: **B.3 AGGREGATE GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL ITEM**

Award, if made, will be to a single bidder in the aggregate for those groups of items indicated by "Aggregate Award Group" herein. Bidder must quote unit prices on each item within each group to receive consideration. Award, if made, on all other items will be on an individual item basis.

Question: 41. Will the resulting IDIQ(s) go to one bidder or multiple bidders

Answer: The District anticipates an award to a single bidder, in accordance with section B.3 of the solicitation.