

May 13, 2022

To: All Interested Vendors {Bidders}

**Bid Solicitation: Long Term Care Facilities Surveys Engagement #22-100
(Amendment #2)**

Quote Submission Due Date: Thursday, May 19, 2022, by 3 PM EST

Bid Amendment # 2- Question & Answer

The following constitutes Bid Amendment #2 to the above-referenced Bid Solicitation:

It is the sole responsibility of the Vendor {Bidder} to be knowledgeable of all the additions, deletions, clarifications, and modifications to the Bid Solicitation and/or the New Jersey Standard Terms and Conditions relative to this Bid Solicitation as outlined in all Bid Amendments.

All other instructions, terms, and conditions of the Bid Solicitation shall remain the same.

#	Bid Solicitation Section Reference	Question (Bolded) and Answer
1	Bid Solicitation Reference 1.1	<p>Reference: RFP, Section 1.1 Contractor Responsibilities, pg. 2 The RFP states, "Enter all survey findings into the Automated Survey Processing Environment (ASPEN) shell and submit to NJ no later than five (5) business days from the date of survey completion."</p> <p>Q: Please clarify, does this requirement apply to all survey types including State surveys?</p> <p>A: Yes, state surveys utilize the same guidelines including the infection control tools.</p>
2	Bid Solicitation Reference 1.2 1.3	<p>Reference: RFP, Section 1.1 Contractor Responsibilities, pg. 2 The RFP states, "Submit the CMS Infection Control Tool to DOH along with the CMS-2567 no later than five (5) business days from the date of survey completion."</p> <p>Q: Please clarify, does the CMS Infection Control Tool and CMS-2567 apply to all survey types that include Infection Control?</p> <p>A. Yes, they are utilized by all survey types that include infection control.</p>
3	Bid Solicitation Reference	<p>Q: Regarding relicensing surveys, for pricing purposes, how long does each of the licensure surveys take and how many surveyors are needed for each?</p> <p>A. Please see the attached spreadsheet, information is provided for reference purposes only.</p>

#	Bid Solicitation Section Reference	Question (Bolded) and Answer
4	Bid Solicitation Reference	<p>Q. Regarding State surveys, what qualifications are required for the State Licensing surveyors? Are they required to be SMQT certified or have specific CMS training?</p> <p>A. In New Jersey, all surveyors in Long-term Care, Assisted Living, Dementia Care Homes and Medical Day Care facilities, are SMQT certified.</p>
5	Bid Solicitation Reference	<p>Q: Please clarify, how long does it take for a surveyor to complete the State Licensure training for each survey type and how will the contractor be reimbursed for the cost required to train surveyors?</p> <p>A. State licensure training includes two days of training by the state survey team during a survey, followed by another two-day survey where trainees conduct the survey and are evaluated by the state survey team to demonstrate competency. Training costs should be included as part of the flat fee pricing.</p>
6	Bid Solicitation Reference 1.3	<p>Reference: RFP, Section 1.3 Surveys Criteria, pg. 2</p> <p>The RFP states, "Proper infection prevention and control practices (F880, F885, and E0024) to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 and other infections using the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Focused Infection Control survey process with a crosswalk to the NJ regulations".</p> <p>Q: Please clarify, is there guidance about how that's done in a Non-LTC environment such as assisted living or memory care facilities?</p> <p>A. Assisted Living facilities have infection control tags A1271-A, A1341 and follow EO 283 and 290. Dementia Care Homes follow EO 283 and 290.</p>
7	Bid Solicitation Reference 2.2	<p>Q. Is the contractor expected to provide remote assistance, education, and training to facilities on infection prevention and control of COVID-19 under this contract (it isn't included in the Scope of Work or Contractor Responsibilities)?</p> <p>A. No, there is no remote assistance, education, or training to be provided to facilities. Please see amendment 3</p>

8	Bid Solicitation Reference 2.2	<p>Q. How should the remote assistance, education, and training to facilities on infection prevention and control of COVID-19 be priced since it isn't a normal part of the survey process?</p> <p>A. No, there is no remote assistance, education, or training to be provided to facilities. Please see amendment 3</p>
9	Bid Solicitation Reference 2.2	<p>Q. Providing remote assistance, education, and training to a facility on infection prevention and control of COVID-19 while conducting surveys of those facilities may present a real or perceived Conflict of Interest (COI). Would NJDOH please confirm we will not be asked to provide remote assistance, education, and training as part of the survey process.</p> <p>A. No, there is no remote assistance, education, or training to be provided to facilities. Please see amendment 3 ”</p>
10	Bid Solicitation Reference 2.2	<p>Reference: RFP, Section 2.2 Experience, pg. 3 The RFP states, “Contractors shall have the experience of providing on-site assistance to healthcare facilities, specifically long-term care facilities.”</p> <p>Q. What type of onsite assistance to healthcare facilities (LTC) is this requirement intended to address? Is this experience conducting onsite surveys, or providing some other type of assistance such as education and/or training?</p> <p>A. No, there is no remote assistance, education, or training to be provided to facilities. Please see amendment 3 ”</p>
11	Bid Solicitation Reference 2.2	<p>Reference: RFP, Section 2.2 Experience, pg. 3 The RFP states, “Contractors shall have the experience of providing on-site assistance to healthcare facilities, specifically long-term care facilities.”</p> <p>Q. Providing onsite assistance while conducting surveys of those facilities may present a real or perceived Conflict of Interest (COI). Would NJDOH please confirm the contractor will not be asked to conduct onsite assistance to healthcare facilities, especially LTC, as part of the survey process?</p> <p>A. No, there is no remote assistance, education, or training to be provided to facilities. Please see amendment 3 ”</p>

12	Bid Solicitation Reference 2.2	<p>Q. Do all surveyors, including those doing licensure/state surveys or ESRD surveys, have to be SMQT certified or is this requirement for LTC surveyors only?</p> <p>A. In New Jersey, all surveyors in Long-term Care, Assisted Living, Dementia Care Homes and Medical Day Care facilities, are SMQT certified. There is no federal requirement for SMQT for acute care, including ESRD. However, although there is no certification required, ESRD is very technical, and ESRD Core survey experience is required.</p>
13	Bid Solicitation Reference 2.2	<p>Q. Are remote assistance for facilities and education and training for infection prevention and control of COVID-19 required to be performed by the contractor?</p> <p>A. There is no remote assistance, education or training for infection prevention and control of COVID-19 to be provided by the contractor. Please see amendment 3</p>
14	Bid Solicitation Reference 2.2	<p>Q. If so, how should this task be priced since it is not listed on the supplied pricing sheet, and it is not in Section 1.0 Scope of Work or Section 2.0 Proposal Submission Requirement?</p> <p>A. There is no remote assistance, education, or training to be performed by the contractor. Please see amendment 3</p>
15	Bid Solicitation Reference 2.3	<p>Q. If pricing is required to be firm fixed price, why is the hourly rate for each FTE required? How would the hourly rate be used for billing purposes?</p> <p>A. Please see amendment 3</p>
16	Bid Solicitation Reference 3.0	<p>Q. The pricing sheet does not include providing these services to facilities. Would NJDOH please clarify what is the purpose/relevance of this experience?</p> <p>A. Assistance can be provided with clarification or interpretation of regulations; however, surveyors cannot be prescriptive.</p>
17	Bid Solicitation Reference 2.3	<p>Q. Section 2.3 states that pricing shall be firm fixed pricing, inclusive of all expenses including travel. Additionally, the price sheet states the cost for each deliverable should be “complete” and all inclusive. However, the last statement of the 2nd paragraph states, “please base pricing on an all-inclusive hourly rate per FTE”. Please clarify if the price sheet should include a fixed, all-inclusive price per deliverable, or an hourly rate that includes all expenses (travel, etc.).</p> <p>A. Please see amendment 3</p>