

Request for Information: Analytic Support for the Measure Applications Partnership

Questions and Answers

- Q. Does the limit of three projects for past performance apply to our entire response, or to each of the six topic areas?
- *A.* Up to three examples of past performance may be submitted for each of the topic areas to which an organization is responding.
- Q. Does NQF anticipate that measure developers will be eligible for a procurement that may follow this RFI?
- A. Yes, measure developers will be eligible for future procurements under this RFI.
- Q. In sections 4.4 and 4.5 there are instructions on page limitations and formatting. Can you clarify if there is a requirement for single- or double-spaced type?
- A. There is not a requirement for line spacing. Respondents are encouraged to be concise.
- Q. If an organization does not submit a response on a given content area as part of the RFI process, would the organization have the opportunity to prepare a bid on that content area as part of a future RFP response? Or is the intent to consider awarding only for topic areas submitted as of December 10 (referencing language on page 19 of the RFI describing the evaluation steps)?
- A. Organizations that do not respond to a given content area will not be specifically excluded from any future procurement opportunities. However, NQF may elect to offer any such opportunity to a limited number of organizations based on the qualifications described in their responses to the RFI.
- Q. Would there be the opportunity to add independent consultants or subcontractors to the team after the RFI period, such as at the time of follow-up questions or a cost proposal?
- A. Consultants and/or subcontractors may be added to a team at a later time. However, respondents are encouraged to provide information about the qualifications of potential consultants and/or subcontractors as this information will be valuable to NQF in identifying the best-qualified organizations.

PAGE 2

- Q. If an organization is interested in submitting a response on multiple content areas, is your preference to see an individual proposal package for each content area (to include Transmittal Letter, Proposed Approach, Attachments, Past Performance and Résumés and Staffing Table only for that area) or do you request one package that includes all content areas?
- A. An organization's response should comprise a single package that includes all content areas for which that organization would like to be considered.
- Q. Please confirm that all evaluation criteria that will be used in evaluating RFI responses are listed on page 19 of the RFI. Has NQF assigned any numerical weights to the evaluation criteria listed in the RFI?
- A. The evaluation criteria listed on page 19 of the RFI are complete. Numerical weights are not assigned. Future negotiations with organizations regarding the scope and budget of a specific project may be subject to additional evaluation criteria at that time.
- Q. 10-page limit per content area: How does this limit apply to each of the two major content areas and sub topics under the two broad content areas? For example, if we were interested in bidding on section 1.2.1, parts 1.2.1.1 and 1.2.1.2 and section 1.2.2 parts 1.2.2.1 and 1.2.2.2, what would our page limit be?
- A. The proposed approach to each of the content areas of interest (e.g., Population Health, Expanding the High-Impact Conditions) may comprise up to 10 pages. An organization responding to four content areas, as described, would be subject to a limit of 40 pages. Respondents addressing many content areas within a single response are encouraged to be concise.
- Q. As part of responses to this request, does the MAP expect a budget or a description of professional and project management fees? For planning purposes, it would be useful to tailor a description of the work to the budget allocated. Can you provide any order-of-magnitude estimates?
- A. A budget is not required in the response to the RFI. The size of individual projects will differ, but are likely to range from \$50,000 to \$150,000 each in total budget.
- Q. Does the MAP have any more specific information on likely timing of these projects? For planning purposes, it would be helpful to know possible dates and likely duration of project work. (Order of magnitude estimates are fine.)
- *A.* If funding is available, NQF is likely to pursue multiple projects under this RFI, staggered to begin throughout 2013 and 2014.
- Q. Is a response to this RFI a prerequisite for award of a MAP subcontract?
- A. Organizations that do not respond will not be specifically excluded from any future procurement opportunities. However, NQF may elect to offer such an opportunity to a limited number of organizations based on the qualifications described in their responses to the RFI.

PAGE 3

- Q. The instructions state that the subcontracts are subject to MAP's needs and the timing/availability of funding. Does NQF have a rough estimate of the number of expected subcontracts and/or the approximate expected size of subcontracts?
- A. If funding is available, NQF is likely to pursue up to eight projects related to the content areas of interest. The size of individual projects will differ, but are likely to range from \$50,000 to \$150,000 each in total budget.

Submission Instructions

All responses to the RFI are due to NQF by December 10, 2012, at 12:00 PM Eastern Time. Offerors may submit electronically (using MS Word, PDF, and/or Excel) to: <u>measureapplications@qualityforum.org</u>, or to the address below by enclosing a paper copy and a separate electronic format in a sealed envelope. Late responses may not be considered.

Send submissions through mail or delivery service to:

Sarah Lash Senior Program Director, Strategic Partnerships National Quality Forum 1030 15th Street NW, Suite 800 Washington, DC 20005