

Cyber Security Requirement Questions

Contract Office Qs:

1. Which vehicle is being considered for the RFP?

An Acquisitions strategy has not been determined at this juncture.

2. Is DOC planning to use IT 70 /Alliant/ NITAAC or other vehicles?

An Acquisitions strategy has not been determined at this juncture.

3. Is this going to be bid under any specific set aside program?

An Acquisitions strategy has not been determined at this juncture.

4. Will DOC utilize the newly established IT 70 Cyber SINS which are created for such procurements?

An Acquisitions strategy has not been determined at this juncture.

5. Does the Government plan at a later time (pre-solicitation) to request from industry questions regarding the PWS?

We are asking for industry questions and comments on the PWS with the posting of this RFI.

6. I wanted to see if there's currently a vendor supporting this work or related to work to it that this is a consolidation of and the corresponding contract number(s) associated with them. Any information you could provide would be greatly appreciated.

The cybersecurity unity requirements outlined in the PWS reflect a new initiative to augment and streamline delivery of cybersecurity support services within Department of Commerce and there is no incumbent for the overall effort. Work related to supporting the cyber security mission, however, is currently being provided under a number of awards managed by NIH under their NITACC vehicle including orders performed by Attain LLC, eMentum LLC, and Actionet LLC.

7. Based on the holidays and time of year in which resources are out on leave, would the government consider extending the RFI submission date to April 28th?

This was extended until Monday, April 24, 2017.

8. The following was included in the RFI: "Respondents shall provide a capabilities package (not to exceed 15 pages) demonstrating the above and highlighting any additional capabilities of their

products/solution to meet the requirements as described in the draft Performance Work Statement (PWS) included with this RFI"

Would the government please clarify if the 15 page limit is only for the capabilities section?

Yes, it is for the capabilities statement, however, there is a limited amount of time that can be allocated toward the review process of the RFI responses.

9. Would the government please clarify if there's a page limit for the following: Past Performance, list of FSS contracts and Respondent Feedback?

Yes, it is for the capabilities statement, however, there is a limited amount of time that can be allocated toward the review process of the RFI responses.

OCIO/OSY Office Qs:

1. Would you please be able to clarify the following on the Cyber Security Unity Contract?

In the security clearance section, is Government's intention to have a TS cleared facility. The RFI states TS/SCI and SCI is generally reserved for people and not facilities.

A TS facilities clearance is required. Access to Top Secret / Sensitive Compartmented Information at government locations is required for some of the tasks in the SOW.

2. Is there a potential Organizational Conflict of Interest (OCI) between this requirement to provide "Contractor support in continuous operation and improvement of the current DOC enterprise-wide cyber security governance and oversight program" and the recently released (04-03-2017) NOAA National Cyber Security Center (NCSC) and the Enterprise Operations Center (ESOC) RFI?

Yes. A vendor that supports DOC-wide cybersecurity policy development and oversight could influence policy that affects which vendors are qualified to provide ESOC services. For example, a workforce development training policy could be influenced to favor specific certifications that are not commonly held by other vendors.

3. Please confirm that the intent of Optional Task Area 6: Cyber Security Operations is to oversee the operation of the Enterprise Security Operations Center (ESOC) and the intent is NOT to operate the ESOC.

Confirmed. Operations of the ESOC is not within the scope of this SOW. ESOC operations are subject to policies, procedures, strategies, and governance provided by OCS. This task provides PM support for the ESOC program. ESOC operations are provided by the ESOC/NCSC contract.

4. PWS 3.4.1 states "The PM shall have the necessary authority to utilize the company's resources to assure the work under this task order is accomplished consistent with

technical, cost, and schedule requirements as well as prudent programmatic and technical risk mitigation." Given this is a contract that requires cleared personnel with access to classified information, we expect network and data storage restrictions. Will the PM be able to access resources on the company's network from the PM's work location? Will the PM be permitted to bring company resources in electronic file formats to the government-controlled work location?

No, access to classified information and systems is limited to government facilities; however, access to unclassified resources is not limited to government facilities.

5. PWS 3.4.3.4 states "1. The Contractor shall possess a U.S. Government Top Secret/SCI (with all 4 caveats) clearance." Does this clearance refer to proposed personnel? If so, can the government identify these so we may ensure personnel are compliant with "all 4 caveats"?

The clearance refers to proposed personnel.

6. PWS 3.4.4 refers to "Task Area 4: Cyber Security Awareness Training", Does the government expect full-time employees working at the government's location to provide this support? Or is this an ad hoc / periodic task that may be met by company personnel who don't work full-time at the government's location?

Yes, this is a full time requirement.

7. PWS 3.4.6.1(e) refers to "managing the property of the ESOC enclave that is part of NOAAOIOO in accordance with DOC and NOAA property rules". Does "property" refer to the physical location supporting ESOC operations or to electronic equipment integral to ESOC operations?

Property refers to government-furnished equipment used in ESOC operations.

8. PWS 5.0 states the contractor must "have and maintain a Facility Clearance (FCL) approved by the Defense Security Service (DSS) granted at the (Top Secret?)

Yes.

9. Level". Can the government confirm a company with a DSS granted TS FCL meets the company clearance requirement?

Yes.

10. PWS 5.0 also states " The government does not expect the contractor to store any classified information at their facility from work performed on this contract. All classified information resulting from work performed on this contract will be stored within government controlled facilities." Can the government confirm the TS FCL requirement is only required so a company can provide cleared personnel for this effort?

Yes.

11. PWS 10.0 refers to "Key Personnel". Can the government confirm whether RFI respondents are required to submit resumes for key personnel? And if so, for which PWS tasks?

Yes, resumes for key personnel are required for the all the task areas and the sub-task areas including the optional tasks.

12. PWS 10.0 additionally appears to require a PMP-certified Program Manager. Is this person considered key personnel for the RFI response?

Yes.

13. The period of performance in the RFI is noted as July 2017, however, the draft PWS base period of performance is September 2017 through May 2018.

Would the government please confirm the estimated base period?

The base period of performance begins on date of award and lasts for one year

The following was included in the RFI: "Potential respondents are hereby notified that fulfillment of this requirement will require the prime contractor to hold an active Top Secret Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility Clearance (TS/SCI/FCL)"
Section 5.0 (Place of Performance) of the draft PWS states the following: "This contract requires the contractor to have and maintain a Facility Clearance (FCL) approve by the Defense Security Services (DSS) granted at the (Top Secret?) Level. The purpose of this requirement lies in the nature of the work performed as part of this contract. The government does not expect the contractor to store any classified information at their facility from work performed on this contract. All classified information resulting from work performed on this contract will be stored within government controlled facilities."

Would the government please confirm if a TS/SCI/FCL would be required in support of the contract?

A TS facility clearance is required.

14. For the purposed of the RFI response - would the government consider responses from contractors currently maintaining a Top Secret Facility Clearance?

Yes.