

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR TREATMENT SERVICES

1) What is Subcontracting?

Subcontracting may be a possibility when a contractor cannot directly provide one or more of the services requested in the RFP. The contractor who obtained the RFP has the ability to subcontract with another contractor to provider the specific service(s). When subcontracting, the subcontractor must meet all of the requirements in the RFP for those services.

2) What is Piggybacking?

Piggybacking is when one Government agency uses another Government agency's contract to procure services. In this procurement cycle, the U.S. Probation Office in Cincinnati, Ohio and the U.S. Pretrial Services Office in Cincinnati, Ohio have indicated that they intend to piggyback any contract which is established in Boyd, Carter, Greenup, Lawrence, Rowan, and Elliott Counties, KY. The estimated monthly quantities (EMQs) include anticipated usage by piggybacking agencies.

3) Does the contractor have to quote prices on all service codes?

An offeror must quote prices for those services specifically requested in Section B of the RFP. Those services are highlighted with an X. Each RFP seeks to meet a package of requirements. In order for an offeror to be considered technically acceptable, the offeror must meet all of the requirements stated in an RFP.

4) In Section B, the services requested have estimated monthly quantity (EMQs) for units, reports, and days, please explain why are there different categories?

Each unit of individual or group counseling consists of 30 minutes: 1 unit=30 minutes. Therefore, for either of these services, the requested price quotation is for one 30-minute unit. When ordering, the Probation Officer will specify on the Probation Form 45 the number units of counseling session she/he requires the contractor to perform for the defendant/offender. Typically, the Probation Officers will order two units for each individual counseling session (1 hour in length). The RFP may also request a price per report; a price per visit for medication monitoring; or, a price per day for inpatient treatment.

5) Section B of the RFP is requiring a price per unit or 30 minutes for group counseling, isn't group counseling longer than 30 minutes?

Yes, the RFP requires a unit price (1 unit=30 minutes) for this particular service. Group counseling is generally longer than 30 minutes; however, the RFP specifically requests a price for each thirty minute unit.

6) In Section B of the RFPs, some of the EMQs are “1”. Why?

Prior to this procurement process, the U.S. Probation Office conducted a “needs” survey to all U.S. Probation Officers. In that survey, probation officers were asked questions about needed services. After reviewing their responses, some needs began to emerge and some trends were identified. The quantity of “1” means that it is a less frequency used service but it is anticipated that we need a contractor to provide these services at least once per month during the contract period. Remember, the EMQs are only estimates and the probation office cannot guarantee that amount of referrals.

7) Section B of the RFP shows an EMQ for a three-year time period? Why three years?

The procurement cycle for treatment services is for three years-a firm one year period and two one year option years. The RFP requests each offeror provide prices for the requested services for each contract period under the solicitation.

8) What is your average number of referrals to a single contractor per year?

The number of referrals to each contractor varies from year to year and from service to service. Section B of the RFP provides a total estimated monthly quantity of referrals for each service for each contract period.

9) Will the U.S. Probation Office recognize professionals who are certified and/or licensed by state agencies to conduct counseling, but who might not have a bachelor degree?

Yes, the RFP refers to paraprofessionals. Contractors using paraprofessionals in the performance of services shall comply with all requirements relating to paraprofessionals stated in the RFP.

10) As a contractor, I can provide all of the services that are requested in the RFPs for the specific catchment area. Do I have to apply for each of the RFPs separately?

Yes, each RFP is a separate solicitation for a service or set of services in a particular geographic area. An offeror must respond to each RFP with a separate proposal.

11) When awarding a BPA to more than one contractor, does a contractor need to be technically acceptable in each catchment area to be considered for BPA award? Or, could a contractor be considered for award if it is technically acceptable in some catchment areas?

Each RFP is a separate solicitation for a service or set of services in a particular geographic area. An offeror must respond to each RFP with a separate proposal. In order to be considered for award, a contractor's proposal must be technically acceptable. To be considered technically acceptable, a proposal must meet All the minimum requirements of the RFP.

12) Is the EMQ referring to 1 unit per month of service or 1 offender per month per service?

It is referring to 1 unit of service per month. These figures are just estimates and the Government is not bound to meet these estimates.

13) When a contract calls for services in two separate counties, can you then put a treatment site in either place or does it have to be in both?

The request is for one agency within the catchment area of two separate counties. In Section M, one of the mandatory requirements is that the offeror at which services are provided is located in the catchment area. An offeror can have site(s) in either catchment area or have one site in one of the catchment areas.

14) May we submit a proposal that includes drug and alcohol treatment services only? If awarded, can we begin in January, instead of October?

No. Proposals submitted must be for all required services in Section B. Under Frequently Asked Question #1, subcontracting is addressed if an agency is not able to provide for all services requested. The fiscal year is from October 1st through September 30th, therefore services must begin on October 1st.