



Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary

COVID – 19 LABORATORY SERVICES

MDH/OCMP 21-19050
eMMA# BPM023963

Vendors' Questions and Answers #2 **Received (5/25/21)**

The below questions and answers are intended to clarify the above referenced solicitation. Answers provided in response to questions do not of themselves change any of the solicitation requirements, which can only be done by an addendum.

22. In Appendix 2: "As of the Bid/Proposal submission date, are you registered to do business with the state of Maryland?" Does this refer to registering to do business *in* Maryland (<https://egov.maryland.gov/businessexpress>), or is there a different registration we must complete to do business *with* the State government? Does this refer to being registered on the eMMA website to submit our proposal?

Response: Potential bidders are required to be registered with State Department of Assessments & Taxation (SDAT) at the website you entered. This requirement is in addition to being registered on eMMA.

23. Regarding 2.3.2.2, can a viral inactivation transport media (ITM) be used instead of a viral transport media (VTM)? We have found that because ITM inactivates the virus, it is more stable and safer for specimen transport.

Response: No, an ITM cannot be used instead of a VTM.

24. Regarding 2.3.2.2, must the VTM fluid include 0.045% saline and liquid amies? Many standard VTM fluid compositions do not meet this requirement but have been CLIA validated and/or used for FDA EUA COVID-19 testing

Response: The VTM fluid need not include 0.045% saline and liquid amies. Please see Addendum #2.

25. In Section 7, "Applies," If "N", does not apply, we do not have to respond to that row or return the associated paperwork in the link?

Response: If Section 7 indicates that an attachment does not apply, a bidder does not need to return the associated paperwork. See Amendment 1 for an update to this table.

26. In Attachment B (pricing), "PCR Tests (Direct + Overhead)" - is that price to include all costs of courier service from the 48 locations listed? Or would Courier services be billed separately?

Response: A Bidder's price for "PCR Tests (Direct + Overhead)" must be an all-inclusive price for all services required under the IFB, except for Section 2.3.3's additionally requested courier pick-ups and drop offs in excess of the test kit delivery and daily sample pick up required as part of the core services. Bidders are to price for additionally-requested pick-ups and drop offs per Section 2.3.3 as a separate line item in cells A10, A17, and 24 on the applicable price sheet. It should be noted that a Bidder may not be assigned to all 48 sites, as sites may change, and some sites may be covered by regional awardees.

27. Who are the recipients of C-19 testing at these locations? Do they fit into specific groups of people, departments, etc.? This will help understand the logistics considerations.

Response: Recipients of testing at the indicated sites are primarily individuals from surrounding communities seeking COVID-19 testing. The testing is available to the general public.

28. For experience requirement stated under section 1.1.3, 1.1.4, 1.1.5, 1.2.2 & 1.2.3, can we use our sub contract laboratory experience?

Response: A Bidder can use its experience as a subcontractor on previous projects in demonstrating that it meets the referenced Minimum Qualifications for this IFB. It should be noted that as prime contractors, awarded bidders will be responsible for all services under the contract regardless of subcontractor participation in the work. See IFB Section 4.16

Addendum #2 Language:

Item 1

2.3.2.2 The Contractor must provide specimen collection kits that consist of swabs and viral transport media ~~including 0.045% saline and liquid amies~~. The kits must allow for more than one of the following methods of sample collection: anterior nares, nasopharyngeal, or oropharyngeal, or other methods as approved by the Contract Monitor.

Item 2

Section 7 Table 1: IFB ATTACHMENTS AND APPENDICES

| Applies? | When to submit | Label | Attachment Name |
|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------|---|
| <u>NY</u> | With Bid | G | Federal Funds Attachments (see link at http://procurement.maryland.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2018/04/Attachment G- FederalFundsAttachment.pdf) |