



**Addendum No. 1  
Network Security Engineer  
K22-0049-29**

02/24/2022

The purpose of this addendum is to amend and clarify certain portions of the above-referenced solicitation with all prospective bidders/offerors.

**Clarifications:**

**C1. Delete:** Section III.H.1 of the RFP.

**Replace with:** The Network Security Engineer role occasionally requires travel within the state of Maryland. The Offeror proposed resource(s) shall have access to a vehicle to commute to sites as required and a valid driver's license. Some site visits may require arranging local lodging accommodations and traveling to the region the night before the required site visit. The Offeror proposed resource(s) shall be required to travel approximately 10% in a year.

**C2. Delete:** Section IV.C.2.g of the RFP.

Replace with: **Offeror Resource(s) References:** Offeror shall include information on prior experience with similar engagements (i.e., size and scope) for its resource, and describe how its resource(s) will meet the requirements of this RFP. In addition, the Offeror shall include the following:

(1) Not less than three (3) references, within the past five (5) years, from customers/clients who can document the Offeror resource's ability to provide the goods and/or services specified in this RFP.

Complete the Bidder/Offeror Resource Experience Form (Attachment J1), duplicating as necessary.

- i. If the Offeror proposed resource has been assigned to less than three (3) contracts within the previous five (5) years, the Offeror shall submit one (1) reference per assigned contract from the customer(s)/client(s) that can document the Offeror proposed resource's ability to provide the services specified in this RFP. Complete the Bidder/Offeror Resource Experience Form (Attachment J1), duplicating as necessary.

**Questions:**

**Q1.** Is there any incumbent in place?

**A1.** Yes

**Q2.** Can you please share anticipated start date?

**A2.** The AOC anticipates a start date on or around May 2022.

**Q3.** If the process completes before start date, will engagement start early?

**A3.** Yes.

**Q4.** Please advise on prior experience which Offeror needs to submit, on page 18 of the solicitation it is stated that the Offeror must have three (3) years of experience in providing recruitment and staffing. However, on page number 22 of the solicitation, it is stated that the Offeror shall include information on prior experience with similar engagements (i.e., size and scope), and describe how its organization will meet the requirements of this RFP. Does the Offeror need to submit either recruitment and staffing experience, experience with similar engagements, or both?

**A4.** The Offeror shall meet the minimum requirements set forth in Section III.C.1, as evidenced by the submittals in Section IV.C.2.e, and Section IV.C.2.h. The submittals in Section IV.C.2.g. are for the Offeror proposed resource(s).

- Q5.** Can you please provide us with an estimated or NTE budget allocated for this contract?  
**A5.** The AOC does not share budgetary information.
- Q6.** Is this a new contract or are there any incumbents? If there is an incumbent, could you please let us know the incumbent name?  
**A6.** See Q1.
- Q7.** If there is an incumbent for this contract, is the incumbent eligible to submit the proposal again?  
**A7.** Yes there is an incumbent for this contract. The AOC cannot make a determination of eligibility of the incumbent outside of the confines of the RFP process.
- Q8.** Are there any pain points or issues with the current vendor(s)?  
**A8.** The AOC does not discuss the details of current contract.
- Q9.** Is this re-compete or new requirement?  
**A9.** No.
- Q10.** What is the total number of resources who are currently working on this project? Please let us know their position name and hourly rate?  
**A10.** The AOC does not discuss the details of current contract.
- Q11.** Considering the current COVID-19 pandemic situation, if the proposed candidates are not available at the time of award, will the agency allow us to provide replacement personnel with similar or more skill sets?  
**A11.** No. See RFP Section I.U.
- Q12.** Are hourly rate ranges acceptable for proposed personnel?  
**A12.** No.
- Q13.** Is it entirely onsite work or can it be done remotely to some extent / Does the services need to be delivered onsite or is there a possibility for remote operations and performance?  
**A13.** See RFP Section III.F.
- Q14.** What will be the mode of interview of the candidate via virtual or in-person?  
**A14.** See RFP Section III.J.1.b.
- Q15.** Do we need to submit the actual resumes for proposed candidates, or can we submit the sample resumes?  
**A15.** Offerors shall submit resume(s) for proposed candidate(s) in accordance with IV.C.2.f.(2) of the RFP.
- Q16.** How many people are currently working onsite and offsite?  
**A16.** This is no relevant to the scope.
- Q17.** Could you please provide the list of holidays?  
**A17.** The Maryland Judiciary holidays are listed at <https://www.courts.state.md.us/administration/holidays>.
- Q18.** Are there any mandated Paid Time Off, Vacation, etc.?  
**A18.** No.
- Q19.** Could you please let us know if we can submit our response via email?  
**A19.** See RFP Section II.F.3.
- Q20.** How many vendors will be awarded?  
**A20.** See RFP Section II.C.

- Q21.** Is the AOC JIS using an Express Route or SD-WAN connection for Azure to on prem?  
**A21.** The AOC does not disclose this information.
- Q22.** Which models of Palo Alto devices are AOC JIS using in the Cloud Platform?  
**A22.** The AOC does not disclose this information.
- Q23.** Which version of PAN-OS is AOC JIS running currently?  
**A23.** The AOC does not disclose this information.
- Q24.** Does the AOC JIS have any other vendor firewalls being used other than Palo Alto?  
**A24.** The AOC does not disclose this information.
- Q25.** If the proposed resource has a good amount of experience and meets the skills, experience and capabilities mentioned in the RFP, is it mandatory that the candidate should have the Palo Alto Certified Network Security Engineer Certification?  
**A25.** Yes. See RFP Section III.C.2.
- Q26.** As per Section II.O.4.d Cyber Liability & Data Breach Insurance  
(1) \$10,000,000 per occurrence for any service offering hosted by the Successful Offeror.  
Is this a typing error? Should this be \$1,000,000 per occurrence for any service offering hosted by the Successful Offeror.  
**A26.** The information stated in the RFP Section II.O.4.d is correct.
- Q27.** RFP Section IV. B.3 (b) – Electronic media (e.g., Flash Drive, CD, etc.) shall bear a label with the RFP title and number, name of the Offeror, and the volume number (I or II).  
  
Recently employed IT Security practices at ITTD preclude the transfer of files from laptops to external media such as flash drives, CDs, etc. Will the state consider waiving this requirement?  
**A27.** No.
- Q28.** RFP Section IV.C.2.g.1 Offeror Resource(s) References: Offeror shall include information on prior Experience with similar engagements (i.e., size and scope), and describe how its resource(s) will meet the Requirements of this RFP. In addition, the Offeror shall include the following:  
  
(1) Not less than three (3) references, within the past five (5) years, from customers/clients who can document the Offeror resource’s ability to provide the goods and/or services specified in this RFP. Complete the Bidder/Offeror Experience Form (Attachment J1), duplicating as necessary.  
  
If the proposed resource has worked only for a single customer/client who can document the Offeror resource’s ability within the past five (5) years, will be able to provide three (3) references pertaining to the same client/customer. Will that work?  
**A28.** See C2.
- Q29.** If the Offeror’s resource cannot provide information related to Attachment J1, e.g., Type of contract, Total value of Contract, Duration of Contract, etc., what will be the impact to the vendor of not having a complete form? It is stated in the same paragraph, “within the past five (5) years, from customer/clients who can document the Offeror’s resource’s ability to provide the goods and /or services specified in the RFP. Is the Offeror’s resource, or the Offeror, required to solicit documentation from said customer/client and submit with the proposal?  
**A29.** The type of contract and total value are not mandatory, but failure to provide may result in a less favorable evaluation in accordance with Section V.B.2. The duration of the contract is used to determine whether the Offeror meets the requirements of the updated Section IV.C.2.g. (See C2 of this addendum) including number of required references, and that required references are within the past five (5) years. The AOC will attempt confirm information via the POC provided on Attachment J1.

The Offeror shall submit Attachment J1, duplicating as necessary. See C2.

**Q30.** In the Attachment J1 it is asking for the offeror resources Type of contract, Total value of the contract and the Duration of the contract. If the proposed resource has worked as a subcontractor consultant for the client/customer, and the requested information being confidential information of the prime contractor, is it mandatory to provide the Type of contract, Total value of the contract and the Duration of the contract?

**A30.** See Q29.

**Q31.** On Page 18 C. OFFEROR & RESOURCE QUALIFICATIONS the Offeror shall have three (3) years' experience in providing recruitment and staffing. The Offeror shall propose resource(s) that meet the following minimum qualifications: a. Associate degree in an Information Technology (IT) related field b. Eight (8) years of experience in IT networking and security. c. Palo Alto Certified Network Security Engineer Certification version 9 or 10 issued within the last five (5) years. If the proposed resources have a good amount of experience in Palo Alto and meet the skills, experience and capabilities mentioned in section III.E, then is it mandatory that the candidate should have the Palo Alto Certified Network Security Engineer Certification version 9 or 10 certification?

**A31.** See Q25.

**Q32.** The AOC prefers Offeror proposed resource(s) to have the following qualifications: b. Certifications issued within the last five (5) years. (1) Prisma Certified Cloud Security Engineer or other industry's network security engineer level certification. (2) Cisco System Professional Level Certification  
Are the above certifications mandatory?

**A32.** The AOC prefers Offeror proposed resource(s) to have these certifications. See RFP Section III.C.3

**Q33.** On Page 20 H. TRAVEL the Network Security Engineer role occasionally requires travel within the state of Maryland. The Offeror proposed resource(s) shall have access to a vehicle to commute to sites as required and a valid driver's license. Some site visits may require arranging local lodging accommodations and traveling to the region the night before the required site visit.  
How frequently do they have to travel?

**A33.** See C1.

**Q34.** Do they have to travel outside Maryland?

**A34.** See RFP Section III.H.1.

**Q35.** Is it mandatory that they have to have a vehicle of their own?

**A35.** See C1.

**Q36.** Is it mandatory that they need to hold a driver's license? Can they use a Cab for travel?

**A36.** See C1.

All addenda will be incorporated into the final contract documents and will be binding on all bidders/offerors responding to this solicitation. Each bidder/offeror submitting a bid/proposal must acknowledge receipt of all addenda by completing and forwarding Attachment H (included in bid/proposal package) with the bid/proposal response; failure to acknowledge addenda may result in the bid/proposal rejection.

If you have any questions regarding this addendum, please contact me at (410) 260-1265 or email me at [sejal.lakhawala@mdcourts.gov](mailto:sejal.lakhawala@mdcourts.gov)

Sejal Lakhawala  
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