

DARPA-BAA-09-15 RETRIEVER FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

NOTE: The answer to question 11 as posted on January 26 had a typo in DARPA's street address for Classified Submissions. The correct address is 3701 N. Fairfax Drive.

Classified Questions and Answers

A number of classified questions have been received at DARPA. These questions and their classified answers are on file at DARPA. Interested parties may access them by request or by making arrangements to visit DARPA and view the current list in the CDR Office within DARPA's Security Office. Requests may be sent via secure fax to the CDR. Please include a return secure fax number and also email the BAA mailbox noting that a request has been faxed to the CDR.

Unclassified Questions and Answers

Q1. Will it be acceptable to hand-carry and deliver the SECRET and UNCLASSIFIED proposal materials to your offices? Relying on the USPS Registered Mail system could easily cause us to miss the due date. The CD that was recently sent to us took 7 days to reach us (it was mailed from your office on 16 Dec, and was not delivered to us by the USPS until 22 Dec).

A1. Submissions can be hand carried as long as the instructions outlined in section IV.B.1 of the BAA are followed.

Q2. What is the due date for classified question submittals? The BAA lists two different dates. One date of 3 January 2009 is listed in Part One (this is a Saturday). Later, in Section VIII, the classified question due date is "10 days before the initial BAA closing date", which would be 19 January 2009.

A2. Per the BAA modification posted at <http://www.fbo.gov> on January 6, 2009. Proposers are allowed to submit classified questions until 27 January 2009, which is 10 days from the initial due date.

Q3. In the BAA, Page 17 Paragraph 2a states that the proposal must be valid for a period of 120 days. On page 27, the last sub-bullet of Section A states that the proposal must be valid for 180 days. Please confirm the correct validity period.

A3. The correct proposal validity period is 120 days.

Q4. For pricing purposes, can DARPA provide an anticipated award (start) date?

A4. For pricing purposes, an anticipated award (start) date is 29 May 2009.

Q5. Reference: Section 2.c: Unclassified Cost Volume; Section D: Detailed Cost Breakdown:

The BAA states “All proprietary subcontractor cost proposal documentation (prepared at the same level of detail as that required of the prime) which cannot be included with the prime’s information, shall be made immediately available to the Government, upon request, under separate cover...”

Is it DARPA’s preference that the offeror:

- 1. not deliver the subcontractor's sealed cost packages with the original proposal, and deliver them when the government asks for the packages, or**
- 2. deliver the packages with the original proposal?**

A5. It is DARPA’s preference that the offeror deliver the subcontractor's sealed cost packages when the government asks for the packages.

Q6. Reference: Page 17, Section 2.a: General Information:

The BAA states “Format specifications include 12 pitch or larger type, single spaced . . .”

May 8 or 10 pitch font be used for graphics and tables?

A6. All fonts should be 12 pitch or larger.

Q7. References: Page 3, Section 1. Funding Opportunity Description, Paragraph 3; and Page 5, Section 1. Funding Opportunity Description, Last Paragraph:

Is Phase II Go/No Go testing performed in the contractor’s lab utilizing data collected and furnished by DARPA or is the Phase II prototype to be tested at a DARPA specified range/location other than the Contractor’s lab?

A7. Classified.

Q8. References: Page 15, Section IV.B.1, Bullets 1 and 4; and Page 25, Section M Company and Personnel Qualifications:

Are the five SCI pages limited to address only past performance and classified SOW elements or can SCI level clarification on techniques be included in the five pages?

A8. The program is a collateral program, i.e., no algorithms may be SCI classified. The 5 pages of SCI material may cover experience on past programs and technical explanations of this material. The technical material in the technical approach section of the proposal must be independent of this material. In no way should these 5 pages be viewed as an extension of the technical approach section.

Q9. Does DARPA desire the contractor to submit the reference to classification guide, or a file containing the classification guide on the classified CD? If the later, and given the size of the classification guides, please confirm that the classification guide is outside of the 5 page limit for SCI data.

A9. DARPA prefers that a contractor submits a copy of the classification guide. It does not have to be on the CD or part of the proposal but a separate paper copy submitted in the package would be fine. One copy is fine.

Q10. Does DARPA desire the contractor to submit the subcontracting plan as a separate file on the unclassified CD? Given that it does not appear that the subcontracting plan is identified as a requirement for any Volume I or II section, please confirm that the Subcontracting Plan is outside of the page count identified for all sections in Volume I and II.

A10. If a subcontracting plan is required, as per FAR part 19, it should be submitted with your proposal. If it contains no classified information, the preference would be to have it submitted as a separate file on the unclassified CD. There is no page limit on the subcontracting plan.

Q11. How should SCI material be delivered to DARPA for Retriever?

A11. 1. *Authorization to hand-carry material:*

You must have authorization to carry the SCI material. If you are taking commercial transportation, e.g., airline transportation, a courier letter is required. The courier letter is supplied by the government agency sponsoring the work performed, or by the government agency sponsoring the proposer's SCIF.

2. *Preparation of the material:*

The material must be double-wrapped and addressed in accordance with DoD 5105.21-M-1 Chapter 3, Section T.

3. *Couriers should have their SCI visit certification sent to DARPA in advance of their arrival.*

- a. Via fax: 703-812-1995 (secure) or 703-243-6790 (unclassified)
- b. Via JWICS: DARPA plain language address is SSO DARPA
- c. Via JPAS: DDAAUS2

4. *Hand Carrying to DARPA:*

The material must be delivered to the DARPA SSO (Special Security Officer)

at: DARPA
3701 N. Fairfax Ave.
Arlington, VA 22203

After arriving at the DARPA Visitor Control Center (VCC), contact the SSO office (703)812-1994/1984. Someone will come down to the VCC to sign the receipt for your packages.

For this BAA, the material must be delivered between the hours of 08:30 and 16:00. Please keep in mind that all material must be delivered no later than 1200, Noon, on 5 February 2009.

5. If you are also going to hand deliver the collateral portion of the proposals, this material must be double wrapped separately from the SCI material. The collateral material is delivered to the Classified Document Registry (CDR).