

Supplemental Questions and Answers
A & E Services for Bond Related Projects

Project 13-26

1. We are seeking a clarification regarding the section of this RFQ concerning "Firm's Financial Status" (Tab 1). As we understand it
 - a. We may submit any one of the following to fulfill this section's requirements:
 - Firm's audited financial statement for last 2 years
 - Statement from a financial institution validating 6 months working capital
 - Recent annual reports & credit ratings
 - Letter from company's CPA attesting to company's financial stability

We also see that this section is worth 10 points. How are these points determined? Are more points given if a firm submits two of the above items instead of just one? Is one the above items worth more than the other items? What would a firm need to submit for this section in order to earn all 10 available points?

Answer: Refer to Firm's Financial Status as noted in Section V.B.3 and the evaluation criteria are noted and published at Section VI. Evaluation Criteria.

2. My question is about Attachment No. 8, Small Business Development Questionnaire. How does a business obtain a SB Small Business Certificate to have it listed underneath? And is it required for HCC's SBDP? Meaning, can a HUB business with the gross income limits as defined by the SBA qualify for this RFQ?

Answer: Please see Section V.B.9, Section XII, and the Small Business Development Questionnaire as related to Small Business. A business that is independently owned and operated and which is not dominant in its field of operation and which meets size standard set forth in 13 CFR, Part 121. A business is considered eligible if it has a valid and current certification as a Small Business Administration (8a) Firm, Historically Underutilized Businesses, or Minority and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, issued by:

- U.S. Small Business Administration;
- The State of Texas;
- City Of Houston; or
- Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County

3. How would one handle a company whose small business certification expired but is in the process of getting *re-certified* as a small business? Would using a company with this scenario on the team be acceptable to reach the 30% SBE goal?

Answer: They will need to show that the re-certification is in process.

4. Here is a clarifications question that I have so that I submit exactly what is needed. Tab 7 - Small business certified firms – do woman/minority owned firms that do not meet the small business requirement or do not hold SBA/HUB Certification, count toward the 30% SB goal?

Answer: Please see Section V.B.9, Section XII, and the Small Business Development Questionnaire as related to Small Business. A business that is independently owned and operated and which is not dominant in its field of operation and which meets size standard set forth in 13 CFR, Part 121.

A business is considered eligible if it has a valid and current certification as a Small Business Administration (8a) Firm, Historically Underutilized Businesses, or Minority and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, issued by:

- U.S. Small Business Administration;
- The State of Texas;
- City Of Houston; or
- Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County.

5. It is assumed that if the Prime Consultant is a Small Business, the Prime's SBE percentage still counts toward the 30% SBE goal for the project. Please confirm.

Answer: Yes

6. Related to the small business participation goal, can this be met by a certified minority or woman-owned business?

Answer: Please see Section V.B.9, Section XII, and the Small Business Development Questionnaire as related to Small Business. A business that is independently owned and operated and which is not dominant in its field of operation and which meets size standard set forth in 13 CFR, Part 121. A business is considered eligible if it has a valid and current certification as a Small Business Administration (8a) Firm, Historically Underutilized Businesses, or Minority and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, issued by:

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