

Questions Pertaining To Section 1.0: Purpose

- 1. Are projects that have as a primary purpose the interconnection of commonly used commercial systems allowed, or is de novo development required?**

Either project is acceptable.

Questions Pertaining To Section 2.0: Eligibility and Partnering

- 2. Can commercial software vendors be subcontractors?**

There are no restrictions on who may be a subcontractor on any proposed project. However, the proposal must include a software dissemination plan that addresses the goals outlined in the RFP and all sub-contractors will be bound by the plan.

Questions Pertaining To Section 8.2: Budget Proposal

- 3. Is the amount of dollars identified to be awarded inclusive of Facilities and Administrative costs, or refer to direct costs only?**

It is expected that a total of \$4 million will be available to support approximately 3 awards for a maximum of two years. The \$4 million is the total amount available inclusive of all direct and indirect costs (including Facilities and Administrative costs) for the entire two years. This is not a per year amount.

- 4. What is average award per application anticipated to be?**

The award amount will reflect the expected cost of the proposed project. The amount available for projects in response to this RFP is approximately \$4 million inclusive of all costs and all years. The NIH expects to make approximately three awards in response to this RFP.

- 5. Please clarify whether the funds identified for this RFP as noted on the Booz Allen website are for total costs, or only direct costs.**

Please refer to number 3.

- 6. Given that the budget is required to be in hours of work, are we authorized to bill by hours, or only by Percent effort like a typical NIH grant?**

Institutions are required to bill by deliverables as a Firm Fixed Price contract will be awarded. Booz Allen is requiring applicants to include an estimate of hours in the proposal for evaluation purposes. Evaluators will use the hours submitted to evaluate the appropriateness of the level of effort in the cost proposal.

7. Must all personnel be identified by name, or only key personnel? Is authorization required for any staff change, or only key personnel?

All key personnel should be identified by name. The institution must notify Booz Allen of a change in key personnel. Booz Allen reserves the right to question the appropriateness of the replacement personnel.

8. Is there a salary cap on faculty salaries requested on this project?

Yes, salary restrictions do apply. See Article H.6 of the subcontract agreement template posted at <http://bahcontractmanagement.com>.

9. I need to know if we need to use the NIH salary cap for budget purposes.

Please refer to number 8.

10. Is the \$4 million over two years that is anticipated total costs or direct costs?

Please refer to number 3.

Questions Pertaining To Project Details

11. There are several ongoing projects being pursued by subgroups within the Informatics Steering Committee. Would these projects be considered for this RFP?

Proposals responsive to this RFP must address the objects and goals outlined in the RFP and must not duplicate ongoing projects as outlined in the RFP.

12. Does the LOI need to contain a (tentative) title?

The LOI does not need to contain a title.

13. Please clarify “incorporate institutional database support”

All pilot projects must incorporate institutional database support for clinical research data for small and medium size studies that is flexible, secure, backed up, and easily accessible on demand (if allowed by study design) to the clinical investigators and research team. The intent of the RFP is that the data will be maintained by the institution such that it is protected from loss and that the privacy and confidentiality of human subjects data is assured. The proposal must clearly detail the institutional database to be utilized and its level of security and fault protection.

14. Please clarify “fully maintained secure databases”

Databases incorporated in the pilot projects must be maintained by institution such that they are secure, backed up, and ensure privacy and confidentiality of the data. The proposal must clearly outline how the institution will address this in their proposal.