

Summary of Changes to BAA 12-002 through Amendment 00004

A. Amendment 00004 makes the following changes to Department of Homeland Security Broad Agency Announcement 12-002:

1. On the cover page of the Broad Agency Announcement (page 1), the due date for the submission of full proposals is revised to **June 29, 2012**.

2. On the cover page of the BAA, the email address is hereby revised to Aaron.Ford@hq.dhs.gov

3. Paragraph 1.1 entitled "Introduction", the section is replaced in its entirety with the following:

"1.1. Introduction

This solicitation is a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) as contemplated in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 6.102(d)(2) and 35.016 to provide for competitive selection of research proposals. A formal Request for Proposals (RFP) will not be issued. Contracts based upon the responses to this BAA are considered to be the result of full and open competition and are in full compliance with the provisions of Public Law 98-369 "The Competition in Contracting Act of 1984." Awards issued under this BAA are planned in Fiscal Year (FY) 2012. No contract awards or other instruments that obligate funds will be made until appropriated funds are available from which payment for contract purposes can be made."

4. In Paragraph 1.6 entitled "Solicitation and Response Approach", the second paragraph is revised as follows:

"Awards may take the form of contracts or Other Transaction Agreements (OTAs). In the event that an Offeror or subcontractor is a Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC), Department of Energy National Laboratory, or other Federally funded entity, DHS S&T will work with the appropriate sponsoring agency to issue an Interagency Agreement pursuant to the Economy Act (31 U.S.C. 1535) or other appropriate authority. Depending on the nature of the Full Proposals received under this BAA, DHS S&T will also consider awarding a grant or cooperative agreement. Therefore, the applicable laws and regulations governing the legal vehicle used for award will depend on the legal vehicle chosen by DHS S&T. In this regard, Offerors should propose a preferred vehicle type for DHS S&T to consider for award."

5. In Paragraph 1.7 entitled "Response Dates", the due date for Full Proposals is hereby revised to 29 June 2012.

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6. In Paragraph 1.8.1 entitled “DHS Chemical Forensics Program Structure and Background”, the last paragraph is hereby deleted in its entirety and is replaced with the following:

“The primary internal customers of the Chemical Forensics Program are law enforcement and intelligence components of the Department of Homeland Security, and the primary external customer is the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) due to its lead investigative agency role in acts of terrorism and weapons of mass destruction. This BAA seeks to provide sound scientific techniques related to supporting attribution analyses leading to the capture, indictment, and prosecution of the perpetrator(s) of a criminal or terrorist act involving the actual or threatened use of Chemical Threat Agents (CTAs).”

7. The first paragraph entitled “Chemical Forensics Program Mission”, the first sentence of the paragraph is revised as follows:

“The Chemical Forensics Program has the mission to lead Federal chemical forensics research efforts focused on sample collection and analytical techniques to support the attribution process in response to Chemical Threat Agent incidents and to provide tools to determine source and production methods and link samples to persons, places, or other incidents.”

8. In paragraph 1.8.3 entitled “Description of Four Technical Focus Areas”, the title of the paragraph is revised as follows:

1.8.3 Description of Two Technical Focus Areas

9. In Paragraph 1.8.3 entitled “Description of Two Technical Focus Areas”, the first sentence of the paragraph is revised as follows:

“The focus of this BAA is in the area of chemical forensics, specifically Chemical Attribution Signatures (CAS), for the purpose of recovering and associating samples collected at chemical events with each other and with their source (people, places, and events).”

10. In Paragraph 1.8.3 entitled “Description of Two Technical Focus Areas”, second paragraph of TFA-1, the following sentence is hereby revised as follows:

“...Proposals that involve applications or minor modification of equipment that is “Commercial Off-the –Shelf” (COTS) and generally available in DHS Chemical Forensics Program customer and performer laboratories are preferred.....”

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11. In Paragraph 1.8.3 entitled “Description of Two Technical Focus Areas”, the note under the third paragraph of TFA-1, the following sentence is hereby revised as follows:

“Note: The goal of the DHS Chemical Forensics Program is to provide its customers with peer-reviewed reports, standard analytical methods and scientific journal articles that are admissible in judicial proceedings. The Chemical Forensics Program does not plan to fund classified CAS studies. Other agency partners are presently addressing certain NTAs due to their classified nature.”

12. In paragraph 1.8.3 entitled “Description of Two Technical Focus Areas”, TFA-2 is hereby eliminated in its entirety from the BAA.
13. In paragraph 1.8.3 entitled “Description of Two Technical Focus Areas”, TFA 3 is hereby renumbered TFA-2.
14. In paragraph 1.8.3 entitled “Description of Two Technical Focus Areas”, TFA-4 is hereby eliminated in its entirety from the BAA.
15. In paragraph 1.8.3 entitled “Description of Two Technical Focus Areas”, the following Note is hereby revised in its entirety:

“NOTE: Offerors should propose research projects and studies that address CTAs that are considered to pose a likely and serious threat. To preclude redundancy of effort, potential Offerors responding to the above TFAs are encouraged to request an updated list of the particular CTA synthesis and CAS studies that have been funded, and are currently being funded, and/or conducted by the Chemical Forensics Program. Proposals that duplicate previous or current efforts will have little utility to DHS. This list is considered to “FOUO” and will be provided only to laboratories, academic institutions or companies that are intending to respond to this BAA. In requesting the list, potential Offerors must provide the following contact information to the Contracting Officer in an email to Aaron.Ford@hq.dhs.gov.

- Full Name
- Title/Position
- Name of laboratory, academic institution or company
- Website addresses of laboratory, academic institution or company

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- Mailing address at laboratory, academic institution or company
- Telephone number at laboratory, academic institution or company
- Email address at laboratory, academic institution or company”

16. In Paragraph 1.9 entitled “Government Representatives”, the following title has been bolded:

Science and Technology:

17. In Paragraph 1.9 entitled “Government Representatives”, the following section has been revised:

Business:

Mr. Aaron H. Ford
Procuring Contracting Officer
Department of Homeland Security
Office of Procurement Operations
Science and Technology Acquisition Division
Washington, DC 20528

18. In Paragraph 1.10 entitled “Additional Background Information”, the section is deleted in its entirety and is replaced with the following:

“1.10 Additional Background Information

All final reports and deliverables will be forwarded by the Chemical Forensics Program Office to the Chemical Security Analysis Center (CSAC), which maintains a repository of all Chemical Forensics Program documents.”

19. In Paragraph 2.1 entitled “Available Amount of Funding Expected to be Awarded Through this BAA”, the section is hereby deleted in its entirety and is replaced with the following:

“2.1 Available Amount of Funding Expected to be awarded through this BAA

Although subject to official fiscal appropriation and availability, it is anticipated that the Chemical Forensics Program will have approximately \$287,000 of FY 2012 funds for award under this BAA.”

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20. In Paragraph 2.3 entitled “Anticipated Number of Awards”, the section is hereby deleted in its entirety and is replaced with the following:

“2.3 Anticipated Number of Awards

DHS S&T expects to make 2 to 3 awards using its FY 2012 funds.”

21. In Paragraph 2.4 entitled “Anticipated Award Types”, the second sentence of the paragraph is revised as follows:

“...However, the Government reserves the right to award grants, Cooperative Agreements (CAs), Other Transaction Agreements (OTAs), or Interagency Agreements (IAAs) to appropriate parties should the situation warrant.”

22. In Paragraph 3.3 entitled “Organizational Conflict of Interest”, the title is revised as follows:

“3.3 Organizational Conflict of Interest (OCI)”

23. In Paragraph 3.3. entitled “Organizational Conflict of Interest (OCI)”, the first sentence of the paragraph is modified as follows:

“Organizational Conflict of Interest (OCI) issues will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis; as outlined below....”

24. In Paragraph 4.2 entitled “Application and Submission Process”, the first sentence of the second paragraph is revised as follows:

“To submit your White Paper (a completed DHS Chemical Forensics Program Project Proposal Form—See Section 8.2—Appendix B), go to <https://baa2.st.dhs.gov/> and select the appropriate registration button, fill in the requisite fields, upload your files, and then submit....”

25. In Paragraph 4.2 entitled “Application and Submission Process”, the last sentence of the second paragraph is revised as follows:

“...Failure to submit a White Paper (completed DHS Chemical Forensics Program Project Form) will disqualify an Offeror from consideration for submitting a Full Proposal.”

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26. In Paragraph 4.2 entitled “Application and Submission Process”, the last sentence of the third paragraph is revised as follows:

“...Any Full Proposal submitted by organizations that were not the lead organization for the White Paper (DHS Chemical Forensics Program Project Proposal Form) submission will be considered non-responsive.”

27. In Paragraph 4.2 entitled “Application and Submission Process”, the fifth paragraph is revised as follows:

“No Classified White Papers (DHS Chemical Forensics Program Project Proposal Forms) or Full Proposals (or portions of proposals) will be accepted.”

28. In Paragraph 4.2 entitled “Application and Submission Process”, the sixth paragraph is revised as follows:

“The DHS BAA website at <https://baa2.st.dhs.gov> offers electronic access to BAA solicitations, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), answers to FAQs, abstracts of previously funded projects, and hyperlinks to other useful information.”

29. In Paragraph 4.3 entitled “Format and Content of White Paper (DHS Chem FP Project Proposal Form), the title of the section is hereby revised as follows:

“4.3 Format and Content of White Paper (DHS Chemical Forensics Program Project Proposal Form)”

30. In Paragraph 4.3 entitled “Format and Content of White Paper (DHS Chemical Forensics Program Project Proposal Form”, the paragraph is deleted in its entirety and is replaced with the following:

DHS Chemical Forensics Program Project Proposal Forms are being solicited in the first phase rather than White Papers in narrative form. For the purposes of the BAA website, a completed Chemical Forensics Program Project Proposal Form (a MS Word document) constitutes a White Paper. The due date for the White Papers (completed DHS Chemical Forensics Program Project Proposal Forms) is no later than 4:30 P.M. (Local Eastern Time) on 16 December, 2011. Initial DHS S&T evaluation of the Chemical Forensics Program Project Proposals Forms (White Papers) will be issued via e-mail notification on or about 25 May 2012.

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31. In Paragraph 4.3 entitled “Format and Content of White Paper (DHS Chemical Forensics Program Project Proposal Form)”, the second paragraph is hereby revised as follows:

DHS Chemical Forensics Program Project Proposal Form Preparation and Submission Guidelines

32. In Paragraph 4.3 entitled “Format and Content of White Paper (DHS Chemical Forensics Program Project Proposal Form)”, the first sentence of the third paragraph is hereby revised as follows:

“It is required that a DHS Chemical Forensics Program Proposal Form be submitted prior to a Full Proposal to determine the acceptability of the proposed concept to one or more of the Broad Agency Announcement TFAs.”

33. In Paragraph 4.3 entitled “Format and Content of White Paper (DHS Chemical Forensics Program Project Proposal Form)”, the first sentence of the fourth paragraph is hereby revised as follows:

“A copy of the DHS Chemical Forensics Program Project Proposal Form (White Paper) is attached as Appendix 8.2.”

34. In Paragraph 4.3 entitled “Format and Content of White Paper (DHS Chemical Forensics Program Project Proposal Form)”, the first sentence of the fifth paragraph is hereby revised as follows:

“Only one DHS Chemical Forensics Program Proposal Form (White Paper) should be submitted for a particular TFA or group of TFAs.....”

35. In Paragraph 4.4 entitled “Format and Content of Full Proposals”, the Note under the title of the section is hereby revised as follows:

“Note: DHS Chemical Forensics Program Project Proposal Forms (referred to as White Papers on the website) are required prior to submitting a Full Proposal.”

36. In Paragraph 4.4 entitled “Format and Content of Full Proposals”, the third paragraph is hereby deleted in its entirety and is replaced as follows:

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The due date for receipt of Full Proposals is 4:30 P.M. (Local Eastern Time) on **June 29, 2012**. **Full Proposals WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED after the published due date.** It is anticipated that negotiations for award will commence on or about **July 26, 2012**. As soon as the final proposal evaluation process is complete, the Offeror will be notified via e-mail of its selection or non-selection for an award. Full Proposals exceeding the page limit will not be evaluated.

37. In Paragraph 4.4 entitled "Format and Content of Full Proposals", the paragraph under the title "VOLUME 2: Cost Proposal" is hereby deleted and replaced with the following:

"The Cost Proposal shall consist of a cover page and two parts, Part 1 and Part 2. Part 1 will provide a detailed cost breakdown of all costs by cost category and Part 2 will provide a Cost Breakdown by task/sub-task using the same task numbers in the Statement of Work. Options must be separately priced. The cost proposal in the full proposal phase should significantly exceed the cost estimate provided in the DHS Chemical Forensics Program Proposal Form (White Paper) phase. Those proposals that have a cost that is significantly higher than was previously provided in the white paper phase will be subjected to additional scrutiny and critical review to determine why the original estimate of cost was exceeded."

38. In Paragraph 4.6 entitled "Significant Dates and Times", the dates for the following items have been revised as follows:

Invitation to Submit Full Proposals—25 May 2012
Deadline for Submission of Full Proposal Questions—10 June 2012
Full Proposal Due Date—29 June 2012
Notification of Selection for Award—25 July 2012

39. In Paragraph 4.8 entitled "Further Assistance Needed for This BAA", the first sentence of the section is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

"The applicable electronic address for all correspondence for this BAA is Aaron.Ford@hq.dhs.gov "

40. In Paragraph 4.9 entitled "BAA Contractual and Technical Questions", the first sentence of the paragraph is revised as follows:

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“All contractual and technical questions regarding this BAA including the published requirements and instructions must be directed to the Contracting Officer at Aaron.Ford@hq.dhs.gov.”

41. In Paragraph 5.2 entitled “Evaluation Panel”, the first sentence of the paragraph is replaced in its entirety with the following:

“All properly submitted White Papers (in Project Proposal Form format) and Full Proposals that conform to the BAA requirements will be evaluated by a Source Selection Evaluation Board (SSEB) comprised of government and non-government technical experts drawn from staff within DHS S&T, other Federal agencies, and subject matter experts from contract support personnel.”

42. In Paragraph 6.2 entitled “Reporting”, the first sentence of the paragraph is replaced in its entirety with the following:

“Reports of project status will be solicited on a monthly basis from all performers using Chemical Forensics Program “Monthly Project Status Report Forms.”

43. In Paragraph 6.5 entitled “Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) Compliance Documentation, the section is deleted in its entirety and is replaced with the following:

“6.5 Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) Compliance Documentation

Those Offerors, whose full proposals are selected for funding, will be provided two forms which will need to be completed and expeditiously returned to the Chemical Forensics Program Office. Blank forms will be provided with the letter confirming selection of the proposal. These forms consist of the following:

- CWC Treaty Compliance Project Summary Form
- CWC Checklist

44. In Paragraph 7.5 entitled “Subcontracting Plan”, the section is deleted in its entirety and is replaced with the following:

“7.5 Subcontracting Plan

Successful contract proposals that exceed \$650,000.00, submitted by all but small business concerns, will be required to submit a Small Business Subcontracting Plan in accordance with Federal Acquisition Regulation 52.219-9, prior to award.”

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- B. The above identified changes are identified through the application of purple font.
- C. Except as amended herein, all other terms and conditions of the Broad Agency Announcement remain in full force and effect.

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