

Office of State Procurement
State of Louisiana
Division of Administration

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



JAY DARDENNE
COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION

September 28, 2023

ADDENDUM NO. 01

Your reference is directed to RFx Number 3000021605 for the Invitation to Bid for the State of Louisiana - Covid-19 Testing Services - LDH which is scheduled to open at 10:00 AM CT on October 05, 2023.

The following changes are to be made to the referenced solicitation:

Attachment B – Specifications, Page 4 Currently Reads:

- 3. The Contractor will provide the State with the qualifications/licensing stated below of the testing staff. This must be submitted to LDH within five (5) business days upon request.
 - a. Registered Nurse (RN) and Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Louisiana Nursing License.
 - b. Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) and/or Clinical Medical Assistant (CMA), certification and/or certificate of completion from a training program from either a Community College and/or Vocational Institution.

Attachment B – Specifications, Page 4 Changed to Read:

- 3. The Contractor will provide the State with the qualifications/licensing stated below for the testing staff. This must be submitted to LDH within five (5) business days of written request.
 - a. Medical Doctor (MD/DO), Physician Assistant (PA), Nurse Practitioner (NP), Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA).
 - b. Pharmacist or Pharmacist Assistant.
 - c. Registered Nurse (RN) and Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Louisiana Nursing License.
 - d. Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) and/or Clinical Medical Assistant (CMA), certification and/or certificate of completion from a training program from either a Community College and/or Vocational Institution.

Following are the Vendor Inquiries received by the deadline date of September 20, 2023 and the State's Responses:

Vendor Inquiry #1

Can you please share how the State of Louisiana is currently operating their COVID-19 testing services in the statewide settings identified in Attachment B - Scope of Work?

State's Response #1

Previously, upon an active Covid-19 outbreak, a request for a Strike Team would be submitted by the facility to the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) Program Monitor or Regional Epidemiologist. The LDH Program Monitor would connect the Strike Team vendors with the facility(s). The Strike Team would arrange all of the logistics with the facility(s) and testing would take place for a six (6) week period. All data would be sent to the LDH Program Monitor and invoices for services would be sent to the LDH Contract Monitor for payment. All testing services provided by the State ended June 30, 2023.

Vendor Inquiry #2

What is the anticipated or expected volume of COVID-19 testing per week?

State's Response #2

The estimated volume will vary depending on the facility and their need. The range from previous data collected was six hundred (600) to twelve-hundred (1,200) tests per week.

Vendor Inquiry #3

Will the Contractor be expected to provide mail-in kits and testing services?

State's Response #3

No, testing services only.

Vendor Inquiry #4

Are there any additional assays of interest the State is looking to test for with this same contract (i.e. RSV, influenza A/B)? If so, what are they?

State's Response #4

No, this solicitation is for Covid-19 testing only, as outlined in Attachment B – Scope of Work.

Vendor Inquiry #5

Can you please provide the budget for this RFP?

State's Response #5

Between August 2021 and June 2023, approximately six million five-hundred thousand dollars (\$6,500,000.00) was spent on Covid-19 testing services statewide. As of now, the agency has three million dollars (\$3,000,000.00) ready to utilize for congregate settings. The agency is currently waiting for redirection to increase the available fund to six million dollars (\$6,000,000.00) in addition to four million dollars (\$4,000,000.00) being redirected for K-12 (school-based) testing.

Vendor Inquiry #6

What is the estimated test volume for a strike team during a testing day?

State's Response #6

The estimated volume will vary depending on the facility and their need. The range from previous data collected was six hundred (600) to twelve-hundred (1,200) tests per week.

Vendor Inquiry #7

On attachment C, can you please clarify what Unit of Measure: each and estimated quantity: 1 refer to?

State's Response #7

On Attachment C – Price Sheet, the unit of measure “each” refers to each individual test. The quantity of one (1), per Attachment A – Special Terms and Conditions, indicates a lack of history on the item. This is an open-ended requirements contract with estimated quantities being ordered as needed.

Vendor Inquiry #8

If the strike team is dispatched for a shift of up to twelve (12) hours at a location, is there a PCR testing minimum guarantee? Will the vendor be compensated for deploying a team for a set time if there are no tests performed?

State's Response #8

There are no minimums or guarantees of tests per request. An estimate of the site population will be provided prior to the vendor being sent to the facility. Vendors will only be compensated per test.

Vendor Inquiry #9

When a strike team is dispatched to a testing location, will they be able to test inside the facility? If they are performing tests outside, will the team have access to power and restrooms during the potential twelve (12) hour day?

State's Response #9

Testing will take place inside the facility.

Vendor Inquiry #10

Are the (8) Strike Teams needed for deployment at the same time (24 total staff)?

State's Response #10

It will depend upon the need among the various settings. Not all strike teams will need to be activated at the same time.

Vendor Inquiry #11

Is it a requirement that the testing staff be either a RN, LPN, CNA, or CMA?

State's Response #11

Yes, at least one (1) RN or LPN and one (1) CNA/CMA per strike team.

Vendor Inquiry #12

I know the bid opens on 10/5 – when does it close?

State's Response #12

The bid opening date (October 5, 2023) is the closing date. All bid responses must be submitted to the Office of State Procurement by 10:00 am (CT) on October 5, 2023.

Vendor Inquiry #13

The Invitation to Bid shows a “Ship To Address” to OPH Laboratory. We assume that it is the department that will be managing the vendors of this RFP, or is that the laboratory the vendor will use to perform the Scope of Work? The Scope of Work (#4) indicates that the vendor will choose its lab. Please confirm.

State's Response #13

Yes, OPH Laboratory will manage the vendor. OPH Laboratory will not perform the tests.

Vendor Inquiry #14

If the vendor chooses its own lab, does the lab need to be located in and licensed in the State of Louisiana?

State's Response #14

Yes, the laboratory will need to be located and licensed in Louisiana.

Vendor Inquiry #15

For K-12 school testing, would testing be for students or just faculty and staff?

State's Response #15

It will be for students, staff and faculty.

Vendor Inquiry #16

What is the age range for potential testing participants in the confinement centers?

State's Response #16

The age range for potential testing participants is ages twelve (12) and older.

Vendor Inquiry #17

Are onsite rapid tests being considered or PCR only?

State's Response #17

PCR and Rapid Tests (only CLIA waived).

Vendor Inquiry #18

Listed credentials to collect specimens for testing include RN, LPN, CAN, and CMA – would the State allow other credentials to provide testing and specimen collection if they authorized?

State’s Response #18

Yes, Medical Doctors (MD/DO), Physician Assistants (PA), Nurse Practitioners (NP), Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA), Pharmacist, or Pharmacist Assistant. See revision to Attachment B – Scope of Work, Page 4, in this addendum No. 01.

Vendor Inquiry #19

Will the bidder be running the samples at their lab or just providing personnel and reports?

State’s Response #19

The vendor will run samples at their lab in addition to providing personnel and reporting needs.

All else remains as on original bid.

THIS ADDENDUM IS HEREBY OFFICIALLY MADE A PART OF THE REFERENCED SOLICITATION.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: If you have already submitted your bid and this Addendum does not cause you to revise your bid, you should acknowledge receipt of this Addendum by identifying your business name and by signing where indicated. You may return this Acknowledgement by mail, by hand delivery, or courier to: Office of State Procurement, 1201 N. 3rd Street, Claiborne Building - Ste. 2-160, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, or by fax to: (225) 342-9756. The State reserves the right to request a completed Acknowledgement at any time. Failure to execute an Acknowledgement shall not relieve the bidder from complying with the terms of its bid.

Addendum Acknowledged/No changes:

For: _____ By: _____

REVISION: If you have already submitted your bid and this Addendum requires you to revise your bid, you must indicate any change(s) below, identify your business name and sign where shown. Revisions shall be delivered prior to bid opening by mail or by hand delivery or courier to: Office of State Procurement, 1201 N. 3rd Street, Claiborne Building - Ste. 2-160, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, and indicate the RFx number and the bid opening date and time on the outside of the envelope for proper identification, or by fax to: (225) 342-9756. Electronic transmissions other than by fax are not being accepted at this time

Revisions received after bid opening shall not be considered and you shall be held to your original bid.

Revision:

For: _____ By: _____

By: Christine Schwartzburg
Office of State Procurement
Telephone No. 225-342-6634
Email: Christine.schwartzburg@la.gov