



FMU Invitation for Bid- Amendment #1

Solicitation Number **IFB-2436**
Date Issued **12/19/2023**
Purchasing Officer **Jennifer D Hester**
Phone **(843) 661-1161**
E-Mail Address **jdhester@fmarion.edu**

DESCRIPTION: **Furnish, deliver, and assemble a Benchtop Powder X-ray Diffractometer for Francis Marion University**

The Term "Offer" Means Your "Bid" or "Proposal".

SUBMIT OFFER BY (Opening Date/Time): **01/11/2024 2:00 pm EST** ~~1/22/2024 2:00pm EST~~ See "Deadline For Submission Of Offer" provision

QUESTIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY: **12/12/2023 @ 2:00 pm EST** See "Questions From Offerors" provision

NUMBER OF COPIES TO BE SUBMITTED: **One (1) Original, hard copy mailed with one (1) flash drive or other USB device as Specified in a sealed package to one of the addresses listed below.**

SUBMIT YOUR OFFER TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ADDRESSES IN A SEALED PACKAGE.

MAILING ADDRESS: Francis Marion University Purchasing Office P.O. Box 100547 Florence, SC 29502-0547	EXPRESS SHIPPING ADDRESS: Francis Marion University Central Receiving 4822 E. Palmetto Street Florence, SC 29506	HAND-DELIVERY: Francis Marion University Purchasing Office (Room 102) Stokes Administration Building 4822 E. Palmetto Street Florence, SC 29506
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CONFERENCE TYPE: NA Date & Time: N/A As appropriate, see "Conferences - Pre-Bid/Proposal" & "Site Visit" provisions	LOCATION: N/A
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AWARD & AMENDMENTS	A Statement of Intent to Award will be posted at the Physical Address stated above on 01/17/2024 01/26/2024 . The award, this solicitation, and any amendments will be posted at the following web address: http://www.fmarion.edu/procurement/solicitationsawards/
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You must submit a signed copy of this form with Your Offer. By submitting a bid or proposal, You agree to be bound by the terms of the Solicitation. You agree to hold Your Offer open for a minimum of thirty (30) calendar days after the Opening Date.

NAME OF OFFEROR (Full legal name of business submitting the offer)		OFFEROR'S TYPE OF ENTITY: (Check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Sole Proprietorship <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation (tax-exempt) <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate entity (not tax-exempt) <input type="checkbox"/> Government entity (federal, state, or local) <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ (See "Signing Your Offer" provision.)
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE (Person signing must be authorized to submit binding offer to enter contract on behalf of Offeror named above.)		
TITLE (Business title of person signing above)		
PRINTED NAME (Printed name of person signing above)	DATE SIGNED	

Instructions regarding Offeror's name: Any award issued will be issued to, and the contract will be formed with, the entity identified as the offeror above. An offer may be submitted by only one legal entity. The entity named as the offeror must be a single and distinct legal entity. Do not use the name of a branch office or a division of a larger entity if the branch or division is not a separate legal entity, *i.e.*, a separate corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, etc.

STATE OF INCORPORATION

(If Offeror is a corporation, identify the state of Incorporation.)

TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NO.

(See "Taxpayer Identification Number" provision)

PAGE TWO**(Return Page Two with Your Offer)**

HOME OFFICE ADDRESS (Address for offeror's home office / principal place of business)	NOTICE ADDRESS (Address to which all procurement and contract related notices should be sent.) (See "Notice" clause)	
	Address	
	Phone #: Area Code-Number-Extension	Facsimile
	E-mail Address	

PAYMENT ADDRESS (Address to which payments will be sent.) (See "Payment" clause)	ORDER ADDRESS (Address to which purchase orders will be sent) (See "Purchase Orders and "Contract Documents" clauses)
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment Address same as Home Office Address <input type="checkbox"/> Payment Address same as Notice Address (check only one)	<input type="checkbox"/> Order Address same as Home Office Address <input type="checkbox"/> Order Address same as Notice Address (check only one)

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF AMENDMENTS							
Offerors acknowledges receipt of amendments by indicating amendment number and its date of issue. (See "Amendments to Solicitation" Provision)							
Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date	Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date	Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date	Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date

DISCOUNT FOR PROMPT PAYMENT (See "Discount for Prompt Payment" clause)	10 Calendar Days (%)	20 Calendar Days (%)	30 Calendar Days (%)	_____ Calendar Days (%)
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PREFERENCES - A NOTICE TO VENDORS (SEP. 2009): On June 16, 2009, the South Carolina General Assembly rewrote the law governing preferences available to in-state vendors, vendors using in-state subcontractors, and vendors selling in-state or US end products. This law appears in Section 11-35-1524 of the South Carolina Code of Laws. A summary of the new preferences is available at www.procurement.sc.gov/preferences . **ALL THE PREFERENCES MUST BE CLAIMED AND ARE APPLIED BY LINE ITEM, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER AWARD IS MADE BY ITEM OR LOT. VENDORS ARE CAUTIONED TO CAREFULLY REVIEW THE STATUTE BEFORE CLAIMING ANY PREFERENCES. THE REQUIREMENTS TO QUALIFY HAVE CHANGED. IF YOU REQUEST A PREFERENCE, YOU ARE CERTIFYING THAT YOUR OFFER QUALIFIES FOR THE PREFERENCE YOU'VE CLAIMED. IMPROPERLY REQUESTING A PREFERENCE CAN HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES.** [11-35-1524(E)(4)&(6)]

PREFERENCES - ADDRESS AND PHONE OF IN-STATE OFFICE: Please provide the address and phone number for your in-state office in the space provided below. An in-state office is necessary to claim either the Resident Vendor Preference (11-35-1524(C)(1)(i)&(ii)) or the Resident Contractor Preference (11-35-1524(C)(1)(iii)). Accordingly, you must provide this information to qualify for the preference. An in-state office is not required, but can be beneficial, if you are claiming the Resident Subcontractor Preference (11-35-1524(D)).

☐ In-State Office Address same as Home Office Address
☐ In-State Office Address same as Notice Address (**check only one**)

Amendment 1

IFB- 2436 – Furnish, deliver, and assemble a Benchtop Powder X-ray Diffractometer for Francis Marion University

AMENDMENTS TO SOLICITATION

- (a) The Solicitation may be amended at any time prior to opening.
- (b) Offerors shall acknowledge receipt of any amendment to this solicitation (1) by signing and returning the amendment, (2) by identifying the amendment number and date in the space provided for this purpose on Page Two, (3) by letter, or (4) by submitting a bid that indicates in some way that the bidder received the amendment.
- (c) If this solicitation is amended, then all terms and conditions which are not modified remain unchanged.

Modifications

The following have been **added** or **changed/removed** or **emphasized**:

- 1) Cover Page, Page 1- New Submit Offer Date and time.

SUBMIT OFFER BY (Opening Date/Time): **01/11/2024 2:00 pm EST** **1/22/2024 2:00pm EST** See "Deadline For Submission Of Offer" provision

- 2) Cover Page, Page 1-

~~QUESTIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY: 10/27/2023 @ 2:00 pm EST~~ See "Questions From Offerors" provision

- 3) Scope of Work/Specifications- added/updated:

Specifications:

Offeror must comply with the following and any attached specifications in providing the goods and or services defined herein.

Item #1 - Delivery of one Benchtop Powder X-ray Diffractometer System

General

1. Instrument shall not be used; instrument must be new currently in production. Used or refurbished systems will not be considered.
2. Minimum one year warranty required.
 - This warranty must include hardware, parts, labor and travel.

Benchtop Powder X-ray Diffractometer (PXRD):

- PXRD must be desktop/benchtop size and be able to be used with standard/domestic US electrical outlets.
- PXRD must have true Bragg-Brentano geometry.
- PXRD must not require external cooling, water supply or chiller.
- PXRD must include ancillary items such as maintenance tools, slits, K β filter, alignment standard, sample stage, scatter screens and a variety of sample holders.
- PXRD must have an option for an automatic sample changer with a minimum of eight (8) positions available. This sample changer must be automatically aligned and have sample spinning capabilities.

- The PXRD must scan from at least -3 to 145° (2θ) with a scanning speed of 0.01 to $100^\circ/\text{min}$ (2θ), a minimum step width of 0.005° (2θ), and accuracy of $\pm 0.02^\circ$.
- The goniometer must be a vertical type with a radius of at least 150 mm.
- PXRD must include a Ni K-beta filter to be used with the Cu radiation source.
- The PXRD must have a continuously variable divergence slit that keeps the irradiated area of the sample constant throughout the entire 2θ measurement range. This capability enables the ability to measure low angle peaks successfully and yields high intensity for the entire 2θ measuring range by sampling the largest area on a sample continuously.
- The PXRD must have a high speed, silicon strip detector capable of operating in either 0D point or 1D high speed modes. The detector must have a active area of at least 380 mm², 256 channels, and have a maximum count rate of 1×10^6 cps/strip. The detector must have the capability of adding an optional monochromator to allow for the elimination of fluorescence from materials containing Fe, Ni, Co, and Mn.
- The PXRD must meet all local and international safety standards regarding X-ray emission/exposure. The instrument must have a visual indication on the body of the instrument that is illuminated when the X-ray tube is energized. The door of the instrument must have a safety interlock so that it cannot be opened while an analysis is in progress.
- PXRD must come with a variety of sample holders including two (2) flush zero background holders, two (2) zero background holders with a 0.5 mm well, and twenty (20) glass sample holders with 0.5 mm indentation.
- PXRD must include access to ICDD/PDF2 database for structural searches.

Hi Spec Computer:

- 1) Benchtop Powder X-ray Diffractometer System must include a Hi Spec Computer with the following *minimum* specifications:
 - Windows operating system
 - Capable of running current version of Window 11 Pro
 - 64-bit operating system
 - 32 GB of RAM
 - Intel core i7
 - 4 USB ports & 2 Ethernet ports
 - 500 GB SSD hard drive
- 2) PXRD system must include a PC with a 34" flat screen monitor.
- 3) Software:
 - Must include current software for instrument control, data collection and data analysis.
 - MS Office 2021 Home and Business
 - Adobe Acrobat Reader
 - Instrument must include 10 licenses for data analysis on different computers.
- 4) PXRD system must include a Keyboard and a USB mouse.

Offeror shall extend the manufacturer's warranty for the Benchtop Powder X-ray Diffractometer provided to the University and provide that warranty with the product upon delivery.

Note: Bidders must provide the manufacturer's name and model or catalog number of the items offered and provide the manufacturer's latest literature showing complete product specifications and details. Failure to furnish adequate data with bid or when requested by the University may result in bid rejection as non responsive. The offeror must

[include with their bid, supporting product data sufficient for the state to determine acceptability. The right is reserved to reject any offering in which the items offered are considered unsatisfactory in any manner.](#)

Item #2 - Installation of unit.

- Provide all labor and materials to install and train for instruments supplied by the University (the unit purchased in item #1 of this solicitation) (training will be for minimum four (4) FMU employees).
 - Labor includes but not limited to:
 - Vendor must include an uninterrupted power supply with the instrument to protect from power surges.
 - Instrument and accessories must be able to run be used with standard/domestic US electrical outlets. Instrument and accessories should be able to run on multiple 115V power connections.
- In coordination with a University representative, the contractor shall test the unit to verify proper installation and working order of the installed unit.

Other Specifications

1. Technical support shall be provided for the lifetime of the provided product. Support shall be provided within 48 hours of a support request contact from the University. Support must include not only by phone but also remote diagnosis as well.
2. Software Maintenance Agreement shall be provided.
3. Online diagnostics and troubleshooting shall be provided for the entire product.
4. Upon delivery, the item shall be completely installed by the vendor.

Questions Asked

Question 1	This IFB seems to be a sole source for a Bruker D2 Phaser with the LinxEye XE-T detector. If the University of amenable to a high-performance alternative, the specifications would need to be modified to allow other bidders. Please let us know how this can be rectified.
Answer	A comparable high-performance alternative would be acceptable. See the updated specifications for the Benchtop Powder X-ray Diffractometer above.
Question 2	There is no scope of work defining the measurement criteria to justify the detector selection, besides creating a sole source, please explain or clarify.
Answer	The criteria for the detector selection are to get the best resolution and with the lowest background in the shortest time possible. This would allow for collection of data for multiple students in the time allocated for a lab period. See the updated specifications for the Benchtop Powder X-ray Diffractometer above.
Question 3	Under the specifications, it states “a variety of sample holders”, please define so that offers are consistent with the expectations of the end user.
Answer	The instrument must come with a variety of sample holders including two (2) flush zero background holders, two (2) zero background holders with a 0.5 mm well, and twenty (20) glass sample holders with 0.5mm indentation.

Question 4	The need for theta-theta has not been addressed in the statement of work, is a Bragg-Brentano geometry acceptable. If so, the specifications must be modified.
Answer	Yes, the PXRD must have true Bragg-Brentano geometry.
Question 5	Please define software maintenance agreement.
Answer	The PXRD software shall include ten (10) network licenses that will allow for data analysis to be performed on different computers.