Catered Meals for MEANG in Massachusetts

RFI #1

Q1) Would it be possible to confirm whether tax exemption documentation is available for the above-mentioned contract?

> **A1) Yes.** As this is a direct purchase by the U.S. Government, the transaction is exempt from state and local taxes.

Q2) We would like to know whether it would be possible to use the kitchen on site to prepare the meals?

> **A2) No.** The Performance Work Statement (PWS) requires the contractor to "provide, prepare, and deliver" the meals. The on-site kitchen at the Fort Devens Dining Facility is not available for meal preparation. Meals must arrive hot and ready to be served.

Q3) Can the Government provide the Independent Government Cost Estimate (IGCE), maximum budget ceiling, or historical contract value for this requirement?

> **A3) No,** The Government will not release the full IGCE; however, for pricing purposes, offerors are advised that the Not-to-Exceed (NTE) amount is $18.00 per meal per person.

Q4) What is the estimated number or historical percentage of the 300 personnel from the 101st Civil Engineer Squadron that will require specific meal alternatives (e.g., Kosher, Halal, or documented food allergies)?

Justification: PWS Section 3.1 states specific dietary needs will be communicated to the contractor by the authorized representative upon contract award. Precise quantities of specialty meals must be established pre-award to accurately calculate raw material costs and menu rotation.

> **A4)** The Government does not have a definitive number of required specialty meals prior to award. As stated in the PWS, specific needs will be communicated to the contractor upon award. Historically, for a group of this size, the requirement is for a very small number of personnel (typically between 0% and 5%). Offerors should be prepared to accommodate such requests.

Q5) We would like to know if this is a brand-new contract OR if there is (was) an incumbent performing these services. If not brand new, could you please provide the current / previous contract number?

A5) This is being competed as a new requirement.

Q6) I would like to know what the payment process is and is there a deposit that will be given before the service.

A6) No deposit or advance payment will be made. This is a firm-fixed-price contract. Payment will be made via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) after services have been rendered and upon submission of a proper invoice through the Wide Area WorkFlow (WAWF) system. The payment instructions are detailed in the DFARS 252.232-7006 clause included in the solicitation.