

**March 5, 2014 - CLARIFICATIONS AND AMENDMENTS:**

Question 1:

Has the NHSLC processed responses to the Next Generation Systems RFP beyond simply receiving proposals? Have any preliminary decisions been made, or has there been a POS/ISV vendor question and answer period?

***Answer – We have received all proposals. Beyond that, we have taken no formal actions. As you can note from the Schedule of Events in RFP 2014-14 on Page 7 of 72, the vendor inquiry period ended on February 26, 2014.***

Question 2:

May we submit our electronic copies of the proposals (Technical and Cost) in PDF format in order to neatly include all forms and attachments?

***Answer - Yes***

Question 3:

Will the NHSLC please confirm that there are no Topic 5 and Topic 6 questions? Or, do those questions/topics exist and they will be provided in an amended version of this RFP?

***Answer – We have amended the RPF to include Topic 5 and Topic 6. See amendment posted on February 28, 2014.***

Question 4:

Will the NHSLC please confirm that weekly project status reports are sought? There is a conflict between language on page 27 of the RFP and Appendix C: Pricing Worksheets, Quality Assurance Vendor - Activities/Deliverables/Milestones Pricing Worksheet, Phase I, number 1 which states that Project Work Plan and Project Quality Assurance Status Reports are bi-weekly. Appendix E, Table E-1-1 also refers to a weekly status report. We also request clarification of the frequency of associated status report meetings.

***Answer – A weekly project status is required. Table C-1 – 1 shall be amended.***

Question 5:

Does the NHSLC have a budget for this procurement and will they share it with prospective vendors?

***Answer – NHSLC will take the lowest priced bid providing the NHLC with the most value.***

Question 6:

Under Project Status reports, can the NHSLC please explain what is meant by “e. Future Activities”?

***Answer – This would simply be a projection of activities involving the vendor and/or the Commission over the coming days – a kind of calendar of upcoming events. This will help both the vendor and the Commission to be prepared for these pending activities, meetings, etc.***

Question 7:

Does the NHSLC expect the Quality Assurance Services vendor to facilitate JAD/CRP sessions or attend, monitor and report on them?

***Answer – NHSLC expects that the vendor will be involved in most aspects of the project. This will include monitoring, reporting, and facilitating most aspects of the project.***

Question 8:

The passage states, “System Assurance Audit. Within twenty (20) business days of Phase implementation the Quality Assurance Vendor will assist and document for the State the degree to which out-of-balance conditions have been avoided.” By “out-of-balance” does the NHSLC mean “out of scope”, and, if so, will the NHSLC please explain why understanding avoidance of out of scope conditions is important? Our initial approach to this task/deliverable would be to document what work was in scope and out of scope, and escalate out of scope work or the potential thereof so that corrections can be made, rather than documenting what out of scope work was avoided.

***Answer - Out-of-balance shall be deemed to be not meeting the business requirements of the RFP or where a large variance to the RFP is envisioned.***

Question 9:

Can the NHSLC describe in more detail what it expects from this deliverable? Does the NHSLC expect the vendor to provide Payment Card Industry Qualified Security Assessor services, or a Payment Application Qualified Security Assessor services? Is penetration testing expected?

***Answer – NHSLC requires that the implementation of the next generation POS is in line with PCI standards and other regulatory requirements as each phase is implemented. Qualified Security Assessor and Penetration Services are not required.***

Question 10:

The first checklist item says that the NHSLC requires 1 original and 9 copies; however Section 4.1 says 1 original and 3 copies. Please confirm how many copies you require. Additionally, do you require the same number of copies for both the Cost Proposal and Technical Proposal?

**Answer – One original and 3 copies are required (see Clarification posted to our website on February 28, 2014). The same number of copies is required for both the Cost Proposal and Technical Proposal.**

Question 11:

The page limits and topic titles in section 5.3.1 (pg 24) are not consistent with the narrative descriptions on pages 25 and 26. Can NHSLC provide clarification on which page limits should be followed and provide descriptions for topics 5 and 6?

***Answer – See RFP Clarification posted on February 28, 2014.***