

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON ALCOHOL ABUSE AND ALCOHOLISM

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NUMBER: NIAAA-07-03

Amendment No. 002

Date of Issuance: March 22, 2007

The above numbered Request for Proposal (RFP) is amended as set forth below: The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers **remains unchanged: April 13, 2007 at 3:00 p.m., Eastern Prevailing Time.**

Offerors MUST acknowledge receipt of the amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by separate letter, telegram, or Electronic Mail which includes a reference to the RFP and Amendment number(s). For your convenience, the Proposal Intent Response Form is provided in Section J – List of Attachments of this RFP, for this purpose.

FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERORS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFEROR.

This Amendment revises the RFP as stated below:

I. The Following are questions submitted by potential offerors and the Government's Responses:

Question 1: "In RFP Attachment 1, Statement of Work (SOW), reference is made to Tasks 1-5 on Page 61, but on Page 62, Reference is made to Tasks 1-6 in Years 2-7. Please provide the description of work for Task 6 or confirm that the reference to Task 6 is a typographical error."

Response: This is typographical error, for Years 2-7, the Statement of Work is changed to read, Tasks 1-5.

Question 2: "In RFP Attachment 1, SOW, Page 62, reference is made to Option 2 for additional person hours and to Option 3, for purchase of additional equipment, supplies and materials. There is no description of an Option 1."

Response: This is a typographical error, the Options under Year 2, are changed to read: Option 1 and Option 2 rather than Option 2 and Option 3.

Question 3: RFP Attachment 1, SOW Task 1, Page 61, states: "If deemed necessary by the NIAAA Project Officer, the Contractor shall further validate the voluntary drinking paradigm by testing reference compounds on alcohol intake by selectively bred Indiana P, Indiana HAD, and Wistar rats. If necessary, to control for baseline effects, baseline ethanol drinking levels of Wistar rats shall be elevated to levels comparable to those of P and HAD rats through methods thought not to be relevant to alcoholism (e.g., food or water restriction). Tests with reference compounds designated by the NIAAA Project Officer will be performed and reported upon completion."

"Is the Contractor responsible for setting up a colony of Indiana P and HAD rats or will NIAAA supply the specified rats?"

Response: As stated in Amendment No. 1 to this RFP, the following sentence, added to Paragraph 3.a. of the **Technical Evaluation Criteria** under **Section M**, and addresses this question:

"Document access to, or a feasible plan to acquire, selectively bred Indiana P, Indiana HAD rats and Wistar rats. The rats can be requested from the Indiana University Alcohol Research Center (<http://medicine.iupui.edu/arc/cores.html>)."

Question 4: RFP, Part III, does not specify submission of an electronic cost proposal in the "Breakdown of Proposed Estimated Costs (Plus Fee)" format. Please confirm that this format is not required.

Response: This format is required. Under the URL for Attachment 8, on page 23 of the RFP are "Instructions for Use of the Format" which specifies the use of the ELECTRONIC EXCEL SPREADSHEET. The following "URL": <http://ocm.od.nih.gov/contracts/sps/spshexcl.xls>" provides access to the electronic cost and price spreadsheet.

Question 5: RTI understands that Past Performance information should be included as part of any response. Should this information be included as part of the technical or business volumes?"

Response: Past Performance should be a separate volume. As stated on page 57 of the RFP, "evaluation of the offeror's past performance information will be conducted subsequent to the technical evaluation". Page 38, paragraph 13 (a) is revised to read as follows:

"Offerors shall submit the following information as a separate volume in their proposal: . . ."

Question 6: "The following passage appears in the NIAAA RFP under Background, Page 60: "During FY 2005, proof-of-principle" tests were conducted to demonstrate the feasibility for successful testing using the clinically effective compounds naltrexone and acamprosate in rodent models of dispositional heavy drinking." Please provide information regarding where the data can be found. If this is contained in a report delivered under a Federal contract or grant, we ask that a copy of the report be made available to offerors.

Response: Proof of principle studies were performed at two sites (Indiana University, University of Texas-Austin) in 4 rodent models of dispositional heavy drinking. The models were Indiana P rats, Indiana HAD rats, Indiana HAP mice, and a hybrid cross of two inbred mouse strains. Effects of naltrexone (1.0 – 10 mg/kg) and acamprosate (100 -400mg/kg) on alcohol intake were tested in a two bottle choice procedure in these animals to assess the utility of these particular strains for medication testing. The resulting data were the basis of our decision to solicit tests in the P and HAD rat strains at this time. This work was supported through research grant supplements and data are currently unpublished. Therefore, the data are not shared with the public in conjunction with this solicitation. The scientific literature contains published results of tests of naltrexone, acamprosate, and other purported medications for alcohol dependence on alcohol drinking in rodent models that can serve as background for a proposal for this contract solicitation.

Question 7: "Will the fact that we are a foreign institution work against us in the competition, and if so, to what degree?"

Response: No, being a foreign institution does not work against an offeror in the competition.