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U.S. Army Contracting Command

Business Briefing

Defense Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education Consortium (DSEC) Cooperative Agreement W911NF-18-S-0008

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Opportunity Day

Please note that nothing discussed today changes any information in the FOA. Any information discussed today may reflect the Government's intent to change the FOA.

HOWEVER, unless a change is made to the FOA, all applicants should propose only to what is discussed in the FOA and not to these slides or information conveyed today.

Opportunity Day

- Opportunity Day is being held to discuss the FOA and to encourage dialogue, interchange and teaming.

- Presentations and the answers to non-proprietary questions posed at the Opportunity Day will be posted on the grants.gov under W911NF-18-S-0008.

Award Instrument

Cooperative Agreement (CA) under the authority of 31 U.S. Code § 6305 .

An executive agency shall use a cooperative agreement as the legal instrument reflecting a relationship between the United States Government and a State, a local government, or other recipient when—

(1) the principal purpose of the relationship is to transfer a thing of value to the State, local government, or other recipient to carry out a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by a law of the United States instead of acquiring (by purchase, lease, or barter) property or services for the direct benefit or use of the United States Government; and

(2) substantial involvement is expected between the executive agency and the State, local government, or other recipient when carrying out the activity contemplated in the agreement.

Award Instrument

- As a result of this FOA, ONE applicant will be selected for award of a Cooperative Agreement (CA) to lead the Consortium.
- The FOA will solicit offers to carry out the public purpose of support and stimulation of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education and outreach in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Defense and the U.S. Department of the Army.
- The Government envisions the CA will bring together Government and the recipient to work collaboratively to further DoD STEM outreach efforts.
- The Government/Recipient relationship is essentially a partnership!

Award Instrument

- A Cooperative Agreement is different from a Grant.
  - The Government is substantially involved during performance.
  - Each year a Program Plan is jointly developed that describes the milestones and budget.

Award Instrument

- **A Cooperative Agreement is different from a Contract!**
  - **A Contract is used when the principal purpose is to acquire property or services for the direct benefit or use of the Government.**
  - **The FOA is NOT a service for the direct benefit of the Government. It is to carry out the public purpose of stimulating (STEM) education and outreach programs.**

Award Instrument

- **Substantial Government involvement is expected under the CA.**
  - **The Government and Recipient will jointly evaluate the effectiveness of programs and through the combined expertise of the Government and Recipient focus on developing education and outreach initiatives that are unique to DoD's mission, needs, and resources and required to build the Force of the Future needed to serve and defend our Nation.**

Period and Place of Performance

- **The Award made as a result of this FOA will provide for a period of performance of five years.**

- **Performance is limited to the United States, Puerto Rico as well as DoD Education Activity (DoDEA) locations around the world.**

Profit/Fee

- **In accordance with 32 Code Federal Regulations (CFR) § 22.205, profit/fee is not permitted under the CA for the Recipient or any Subawardees.**

Federal Award Information

Base Year	Up to $ 15,000,000
Option year 1	Up to $ 15,000,000
Option Year 2	Up to $ 15,000,000
Option Year 3	Up to $ 15,000,000
Option Year 4	Up to $ 15,000,000

Estimated Total: Up to $75,000,000

Prior to award, the Recipient and all consortium members will establish and maintain an approved accounting system in accordance with 2 CFR 200.302

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Formation of a Consortium is a requirement in order to be responsive to this FOA. All Consortium Members are expected to have significant involvement and input into the program.

To be qualified, potential Consortium Members must:

- **be judged to have adequate financial and technical resources, given those that would be made available through the cooperative agreement, to execute the program of activities envisioned,**
- **have no known recent record of lack of responsibility or serious deficiency in executing such programs or activities,**
- **have no known recent record indicating a lack of integrity or business ethics**
- **be otherwise qualified and eligible to receive an award under applicable laws and regulations.**

Submission Process

- All applicants *MUST* submit through grants.gov
- At grants.gov you can search by the funding opportunity number, W911NF-18-S-0008 or search by the CFDA Number 12.560
- Grants.gov recommends submitting your application package ***at least 24-48*** hours prior to the close date to provide you with time to correct any potential technical issues that may disrupt the application submission.

Submission Date

- **Applications are due through grants.gov by 3:00 PM local Durham, NC, USA time 25 June 2018. Applications submitted after the closing date will not be considered or evaluated by the Government.**

Evaluation Process

- Preliminary review for proposal completeness, eligibility requirements, conformance with FOA requirements
- Individual Applications will be evaluated against the evaluation criteria – not against each other
- Applications received under this FOA will be evaluated using merit based, competitive procedures based on the Evaluation Factors in Section II. E. of the FOA
- A Selection Assessment Panel (SAP) will review the applications. The SAP, consisting of qualified groups of scientists, managers, and cost specialists, will conduct an assessment of each application to the decision maker for the Government.

Evaluation Process

- **All information necessary for the review and evaluation of an application must be contained in the application itself. No other material will be provided to the panel. Applications should contain sufficient technical detail to allow for in-depth technical assessment.**

Proposal Evaluation Criteria

- **Factor 1: Plan/Approach to Execution**
- **Factor 2: Management**
- **Factor 3: Credentials**
- **Factor 4: Past Performance**

The relative importance of the criteria are as indicated: Factor 1 – Plan/Approach to Execution is significantly more important than Factor 2- Management. Factor 2 is more important than Factor 3 – Credentials which is more important than Factor 4 – Past Performance.

Though not a Factor, cost will be evaluated for realism, reasonableness, and affordability.

Key Dates

EVENT	DATE
Announcement Issued	22 May 2018
Opportunity Day	7 June 2018
Applications Due	25 June 2018*
Evaluations Completed	20 July 2018
Award	1 August 2018

* Applications are due through grants.gov by 3:00 PM local Durham, NC, USA time 25 June 2018. Applications submitted after the closing date will not be considered or evaluated by the Government.