

AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION/MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT			1. CONTRACT ID CODE	PAGE OF PAGES 1 5
2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO. 1	3. EFFECTIVE DATE See Block 16c	4. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQ. NO.		5. PROJECT NO. (If applicable)
6. ISSUED BY U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service, Contract Management Branch 3101 Park Center Drive, Ste 228 Alexandria Virginia 22302		7. ADMINISTERED BY (If other than Item 6)		CODE
8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (No. Street, county, State and ZIP: Code)			9A. AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NO. RFQ FNS-09-190	9B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11)
			10A. MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT/ORDER NO.	10B. DATED (SEE ITEM 13) 6/17/09
CODE 1EFX9	FACILITY CODE			

11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS

- The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in Item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers is extended, is not extended. Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by one of the following methods:
- (a) By completing Items 8 and 15, and returning one (1) copy of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATA SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by telegram or letter, provided each telegram or letter makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and data specified.

12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (If required)

N/A

13. THIS ITEM APPLIES ONLY TO MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACTS/ORDERS, IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.

(4)	A. THIS CHANGE ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify authority) THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 ARE MADE IN THE CONTRACT ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.
	B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in paying office, appropriation date, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF FAR 43.103(b).
	C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY OF:
	D. OTHER Specify type of modification and authority)

E. IMPORTANT: Contractor is not, is required to sign this document and return 1 copies to the issuing office.

14. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible.)

See Page 2 thru 5.

Except at provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in Item 9A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.

15A. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (Type or print)		16A. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER (Type or print) PATRICIA PALMER, CONTRACTING OFFICER	
15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR <i>(Signature of person authorized to sign)</i>	15C. DATE SIGNED	16B. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY <i>(Signature of Contracting Officer)</i>	16C. DATE SIGNED

Solicitation RFQ FNS-09-190 is hereby amended based on the following questions and responses:

	QUESTION
#1	Will there be a bidder's conference? If not, how and when will we receive answers to questions?
	Government Response: At this time, the Government does not plan to conduct a bidder's conference. The Government is responding to all questions received by the July 8, 2009 deadline by issuing this amendment to the solicitation.
#2	Page 31-32 indicate that the body of the technical proposal should be double-spaced and not exceed 25 pages. Does the page limit include tables and table shells?
	Government Response: No, the page limit does not include tables and table shells. The Government is also increasing the page limit from not to exceed 25 double-spaced pages to not to exceed 30 double-spaced pages.
#3	The schedule on page 15 of the SOW indicates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Task 5.1 Draft memo on findings is to be submitted before the Task 4.1 and 4.2 Draft Tables b. Task 5.2 Final memo on findings is to be submitted before the Task 4.3 final analytical tables Are these dates correct or do the Task 5 dates need to be revised to have the findings submitted after the draft tables?
	Government Response: These dates are correct. FNS would like to obtain the findings for the EBT transaction related study questions at the national level by April 15, 2010. As stated on Page 17, offerors are encouraged to address the possibility of providing these findings to FNS by mid February if possible.
#4	Page 14 of the SOW specifies the following reporting requirement: "Attend weekly check-in meetings to review project status with the CORs. Weekly meetings will be via conference call and occasionally at the Government's site." How many trips to Alexandria should we include in the budget?
	Government Response: The government has removed the travel requirement for this task (Task 8.1) and will conduct the weekly meetings via conference call.
#5	Section L.1 states "Submit an original complete response including Volume I technical and Volume II pricing in one (1) 3-inch, three ring binder." Please verify that both Volumes: Volume I (technical) and Volume II (Pricing) will be submitted combined in one 3-inch, three ring binder, or 2 separate binders.
	Government Response: Volume I (Technical) and Volume II (Pricing) shall be submitted combined in one 3-inch, three ring binder,
#6	Paragraph L.1 CONTENT AND FORMAT OF SUBMISSION, Last paragraph states: "Responses must be legible, double spaced in a type size not smaller than 11 point pitch with a one-inch margin on all sides, on paper not

	<p>larger than eight and a half by eleven inches and not exceeding the page limits established in this solicitation.”</p> <p>A 25 page limitation and double space requirement will limit the proposal to between 10 and 12 pages of a conventional proposal response. Will FNS consider increasing the page limitation to 50 pages or remove the double space requirement?</p>
	<p>Government Response: The page limitation is being increased to 30 double-spaced pages. Sample tables and appendices will not be counted in the 30 double-spaced page limit. See also responses to questions 2 and 7.</p>
#7	<p>Paragraph L.2 PAGE RESTRICTIONS states: “The body of the Technical comprising Volume I shall not exceed twenty five (25) pages, excluding resumes and Past Performance Questionnaires. All pricing information shall be included in the Price submission only (Volume II).”</p> <p>Will appendices with sample shell tables be counted against the 25 page limitation?</p>
	<p>Government Response: No, sample tables and appendices will not be counted against the thirty (30) double-spaced page limit (see also response to questions 2 and 6 above)</p>
#8	<p>Paragraph L.4 PAST PERFORMANCE (VOLUME I) states: “...Past Performance Questionnaire to three (3) other organizations for which your firm has performed work ...”</p> <p>If a team of more than one company is proposing to do the work, where each brings specific expertise to the table, do we need three past performances for each company or three past performances for the proposal?</p>
	<p>Government Response: You will need three past performances for the proposal.</p>
#9	<p>Paragraph L.1 CONTENT AND FORMAT OF SUBMISSION, second paragraph states: “Submit one formatted CD containing a complete original response. All files shall be compatible with Microsoft office product(s). PDF format is also acceptable.</p> <p>Does FNS have a preference for which version of Microsoft office product is used for submission (MS Office 2003 or MS Office 2007)?</p> <p>Are Volumes I and II supposed to be included in one CD or 2 separate CDs?</p>
	<p>Government Response: FNS does not have a preference for which Microsoft office product is used for submission. Submit one (1) formatted CD containing a complete original response including Volume I and Volume II.</p>
#10	<p>The instructions for past performance say that questionnaires should be sent to past performance references from “three (3) other organizations” (p. 32). Does the reference to “other organizations” mean that references should exclude pertinent and recent contracts performed for FNS?</p>
	<p>Government Response: No, FNS references are acceptable.</p>

#11	Can results, data and scripts be provided in SQL format as opposed to SAS format?
	Government Response: SAS is required.
#12	In what format will the source data files be provided (E.G., CSV, text, etc.)? The Cole and Lee, 2005 report indicates that ASCII files in fixed file format were provided in 2003. Will the format be the same for data provided by FNS as related to the work described in the RFP?
	Government Response: Yes.
#13	What is the estimated total size in Gigabytes of the source data files? The Cole and Lee, 2005 report indicates that approximately 100 Gigabytes of uncompressed ALERT data was provided for their analysis.
	Government Response: The 2005 report provides a reasonable estimate for planning purposes.
#14	Via what medium will data be provided (E.G., FTP, CD-ROM, HDD, etc.)?
	Government Response: The data will be provided via CD-ROM and or HDD.
#15	Page 6 of the RFP mentions that the EBT transaction data for the six month period before the ARRA benefit increases took effect will cover the period between October 2008 and March 2008. We assume this to mean the period between October 2008 and March 2009. Is this correct?
	Government Response: Correct, the six month period before ARRA is, "October 2008 through March 2009".
#16	Will data dictionaries be provided for all data sources, along with representative samples of each data source, before the delivery commences?
	Government Response: Data dictionaries will be provided when data delivery commences.
#17	Is there a process in place for notification of changes in data formats of the source files?
	Government Response: The data file formats are not expected to change.
#18	Is there a process in place to ensure continuity of ALERT data as the new system is being implemented in the next year?
	Government Response: The data required for this study are not dependent on next year's implementation.
#19	The RFP states that Household data and Store Data are constantly changing. Will notification of changes to these file formats be provided along with the monthly snapshot of data?
	Government Response: File formats are not expected to change. It is the content of the data files that will be changing.
#20	Can a data delivery schedule be provided that provides greater specificity than just the month of delivery?
	Government Response: At this time only the month of delivery can be specified.
#21	What FNS / Stakeholder assistance will be provided to support contractor

	acquisition of State Data?
	Government Response: FNS will introduce the contractor to the appropriate State Agency representative(s.) The contractor should address how they plan to follow through on obtaining the data following this introduction.
#22	Is SAS the preferred platform for doing the data analysis or can another tool be used for this work and then transfer the results into SAS data sets?
	Government Response: SAS is required.
#23	Will the government consider a two week extension to the submission due date?
	Government Response: No submission extension will be considered.

[END OF AMENDMENT]