

Question #	RFP Section #	RFP Sub-Section #	RFP Section Title	Question / Comment	Government Response
1	B	B.2	BASE AND OPTION PERIODS	Sec. B.2 states a 2-yr base and 3 1-yr options but J-6 requires pricing for Year 1, 2, through 10. Please clarify.	Task orders may be issued on the last day of the 5-year ordering period. These orders may have a period of performance up to 5 years which is why the Government is requesting rates for years 6-10.
2	B	B.2	BASE AND OPTION PERIODS	Section indicates a five (5) year period of performance if all options are exercised, however the pricing spreadsheet, Attachment J-6 – Cost Price Template, provides pricing for ten (10) years. Please clarify which term we should provide pricing for.	Task orders may be issued on the last day of the 5-year ordering period. These orders may have a period of performance up to 5 years which is why the Government is requesting rates for years 6-10.
3	B	B.4.1	Firm-Fixed-Price Orders	Can you clarify if tasks may be issued on any fixed price type or only "Firm-Fixed-Price"?	Only firm-fixed-price orders as defined under FAR 16.202 may be issued.
4	B	B.4.3	COST REIMBURSEMENT ORDERS	Will Offerors be required to demonstrate that they possess an adequate accounting system acceptable for performing a Cost Reimbursement task prior to the award of an IDIQ? If not, what will happen if an Offeror is later determined not to have an acceptable accounting system? Will certain Offerors be limited to proposing only on Firm-Fixed-Price types of orders?	No, Offerors need not possess an adequate accounting system prior to award of an IDIQ contract. See L.12.2, Section III: "The Offeror shall provide evidence of an adequate accounting system...If the Contractor does not have an accounting system that has been determined adequate by the CFA or CFAO, but believes its accounting system is adequate, the Contractor shall so state in its proposal as well as a rationale...If the Offeror does not have an adequate accounting system it may still be eligible for award."
5	C	C.2	OBJECTIVES	Please clarify the reference to performance-based contracts ("Develop and maintain performance-based contracts). The solicitation contains no other references to performance-based contracts or requirements associated with such contracts.	Performance-based contracting at the task order level is a preferred mechanism. The Ordering Contracting Officer will determine the appropriate contracting method based on the task order requirements.
6	C	C.3	WEATHER DOMAIN	How does the Government define "Impact Based Decision Support Services"?	Impact Based Decision Support Services (IDSS) are forecast advise and interpretive services the NWS provides to help core partners, such as emergency managers and public safety officials, make decisions when weather, water, and climate impacts the lives and livelihood of the American people.
7	C	C.3	WEATHER DOMAIN	The current draft has reduced the task areas and broadened many of them. With the Offeror not having to address every area of the SOW, will Offerors be encouraged to address specific domain of the task area? Or will a focused response be considered a partial response and therefore non-compliant?	The Government cannot provide input on proposal strategy beyond the criteria outlined in sections L and M of the RFP. While offerors are not required to provide capability for every element in the SOW, offerors must respond to the entirety of an element that they are proposing on.
8	C	C.3	WEATHER DOMAIN	The Government identifies that work under a resultant contract will support sites world-wide. Attachment J-6 requires an Offeror to have one series of fully loaded ceiling labor rates for all sites world-wide. As international pricing may vary significantly from United States based labor pricing, would the Government please consider having Attachment J-6 have one sheet for United States based labor pricing, and a separate one for outside of the United States based labor pricing?	No, the Government is not considering this. Extraordinary work and work performed outside the U.S. will be considered on a task order basis. Only one rate should be provided. Offerors should base the rates on the most highly qualified employee or class of employees within a category working in the highest cost location, considering the higher cost of performance at a Government or Contractor site.
9	C	C.3	WEATHER DOMAIN	May stand-alone tasks be issued for any of the task elements listed in Section C?	Yes as long as the work falls within the scope of the contract.
10	C	C.3.1	Scientific Services	Will the Government correct the reference to space and time scales in C.3.1.6? C.3.1.4 covers neither	Clarification will be provided in the final RFP SOW.
11	C	C.3.1	Scientific Services	In reviewing the new Draft RFP SOW for ProTech-Weather, we noticed a number of mission-related technical requirements have been removed, such as "software codes, software engineering, and/or software development" in numerous requirements. Why were these requirements removed? These services are not separable from the operational, mission support professional and technical services. If not covered herein, what contract vehicle or acquisition method might be used to obtain these services?	The Government will review all requirements and determine which contracting vehicles (ProTech, NOAALink/NMITS, GSA GWACs, etc.) best meet the agency's needs.

Question #	RFP Section #	RFP Sub-Section #	RFP Section Title	Question / Comment	Government Response
12	C	C.3.2	Program and Project Management, Consulting, and Training	The reference for strategic planning is in the introductory paragraph of C.3.2 but there is no further discussion of STRATEGIC planning in the sub sections. My larger question is that the Enterprise Domain, I thought, was intended to cover the kinds of services listed in this entire section. It is imperative that I understand whether or not NWS will/can access services for strategic planning through the Enterprise Domain or only through this Domain?	Clarification will be provided in the final RFP SOW. Any office within NOAA may place orders against any of the ProTech Domains. The Ordering Contracting Officer will make the determination of which Domain to procure under based on market research at the task order level. At minimum, the preponderance of the work for the order must fall within the scope of the selected Domain.
13	C	C.3.2	Program and Project Management, Consulting, and Training	In C.3.2.6 there is a reference to Organization Development. Does this include executive coaching, teambuilding, leadership development or are those service to be accessed through the Enterprise Domain?	Yes, it does include executive coaching, teambuilding, leadership development.
14	C	C.3.2	Program and Project Management, Consulting, and Training	For C.3.2.7, please clarify the relationship between providing a scientific/technical training/seminar and including project management metrics? These seem to be two different topics/target audiences.	Clarification will be provided in the final RFP SOW.
15	C	C.3.2	Program and Project Management, Consulting, and Training	The requirements and scope of PM services in the draft Pro Weather domain strongly resemble PM requirements described in the last NOAA release of draft RFP for Pro Enterprise.Can the Government clarify or explain its expectations from potential bidders interested in providing effective solutions for the Enterprise domain as well as the Pro Weather domain and any other future domain requirements? Will the PM scope of services be deleted from the requirements of PT Enterprise?	At the task order level, program management services in the Weather Domain may require technical, scientific, and/or mission-related Domain expertise for successful performance. Program management services under Enterprise Domain may not require technical or scientific expertise and cover requirements common to staff and line offices. The OCO will make the determination of which Domain to procure under.
16	C	C.3.2	Program and Project Management, Consulting, and Training	To clarify, is the Offeror able to access just one part of the Statement of Work? For example, can the Offeror choose to respond to C.3.1 Scientific Services in lieu of submitting to C.3.1 Scientific Services, C.3.2 Program and Project Management, Consulting and Training and C.3.3 Engineering Services for Systems and Facilities?	Offerors may propose on any or all elements (C.3.1.1, C.3.1.2, etc.) of the SOW.
17	C	C.3.3	Engineering Services for Systems and Facilities	What is the total number of facilities supported by this procurement?	Place(s) of performance will be specified at the task order level and may include CONUS and OCONUS locations.
18	C	C.3.3	Engineering Services for Systems and Facilities	Are all facilities located in the CONUS and, if not, what are the other locations to be supported?	Place(s) of performance will be specified at the task order level and may include CONUS and OCONUS locations.
19	C	C.3.3	Engineering Services for Systems and Facilities	Does NOAA require specific software or tools (CAD) and, if so, are those provided by NOAA or are they to be provided by the contractor	Any government-furnished equipment will be specified at the task order level.
20	G	G.3	PLACEMENT OF ORDERS	If an Offeror proposes on a limited number of elements and is awarded an IDIQ, will that Offeror be limited to proposing on tasks relating to those elements? If so, how will Ordering Officers identify those elements when issuing a Request for Task Order Proposal?	No. IDIQ awardees may propose on any SOW elements at the task order level.
21	G	G.3	PLACEMENT OF ORDERS	If awarded an IDIQ, will there be any limitations with respect to subcontracting or forming teams to propose on individual tasks?	No. IDIQ awardees may subcontract or form teams to respond to solicitations at the task order level.
22	G	G.4	EVALUATION OF CONTRACTOR PERFORMANCE	It is indicated that CPARS will be completed for the IDIQ contract, and "may" be completed for task orders when determined useful for source selection purposes. Does NOAA perform CPARS for all tasks above a particular dollar amount?	No. CPARS will be completed in accordance with FAR 42.1502(d).
23	H	H.9	ON-LINE PROPOSAL AND ORDERING CAPABILITY	The Government anticipates utilizing a internet portal for TO processing. The contractor will be required to "support the electronic information requirements" Will the Government provide more information regarding what may/will be expected of contractors?	The Government will provide more information to contract holders as the requirements are defined.
24	H	H.9	ON-LINE PROPOSAL AND ORDERING CAPABILITY	Will contractors be responsible for costs associated with supporting the on-line portal?	Yes.

Question #	RFP Section #	RFP Sub-Section #	RFP Section Title	Question / Comment	Government Response
25	H	H.14.1	Task Order Key Personnel	Is the Project Manager (key personnel) the only LCAT the Offeror must propose regardless of which parts of the SOW they can perform?	Yes, Offerors are to propose a Program Manager per H.14 and L. 12.3, Section I, 3. Resources. Regarding Section H.14.1 Task Order Key Personnel, any additional key personnel required will be specified at the task order level.
26	H	H.15	NOTICE OF PARTICIPATION OF NON-GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL	What role will non-governmental personnel play post award in administrating the contract?	The contractors listed in section H.15 may provide support to the Contracting Officer and/or ProTech Program Office.
27	J	J-2	Labor Category Descriptions	Standard Level Definitions - The existing paragraph describes how to calculate the equivalent value of a degree against years of experience. Can a certain number of years' experience also substitute for a degree, and if so how many years equivalent for a Associate's, Bachelor's, Masters, and a PhD level?	No, the Government is not considering this.
28	J	J-2	Labor Category Descriptions	Please explain what Levels I-IV are equivalent to as they are not equivalent to the standard levels 1-4 and are not defined anywhere else in Section J.	Levels I-IV are defined in each of the core labor category descriptions. For example, the descriptions for Meteorologist I, II, III, and IV each have defined education and experience requirements for each level.
29	J	J-2	Labor Category Descriptions	Attachment J-2 - LC Descriptions for Cat 6 - Social Sciences, does not include a Standard Level 4, but the Pricing Template does include a Level 4. Should Attachment J-2 be revised?	Corrections will be made to attachments J-2 -Weather Domain Labor Category Descriptions and J-6 - Cost_Price Template in the final RFP.
30	J	J-2	Labor Category Descriptions	Cat 5 - Scientific Information - For the Scientific Applications Programmer IV, should a PhD be included in the education requirements?	Yes, the education requirement will be updated to PhD.
31	J	J-2	Labor Category Descriptions	Cat 2 - Engineering Services - For the Environmental Engineer IV, should the years of experience be 10+ to be consistent with the other labor categories?	Yes, the experience requirement will be updated to 10+ years.
32	J	J-2	Labor Category Descriptions	Cat 4 - Program Operations - For the Program Manager series of categories, can the IT management experience and the programmatic strategic portfolio management experience be simultaneous?	Yes, the IT management experience and the technical area management experience can be simultaneous.
33	J	J-2	Labor Category Descriptions	Cat 4 - Program Operations - For the Project Manager series of categories, can the IT management experience and the technical area management experience be simultaneous?	Yes, the IT management experience and the technical area management experience can be simultaneous.
34	J	J-2	Labor Category Descriptions	Cat 2 - Engineering Services - For the Subject Matter Expert Level I position, the years of experience appear to be low for an expert. Should they be increased?	The Government will consider updating the experience requirement.
35	J	J-2	Labor Category Descriptions	There are several LCs such as the Industrial Engineer III where the education requirement runs for a Bachelor's degree to a PhD. Was it the Government's intent to have such a wide education requirement?	Yes.
36	J	J-2	Labor Category Descriptions	The overall labor category experience convention equates Grades with years of experience. The Standard Level Definitions (page 33) defines the minimum and range of experience by Levels. Grade I & Level I= 2-4 years experience; Grade II & Level II= 5-7 years; Grade III & Level III= 8-10 years; Grade IV & Level IV= 10+ years. Since Grades appear to equate to Levels, please address how to differentiate pricing based on Grades and Levels to complete the Attachment J-6 Cost Price Template.	The RFP does not define or equate experience to "Grades".
37	J	J-2	Labor Category Descriptions	The experience requirement for Scientist I-IV and Chief Scientist break from convention to provide for 0-2 years of experience for I, 2-4 for II, 4-6 for III, 6-8 for IV, and 10+ for Chief Scientist (pages 5 & 6 of 33). Is there a provision for Scientist with 8-10 years of experience?	No. The experience requirements for the Scientist I-IV and Chief Scientist are as stated.
38	J	J-2	Labor Category Descriptions	The Environmental Engineer III & IV both require 8-10 years civil engineering experience (pages 11 & 12 of 33). Convention would call for the IV to have 10+ years of experience. Please confirm the experience requirement for the Environmental Engineer IV.	The experience requirement for the Environmental Engineer IV will be updated to 10+ years.

Question #	RFP Section #	RFP Sub-Section #	RFP Section Title	Question / Comment	Government Response
39	J	J-2	Labor Category Descriptions	The experience requirement for the Chief Engineer / Principal Consultant I, is 10+ years with BS, 10+ years with MS; the requirement for the Chief Engineer / Principal Consultant II, is 15+ years with BS, 10+ years with MS (page 12 of 33). Please confirm the experience requirement for the II with MS is only 10+ years.	The experience requirement for the Chief Engineer/Principal Consultant II with MS will be updated to 15+ years.
40	J	J-2	Labor Category Descriptions	Four of the five labor category subcategories provide for Levels 1-4 (the 1. Scientific, 2. Engineering, 3. Analytical, 4. Program Operations, and 5. Scientific Information Services Subcategories). The Social Science Subcategory provides for Levels 1-3 (page 31 of 33). Please confirm the Levels applicable to the Social Science Subcategories.	Corrections will be made to attachments J-2 -Weather Domain Labor Category Descriptions and J-6 - Cost_Price Template in the final RFP.
41	J	J-2	Labor Category Descriptions	For the engineer labor categories, will the Government add years of experience equivalency in lieu of a degree requirements to be consistent with the other labor categories?	No, the Government is not considering this.
42	J	J-3	Sample Monthly Contract Progress Report	Sec. J – Attchmnt J.3 (K) requires including any significant changes to the contractor’s organization? What type of information would be required?	Any change to the contractor’s organization that may affect cost, schedule, and/or performance of the task order.
43	J	J-3	Sample Monthly Contract Progress Report	Section II refers to “changes to the website, if applicable, described in Section H.4”. Section H.4 refers to prior approval for publicity and news releases. Please clarify the meaning of changes to the website.	Any changes to the website which includes publicity, news releases, and/or commercial advertising regarding ProTech-Weather.
44	J	J-5	Past Performance Questionnaire	Paragraph 2 of Attachment J-5 – “If the offeror intends to use this reference for more than one submission (ex: If proposing on Weather IDIQ on prime and subcontractor teams), it must be clearly delineated in Section A of the questionnaire.” To indicate what submission we are supporting, is it a correct assumption that such offerors should check the “Both” box in Section A’s “Proposing As” line and fill in the prime’s name for the subcontracting submission in the line below?	Yes.
45	J	J-6	Cost/Price Template for Ceiling Rates	Attachment J-6 - Pricing Template for Cat 2 - Engineering Services, includes a Standard Level 5, but Attachment J-2 - LC Descriptions does not include a Level 5 definition. What is the definition for the Level 5 or should it be removed from the Pricing Template?	Corrections will be made to attachments J-2 -Weather Domain Labor Category Descriptions and J-6 - Cost_Price Template in the final RFP.
46	J	J-6	Cost/Price Template for Ceiling Rates	When the Offeror is determining rates for Category 1: Scientific Services Subcategories Levels 1-4, is it correct that the Offeror should base their rates on the most highly qualified employee or class of employees included amongst all of the Scientific Services examples given (Atmospheric Sciences, Chemistry, Climatology, Environmental, Geology, Materials Science, Meteorology, Oceanography, Physics, and Space Applications)?	Yes.
47	L	L.6	SMALL BUSINESS CLASSIFICATION CODE	Do any of the exceptions to the size standard for NAICS 541330 apply to this contract?	No, the exceptions do not apply. The size standard for this procurement is \$15 million.
48	L	L.7	SMALL BUSINESS RESERVE	What are the socio-economic categories that the Government intends to award under the reserve?	The Government intends to award to the following categories under the reserve: small business, WOSB, SDVOSB, and HUBZone.
49	L	L.11	GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS	Please resolve the difference between paragraph L.11 instructions that the use of tables is not permitted, while we are required to submit matrices of capabilities	The format instructions at L.11.2 will be updated to allow limited use of tables for the Volumes II and III Capability Matrices, Volume III Contract Description(s), Volume V Cost/Price.
50	L	L.11.2	Format Instructions	use of tables is not permitted. We propose the following alternative language: “Text in Diagrams, schedules, charts, tables, artwork, and photographs shall be no smaller than 10 point. Diagrams, tables, artwork, and photographs shall not be used to circumvent the text size limitations of the proposal.” This will help in addressing multiple areas of the RFP which are best done in tables that would be included in Volumes I, II, IV, V & the Labor Category Descriptions.	The format instructions at L.11.2 will be updated to allow limited use of tables for the Volumes II and III Capability Matrices, Volume III Contract Description(s), Volume V Cost/Price.

Question #	RFP Section #	RFP Sub-Section #	RFP Section Title	Question / Comment	Government Response
51	L	L.11.2	Format Instructions	L.11.2 states "use of tables is not permitted." L.12 states that "lists of tables" are an "exception to the page limitations." Please clarify whether tables are permitted. If so, what are the font/format requirements?	The format instructions at L.11.2 will be updated to allow limited use of tables for the Volumes II and III Capability Matrices, Volume III Contract Description(s), Volume V Cost/Price. The L.12 instructions will be updated to remove "list of tables".
52	L	L.11.2	Format Instructions	Is our assumption correct that the Government will exclude the proposal cover, title page, table of contents, and acronym list from the page limitations for all volumes?	Exceptions to the page limitations are: cover page, key personnel resume, lists of acronyms, lists of figures, and indices/tables of contents.
53	L	L.11.2	Format Instructions	(also addressed in Sec. L.12.4 Sec. II – Contract Descriptions) "Use of tables is not permitted." Recommend the Government reconsider the use of tables especially because of the proposal's page limitations. An example of how page space can be minimized and readability improved is the requirement for past performance contract descriptions, which can be furnished in a concise table.	The format instructions at L.11.2 will be updated to allow limited use of tables for the Volumes II and III Capability Matrices, Volume III Contract Description(s), Volume V Cost/Price.
54	L	L.11.2	Format Instructions	The draft RFP states that "Use of tables is not permitted". Will the government consider removing this from the final RFP, as it greatly restricts the vendors' ability to develop the required capability matrix and address all requirements efficiently and effectively?	The format instructions at L.11.2 will be updated to allow limited use of tables for the Volumes II and III Capability Matrices, Volume III Contract Description(s), Volume V Cost/Price.
55	L	L.11.2	Format Instructions	The draft RFP states that "Any illustrations containing illegible text will be excluded from evaluation". In order to minimize ambiguity, will the government please determine a font size for images?	The Government is not specifying the size and resolution for images and illustrations. It is the Offeror's responsibility to ensure any data contained in any images and illustrations used are legible.
56	L	L.11.2	Format Instructions	In order to allow the vendor to submit a comprehensive response to meet all instructions and evaluation criteria for the Past Performance Volume, will the government consider allowing tables and changing the "Times New Roman 12-point minimum font" to allow for a minimum of 10 point? This will allow for the vendor to show true breadth and depth of meeting the scope, while remaining legible and organized.	No, the Government is not considering this.
57	L	L.11.2	Format Instructions	Will the government allow for vendors to have responses containing images that do not span the full width of the page, and to allow text to wrap around?	The Government is not specifying the size and resolution for images and illustrations. It is the Offeror's responsibility to ensure any data contained in any images and illustrations used are legible.
58	L	L.11.2	Format Instructions	RFP pg65 does not list the use of tables. Is it acceptable to submit tables in the proposal? Would Gov't allow Figures/Exhibits with caption size less than 12pts?	The format instructions at L.11.2 will be updated to allow limited use of tables for the Volumes II and III Capability Matrices, Volume III Contract Description(s), Volume V Cost/Price, and a minimum 10-point font for text in images and illustrations.
59	L	L.11.2	Format Instructions	This section prohibits the use of tables. Is it permissible to use call out boxes in the proposal?	No.
60	L	L.11.2	Format Instructions	Section L.11.2 specifies that "use of tables is not permitted." However, Sections L.12.2 and L.12.4 each request a capabilities matrix (a table). Please clarify the instructions regarding use of tables.	The format instructions at L.11.2 will be updated to allow limited use of tables for the Volumes II and III Capability Matrices, Volume III Contract Description(s), Volume V Cost/Price.
61	L	L.11.2	Format Instructions	Use of tables is not permitted. Volume II and Volume IV both require a capability matrix. What format should that be in if tables are not permitted? Additionally tables can provide a convenient way to convey the wealth of information required while considering the page limitations. Would the government consider removing that restriction?	The format instructions at L.11.2 will be updated to allow limited use of tables for the Volumes II and III Capability Matrices, Volume III Contract Description(s), Volume V Cost/Price.
62	L	L.11.2	Format Instructions	"The Offeror will use a standard, Times New Roman 12-point minimum font". Would a smaller font be acceptable for use in graphics?	The format instructions at L.11.2 will be updated to allow a minimum 10-point font for text in images and illustrations.
63	L	L.12	FORMAT AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION	In order to allow for a comprehensive response and to meet all the requirements set forth in the instructions, as well as to remain consistent with the previous domain solicitations, will the government consider extending the page limit of the Volume III - Management Approach, Section 1, from 10 pages to 15 pages?	No, the Government is not considering this.

Question #	RFP Section #	RFP Sub-Section #	RFP Section Title	Question / Comment	Government Response
64	L	L.12	FORMAT AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION	OCI Mitigation Plan states "Offerors shall include their mitigation plan in accordance with the clauses and provisions listed in the solicitation." We assume that if we have no actual or potential OCI issue(s) then there is no requirement to submit an OCI Mitigation Plan as part of our proposal, and that we are only required to submit a statement certifying there is no actual or potential OCI. Would the government please confirm if this assumption is correct?	The assumption is correct.
65	L	L.12.1	Volume I - Administrative	Does the contractor need to submit the completed Section K Representations and Certifications information with its response, even if SAM information is complete and up-to-date?	Yes.
66	L	L.12.1	Volume I - Administrative	Do the Joint Venture language and requirements apply to standard contractor teaming arrangements?	No, the Joint Venture requirements do not apply to prime/subcontractor teams.
67	L	L.12.1	Volume I - Administrative	Can the government confirm that all "solicitation documents" (Vol I Sec. II) refers to SF 33, SF 30, etc. since they are not listed?	Yes.
68	L	L.12.1	Volume I - Administrative	Does the Government anticipate the vendor having any access to budgetary data, proprietary information, or sensitive data that may result in an actual or perceived Organizational Conflict of Interest for the anticipated RFP release (ST-1330-18-RP-0041) of NOAA ProTech Enterprise Operations Domain?	Any access to budgetary data, proprietary information, or sensitive data will be specified at the task order level.
69	L	L.12.1	Volume I - Administrative	To what extent will the Offeror have access to other Industry sensitive or confidential information [recognizing that the Offeror will enter into "company-to-company" agreements protecting such information as set forth in CAR 1352.209-71(b)]?	Any access to sensitive and confidential information will be specified at the task order level.
70	L	L.12.2	Volume II - Corporate Experience and Commitment (Factor I)	For the capabilities matrix, what level of the SOW should we indicate the areas we can/cannot address? Should we indicate partial capabilities or only indicate areas where we have complete capabilities for that SOW element?	While offerors are not required to provide capability for every element in the SOW, offerors must respond to the entirety of an element that they are proposing on.
71	L	L.12.2	Volume II – Corporate Experience and Commitment (Factor I)	Throughout section L, there are references to "elements" of the SOW. What are "elements"? Are they groupings of or individual support activities? Do proposals need to show capabilities for all of the support services?	The term "element" used in the context of the SOW refers to the numbered support activities listed in section C.3. For example, C. 3.1.7, C.3.2.3, and C.3.3.8 are individual elements of the SOW. The draft RFP SOW contains a total of 33 elements: fourteen (14) under C.3.1 Scientific Services, ten (10) under C.3.2 Program and Project Management, Consulting, and Training, and nine (9) under C.3.3 Engineering Services for Systems and Facilities. Offerors must propose on at least one element of the SOW.
72	L	L.12.2	Volume II – Corporate Experience and Commitment (Factor I)	Section II – Corporate Experience and Commitment: is there a minimum number of SOW elements offerors need to respond to?	Offerors must propose on at least one SOW element.
73	L	L.12.3	Volume III - Management Approach (Factor II)	If a vendor is a certified Small Business, does the government still expect a Small Business Subcontracting Plan?	No. Per L.12.1, Section II - Small Business Subcontracting Plan, "... Offerors other than small shall submit a...Plan."
74	L	L.12.4	Volume IV - Past Performance (Factor III)	Capability Matrix: As written, offerors are required to indicate which SOW the offeror "is capable of performing" and "which contract/reference has been provided for that specific work." All SOW elements the offerors are capability of performing may not be reflected in the contracts/references being provided. Is the Government's intent to have the matrix indicate the SOW elements addressed by the past performance references and not all SOW elements they are capable of performing?	Yes.
75	L	L.12.4	Volume IV - Past Performance (Factor III)	Is this capabilities matrix intended to be a copy of the Volume II matrix with an additional column identifying our relevant past performance citations?	Offerors may choose how to present their matrix.

Question #	RFP Section #	RFP Sub-Section #	RFP Section Title	Question / Comment	Government Response
76	L	L.12.4	Volume IV – Past Performance (Factor III)	It is indicated that Offerors shall submit past performance information for up to eight contracts (no less than three for the prime or Joint Venture) having performance within the past five years from the date of release for the final ProTech-Weather RFP, which are relevant to the efforts required by this solicitation. How will an Offeror with less than three relevant references be evaluated? May proposed subcontractor references count towards the three required references? Further, can you clarify if questionnaires are requested for subcontractors?	Offerors with fewer than three past performance references will be given a neutral evaluation rating. Subcontractor references may not be used to count towards the prime contractor's three references. Questionnaires may be submitted for subcontractors if they are listed as a contract reference in L.12.4 Section II.
77	L	L.12.5	Volume V - Cost/Price (Factor IV)	"The Offeror is not required to certify the rates and supporting information contained in the price proposal." Considering the Sec. L instruction, is FAR 52.215-12 (identified in Sec. I) applicable to the ProTech-Weather solicitation?	FAR 52.215-12 may be applicable at the task order level.
78	L	L.12.5	Volume V - Cost/Price (Factor IV)	Since the government is requesting core labor categories for each of the six general service categories (Scientific, Engineering, Analytical, Program Operations, Scientific Information, and Social Science), and other domains did not provide core labor categories, will the government consider removing the subcategories (i.e., Level 1 -4) as they do not provide any additional information, as they are generic.	No, the Government is not considering this. The core labor categories are essential but do not reflect all potential labor categories needed to support requirements at the task order level.
79	M	M.2	BASIS FOR AWARD	"It is anticipated that approximately 75% of the awards will be to small business concerns, including those to the socio-economic categories." Please clarify whether the referenced "reserve for small business" is 75% of all anticipated ProTech-Weather awards.	Yes, it is anticipated that approximately 75% of all ProTech Weather IDIQ awards will be to small business concerns.
80	M	M.2	BASIS FOR AWARD	We understand from Section M and attachment J-6 that the pricing is intended to be ceiling hourly rates. In some areas we may offer higher ceiling rates to allow for unique specialists to support task areas that could be higher than what we would consider fair and reasonable for more normal positions. How do we identify these types of situations?	Offerors should provide ceiling rates that reflect the highest potential rate. Offerors should base the rates on the most highly qualified employee or class of employees within a category working in the highest cost location, considering the higher cost of performance at a Government or Contractor site.
81	M	M.2	BASIS FOR AWARD	The Government states "It is anticipated that approximately 75% of the awards will be to small business concerns, including those to the socio-economic categories." Would all other small businesses, such as WOSB, SDVOSB, etc., that are larger than the \$15M annual revenue size standard for 541330, but smaller than \$27.5M, etc., be considered within the 75% of awards? Or, will they be lumped into the 25% left over which large businesses can compete for?	The 75% reserve will only include small businesses that meet the size standard of \$15 million for NAICS 541330.
82	M	M.2	BASIS FOR AWARD	The Government states "...approximately 75% of the awards will be to small business concerns." Using the ProTech Satellite Domain as a reference, it is possible that there may be approximately 20-25 IDIQ contract awards, of which 15-19 would be to small business concerns under \$15M annual revenue and 5-6 awards for all others. Is it the Government's expectation that there might only be on the order of 5-6 full and open awards in this procurement?	There is not a predetermined number of awards. The Government anticipates 75% of awards will be to small business concerns.
83	M	M.3.2	FACTOR II - MANAGEMENT APPROACH	It is indicated that the Government will evaluate the small business subcontracting plans for adequacy in accordance with FAR 19.704. Will a stronger (than adequate) plan be evaluated as more favorable?	No.

Question #	RFP Section #	RFP Sub-Section #	RFP Section Title	Question / Comment	Government Response
84	None			<p>Will Subcontractors be required to submit the same info as the prime for Vol. I & V? For Vol. IV, can subcontractors past performance be submitted? If so, any requirements on the numbers from the sub? The LC descriptions vary by years of experience. Is it possible to make these consistent within various LCs? Pricing Sheet contains two 5's vs. 5 and 6; and contains levels 1, 2, 3, and 4 within each category. What should be priced in this section? Is SB size standard \$15M or 500 employees?</p>	<p>No, subcontractors are not required to submit the information required of the prime in Volumes I and V. Yes, subcontractor past performance may be submitted as part of the maximum 8 contracts per L.12.4. No, the labor categories have experience requirements as specified. Task orders may be issued on the last day of the 5-year ordering period. These orders may have a period of performance up to 5 years which is why the Government is requesting rates for years 6-10. The small business size standard for NAICS 541330 is \$15M.</p>
85	None			<p>Please consider using another method for offerors to submit questions. It is very time-consuming to have to fill out a new form for each question.</p>	<p>The Government is not considering this.</p>