

RFP No. 8420 Laboratory Analysis Testing Services

Questions and Answers

Question: May the lab substitute other ELAP accredited analysis methods in place of those stated on the RFP? Example 1: Cyanide by SM4500-CN E, in place of EPA 335.4? Example 2: Cyanide by SM4500 NO3 F in place of EPA 353.2? Example 3: Mercury Cold Vapor by EPA 245.1 in place of EPA 245.2? Etc. Etc.

Answer: Labs may substitute another method for those indicated on the RFP provided the lab is ELAP certified for that method.

Question: For certain analyses there are multiple "methods" listed for the same analysis. May the lab provide pricing for only those analyses we conduct, or must we find sub labs to perform all the other methods? **Further Detail:** For example, there are (2) entries for Chloride, (3) entries for Volatile Acids, (3) entries for Volatile Fatty Acids. Our lab analyzes for one of these two. Must we show pricing for both?

Answer: Labs should provide pricing for their ELAP certified methods, where one exists. They do not need to find subcontractors for methods where they do not hold certification.

Question: Per the freedom of information act, may we have the incumbent name and pricing?

Answer: The incumbent is Caltest Analytical Laboratory. The pricing is not available at this time.

Question: What is the annual spend for this contract?

Answer: Approximately \$100,000.00

Question: What information do we need to provide from our sub-consultants?

Answer: None. However for subcontract laboratory testing, we need their CA ELAP certificate, Exhibit E and the information on page 19 to be completed.

Question: Are bidding laboratories allowed to "no bid" individual tests?

Answer: Yes

Question: Page 7 of the RFP states the estimate of the analytical work to "range from \$20,000 to \$200,000 for various analytical parameters." Please provide the amount spent on analytical work for each year of the current contract.

Answer: Approximately \$100,000.00

Question: Please list the laboratory supporting cryptosporidium analysis.

Answer: Current Cryptosporidium analysis is performed by Cel Analytical Inc. in San Francisco.

Question: Please list the laboratory supporting Microscopy Speciation.

Answer: Current microscopy speciation is performed by BSA Environmental Services, Inc. in Beachwood, Ohio.

Question: Will courier pickups be required? If so, how many days a week? Do you know on what days or is that TBD?

Answer: Courier pickups are not required, but would be appreciated. Subcontract testing is dependent on instrument availability and lab workload, so there is no set schedule at this time.

Question: Are bidders allowed to NO BID certain tests? If so, will that disqualify you?

Answer: Bidders are allowed to no bid tests and it will not disqualify them.

Question: What is the estimated dollar amount for the annual contract?

Answer: \$100,000.00

Question: Will there be flexibility in the sampling dates for Cryptosporidium/Giardia testing? This would be subcontracted and the schedule of sample arrival will affect the cost, please advise.

Answer: Yes, there is some flexibility in the sampling dates.

Question: Will you be submitting micro samples for arrival on Friday, Saturday or Sunday? Since we are not open on the weekends we would not be able to accept the samples unless this is coordinated with a PM at the lab, how could we specify this in the bid? We have a weekend surcharge for approved weekend work.

Answer: Friday – Sunday micro samples are a possibility. We subcontract micro samples when our in-house lab is unable to perform the testing. We would coordinate with the lab before sending samples.

Question: Can we still bid if we do not provide the same method as requested (alternative method option).

Answer: Yes

Question: For Per- and Polyfluorinated Alkyl Substances (PFAS) is this for drinking water samples or for waste water samples or soils.

Answer: It is for wastewater and solids.

Questions: For Toxicity/Bioassays:

Please provide the current NPDES order #

Answer: CA 0077682 R5-2020-0904

Question: What is the anticipated bioassay testing frequency as pricing is volume dependent.

Answer: Testing is infrequent and on an as needed basis.

Question: Will storm water work be associated with this RFP?

Answer: We currently do not require toxicity/bioassay testing for storm water.