

Solicitation No. DHSSBIRFY082
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

DHS Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program

REMINDER:

IF YOU PLAN ON **SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL UNDER DHSSBIRFY082, YOU NEED TO REQUEST A PROPOSAL NUMBER NO LATER THAN 20 JUNE 2008**, BY SENDING AN E-MAIL TO:

STSBIR.PROPOSALS@DHS.GOV.

THE RESPONSE DATE FOR SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL UNDER DHSSBIRFY082 IS **27 JUNE 2008**.

Q1. Is there a limit {on the number of proposals that a small business may submit for a single topic}.

A1. There is no limit for the number of submissions on a single topic (or for multiple topics).

Q2. Is there a list of “discovery” items for Topic H-SBO8.2-002?

A2. No.

Q2a. If not, should each Center be contacted individually?

A2a. Yes.

Q2b. And if so, who is the proper contact at each Center?

A2b. The Center Directors.

Q2c. Will they be expecting calls?

A2c. Unsure.

Q2d. Must the proposal cover discoveries only from the Centers or can learnings from other STEM initiatives be included?

A2d. Initiatives from other STEM initiatives may be included but they must be relevant to the mission of DHS S&T and the Centers.

Q2e. Will the success criteria be determined from the perspective of educators?

A2e. Reviewers are chosen based on the technical expertise needed to provide a thorough review.

Q2f. If so, what are those criteria?

A2f. The primary criteria are:

- Relevancy to DHS mission
- Technical Merit
- Innovation

(See also the technical evaluation criteria from the solicitation – which appears on page 21 of DHSSBIRFY082, under the heading “4.3 Evaluation Criteria – Phase I.”)

Q3. Can a foreigner to be the Principal Investigator or a key researcher? That is, can a scientist from P.R. China with non-immigration visa working for the company as a full employee to be the Principal Investigator or a key researcher for the solicitation?

A3. Please see paragraph 8.2 of the solicitation relative to Key Personnel, as follows:

“Key Personnel. Identify key personnel who will be involved in the Phase I effort including information on directly related education and experience. A concise resume of the principal investigator, including a list of relevant publications (if any), must be included. All resumes will count toward the 25-page limitation. Identify any non-U.S. citizen that you expect to be involved on this project, their country of origin and level of involvement.”

Q4. A confusing on the submission of the proposal. It is literally said in the Introduction, that the submission should be submitted by email to STSBIR.PROPOSALS@DHS.GOV by June 27. However, there are still some paragraphs indicating “Proposals must be submitted in their entirety to the DHS web site ...(Page 29, 6.2). Could you confirm that the proposal should be submitted by email rather than uploading to the website.

A4. The official DHS website remains offline. The proposal must be submitted by email as described in the REVISED Solicitation No. DHSSBIRFY082, posted on the FedBizOpps website (<https://www.fbo.gov>).

Q5. Do you have an example of how the proposals are to be prepared; I have the solicitation instructions, although I wondered if you have some sort of example format?

A5. A template is not available for the technical proposal. Please refer to Section 3.0, and subsequent subsections, of the revised version of Solicitation No. DHSSBIRFY082 (posted on <https://www.fbo.gov>) for proposal preparation instructions.

Q6. Also do you have a spreadsheet with which we can do the cost proposal calculations?

A6. A spreadsheet is not available for the cost proposal. Please use the template provided with the solicitation to submit your cost proposal. This attachment is entitled “DHSSBIRFY082 Cost Proposal Breakdown.doc” and is posted on <https://www.fbo.gov> under the revised version of Solicitation No. DHSSBIRFY082.

Q7. In the description, reference is made to “improving the linking capability” can you provide some details regarding the current linking capability?

A7. Links two phone numbers and identifies direction of call.

Q8. The description also states the structured and unstructured data is entered into the ICE mainframes. Can you describe the structured and more importantly the unstructured data?

A8. "Structured and unstructured data" includes notes taken by agents (case files). Things like case number, phone numbers, names and addresses (structured) or details regarding the case (unstructured).

Q9. Would I be correct in assuming that the ICE data stores would provide : A unique suspect identifier, contact info for the agent working the case, suspect phone number, suspect calling data consisting of (other phone #, Direction of call (in /out), date of call, call start time, call end time) .

A9. Yes, except agent working the case (part of unstructured data).

Q10. The description states that you are looking for a network tool - can you provide any details regarding the architecture of the ICE network which this tool would need to be integrated into.

A10. Not at this time.

Q11. We are in need of some clarification on 2 points on the Cost Proposal Breakdown Sheet.

- A. #24- Can we get clarification on this question, as to what Fee or profit dollars it is speaking of?
- B. #26d- What government contract financing is the speaking of?

A11.

- A. Please refer to the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 15.404-4 Profit. The FAR is available online at: <http://acquisition.gov/far/index.html>
- B. If a proposer requires government contract financing to perform the proposed Statement of Work, progress payments are available under an SBIR Phase I proposal. The proposal must clearly identify the need for government contract financing by indicating “yes” in #26d.