

**DETERMINATION AND FINDINGS
FOR A
SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT**

CONTRACT NO: CW29654

CAPTION: Academic Partnership (Epidemiological and Surveillance Support)

PROPOSED CONTRACTOR: George Washington University

PROGRAM AGENCY: Department of Health, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD & TB Administration

FINDINGS

1. AUTHORIZATION:

D.C. Official Code §2-354.04, 27 DCMR 1304, 1700 and 1701

2. MINIMUM NEED:

The District of Columbia Office of Contracting and Procurement, on behalf of the Department of Health (DOH) HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, and STD & TB Administration (HAHSTA) seeks a contractor to provide epidemiological and surveillance support under the DOH/HAHSTA Academic Research Partnership. DOH requires the Contractor to provide ongoing epidemiologic and bio-statistical support, ongoing technical assistance and evaluation of the District's integrated HIV, STD, Hepatitis and TB surveillance system (hereinafter referred to as "integrated disease surveillance system"); and implementation of the National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS) system.

The overall objectives of a public health/academic partnership (hereinafter referred to as "the Partnership") are to:

- a. Develop integrated monitoring and evaluation protocols for HIV, STD, hepatitis and TB surveillance per guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention.
- b. Expand, develop and implement research collaborations, including with the DC Partnership for AIDS Progress, NIH, CDC, and other funders.
- c. Implement, monitor and evaluate the National HIV Behavioral Surveillance

The DOH/HAHSTA Academic Research Partnership seeks a Contractor who shall:

1. Be a school of public health and a member of the Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH);
2. Be in compliance with all appropriate business regulations within the state which it is domiciled;

3. Have a relevant department of epidemiology and biostatistics, with a departmental chairperson who is a medical epidemiologist as required.

The departmental chairperson shall provide consultation with a DOH staff medical epidemiologist, who will serve in a leadership capacity as the chief of the HAHSTA Strategic Information Division. The chairperson must also be a member of the faculty of an ASPH accredited academic Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, who will be assigned to perform activities in accordance with this Contract.

3. ESTIMATED REASONABLE PRICE:

The estimated fair and reasonable price for the base period of the Sole Source contract shall NTE \$975,000 with Period of Performance October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015. The contract will contain four (4) one year Option Periods to be exercised at the discretion of the District.

4. FACTS WHICH JUSTIFY SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT:

DOH has maintained an academic research partnership with George Washington University (GWU) for nearly nine years to receive core surveillance and comprehensive epidemiologic support, which has been rated satisfactory by HAHSTA on its performance evaluation. The partnership has benefited the District in enhancing its disease monitoring and tracking, improved the quality of the data collected, and enabled DOH to utilize data effectively in order to develop policies and programs to effectively respond to epidemics.

GWU has been chosen as the sole source for this procurement because they have demonstrated a student practical program that promotes and places students in public health settings. It is the only accredited school of public health in the District of Columbia, which is a member of the Association of Schools of Public Health. GWU has faculty and relevant staff available with no recruitment time required including behavioral epidemiologists, ethnographers, and statisticians experienced in core surveillance and epidemiology on HIV, hepatitis, STDs and TB.

In addition, the GWU has faculty and relevant staff with demonstrated public health research experience and a track record of research publications which covers HIV, hepatitis, STD and TB, as well as demonstrated experience in training, educating, and developing presentations for industry public health professionals.

DOH aims to further develop the Partnership with GWU in an approach similar to other jurisdictions to add capacity to the District's surveillance and epidemiological activities, particularly as it relates to the analysis of clinical data, assessing clinical quality, and improving the care continuum of HIV, hepatitis, STDs and TB. The goal is also to increase the research opportunities between an accredited school of public health, such as George Washington University and the DOH/HAHSTA Academic Research Partnership that will deepen the scientific knowledge of the diseases and contribute to the practical field of public health in policy and program application. George Washington University

is the only qualified contractor requiring no start up time and is fully capable of this partnership.

5. CERTIFICATION BY AGENCY HEAD:

I hereby certify that the above findings are true, correct and complete.

Date

Dr. Joxel Garcia

6. CERTIFICATION BY CONTRACTING OFFICER:

I have reviewed the above findings and certify that they are sufficient to justify the use of the sole source method of procurement under the cited authority. I certify that the notice of intent to award a sole source contract was published in accordance with 27 DCMR 1304.

Date

Allison Robertson, MBA, CFCM
Contracting Officer

DETERMINATION

Based on the above findings and in accordance with the cited authority, I hereby determine that it is not feasible or practical to invoke the competitive solicitation process under either Section 402 or 403 of the District of Columbia Procurement Practices Reform Act of 2010 (D.C. Law 18-371; D.C. Official Code § 2-354.02 or 2-354.03). Accordingly, I determine that the District is justified in using the sole source method of procurement.

Date

James D. Staton, Jr.
Chief Procurement Officer