United States Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Room 3522-S, STOP 0239
Washington, DC 20036

SOLICITATION
Domestic Commodity Invitation

Bid invitation Overview
Bid Timezone: Central Time
Start Date: 07/12/2022 09:30:00
Offer Due Date: 07/19/2022 13:00:00
Opening date: 07/19/2022 13:00:00
Invitation Type: Definite Delivery

Additional requested information:

Tendering text - Header:
CANNED VEGETABLES (TOMATO PRODUCTS) SOLICITATION NO: 2000008636

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) invites offers to sell Canned Vegetables pursuant to the AMS Master Solicitation for use in the National School Lunch Program and other Federal Food and Nutrition Assistance Programs. Acceptances will be announced by midnight, July 26, 2022. Deliveries are to be made between August 16, 2022 through September 30, 2022.

The specialist for this solicitation is Carol Givens-Verser (carol.givens-verser@usda.gov). The contracting officer for this solicitation is David Cottrell (david.cottrell@usda.gov). Please contact the specialist first, with questions regarding the requirements of this solicitation. Do not discuss your bid prices with the specialist or contracting officer before award.

There is a probationary period for new-to-AMS contractors and existing contractors bidding on new products in which awards may be limited to 10 truckloads per product. Contractor must demonstrate successful delivery of at least five (5) truckloads of [new] product in order to be removed from probationary status on future solicitations. For the purposes of this rule, successful delivery is defined as product delivered on-time and in acceptable condition according to the terms and conditions of the contract.

The Quantity Tolerance section of the specification document, "Contractor will be allowed a tolerance on the final delivery of plus or minus 50 cases of each product, from each shipping point named in the purchase order", is not applicable to this solicitation. USDA will not pay for any cases exceeding the contracted quantity.

Offerors who intend to use more than one processing plant and shipping point for contracts awarded under this solicitation, other than the processing plant and shipping point entered in their bids, may submit a list of their approved processing plants and shipping points on a separate sheet of paper to be uploaded in WBSCM, and to be submitted with their bids.

This Solicitation may show multiple stops on some line items; however, the number of stops will be limited to a maximum of three. To determine the number of destinations, review the "Tendering Text" for the lot, which will indicate the City and State for each stop. Bidders may submit different prices for each stop. However, a price is required on all line items within the lot.

For offshore destinations (Puerto Rico, Hawaii, etc.), offerors have the option to choose to enter their bids direct to the offshore destination or to the port.

Purchases will be made on an f.o.b. destination basis to cities on this Solicitation. Destination quantities listed are estimates and subject to adjustment based on offerings, changes in recipient needs, market conditions, and program operations.
All prime vendors are reminded that they are prohibited from subcontracting with companies or individuals that have been suspended or debarred.

Offers must be submitted electronically via the Web-Based Supply Chain Management System (WBSCM). Offers submitted by any means other than WBSCM will be deemed nonresponsive. Offerors must be active in WBSCM and have the required bidder roles in order to submit offers under this solicitation. Once connected, follow the online procedures. A "HELP" button provides detailed instructions or call (202) 720-4517 for assistance.

Offerors are cautioned to bid only quantities they can reasonably expect to produce and deliver. Inquiries about the Master Solicitation dated March 2022; Specification for Canned Vegetables dated April 2021; or this Solicitation should be directed to the Contracting Officer; USDA, AMS, Room 3522-South; 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.; Washington, D.C. 20250-0239. Telephone: (202) 720-4517. FAX: (202)720-2782.

"The USDA prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.) To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users)."

See attached documents:

1. Commodity Specifications Canned Veg April 2021
2. AMS MSCP-D Dated 3-1-22

Attributes:

OFFEROR CERTIFIES THAT THE OFFER IS MADE SUBJECT TO THE MASTER SOLICITATION; COMMODITY SUPPLEMENT AND/OR SPECIFICATION(S); THIS SOLICITATION; THE AGRICULTURE ACQUISITION REGULATIONS (AGAR) AND THE FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATIONS (FAR).
Timely performance: Offeror and any subcontractor have completed required performance of any USDA contract prior to this bid opening.

Permitted values: 
- Have been delivered
- Have not been delivered
- Have not been delivered, but the Offeror has notified the Contracting Officer
- There are no existing contracts/purchase orders

OFFEROR REQUESTS HUBZONE SMALL BUSINESS PRICE EVALUATION PREFERENCE. APPLIES ONLY TO FIRMS CERTIFIED IN THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION#S HUBZONE PROGRAM (FAR SUBPART 19.13). MUST BE THE MANUFACTURER/PRODUCER OF THE PRODUCT TO RECEIVE A PRICE PREFERENCE

Furnish name, title, phone number, fax number, and e-mail address of person submitting this bid (must be an officer of the company or a person authorized to execute contracts/purchase orders on behalf of the bidder).

1A) Offeror has reviewed the List of Required Products for GS1 Global Data Synchronization Network (GDSN) Reporting located at:

Permitted values: 
- N/A
- NO
- YES

https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/GS1_GDSN_ListofRequiredProducts.xlsx

1B) Offeror certifies that complete and accurate product information will be submitted to GS1 GDSN no later 20 days after contract award, if the awarded contract includes item(s) from the List of Required Products for GS1 GDSN reporting.

1C) Offeror certifies that the information submitted in GS1 GDSN will be kept up-to-date (to reflect changes in product attributes, such as changes to the ingredient or allergen statement) until the end of the contract period.

Offeror acknowledges receipt of the amendment(s) to the solicitation. Select N/A if no amendment was issued to the solicitation.

Permitted values: 
- Yes
- No
- N/A

Bid invitation Item details

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SOLICITATION Information
Domestic Commodity Invitation

Description: 12-3J14-22-B-0429
Bid invitation number: 2000008636

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Contracting Officer
Commodity Procurement Division
United States Department of Agriculture