

Posting Date: July 27, 2021

Closing Date: August 7, 2021 11:30 a.m. ET

Reference Number: 21-044384

To: NCI Bid Board

From: Sharon Coles-Calloway
NCI DCEG Purchasing Agent
coless@mail.nih.gov

Subject: NCI Bid Board Posting - Innovative Statistical Methods for Competing Risks in Epidemiology Studies

The National Cancer Institute Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics Investigators in the Biostatistics Branch (BB) develop statistical methods and data resources to strengthen observational studies, intervention trials, and laboratory investigations of cancer. The mission of branch is to contribute to the understanding of cancer etiology and to improve public health through the development and application of quantitative methods.

In support of the NCI Innovative Statistical methods for Competing Risks in Epidemiology Studies, the issue of competing risks in time-to-event data is a challenging analytic issue in epidemiologic studies. The contractor will work with BB investigators and fellows on challenging issues requiring high-level expertise in this technical area.

The National Cancer Institute plans to procure the services of an experienced Contractor with extensive experience in methodological development in survival analysis with competing risks. This is not a request for competitive quotation. However, if any interested party believes it can meet the attached requirements, it may submit a statement of capabilities. The capability statement must be in writing and must contain information and material in sufficient detail to allow NCI to determine if the party can fully meet this requirement. The capability statement must be received in the contracting office by 11:30 AM on August 7, 2021 ET. A determination by the Government not to compete this requirement based upon responses to this notice is solely within the discretion of the Government. Information received will be considered solely for the purpose of determining whether to conduct a competitive procurement.

Sole Source Justification: The work requires an individual with extensive experience in competing risk methodology with strong knowledge and experience with epidemiologic data. Dr. Jason Fine is uniquely qualified to perform this task.

Attached Documents:

SF18

Statement of Work

FAR Clause 52.213-4 Simplified Acquisitions Terms and Conditions (AUG 2019) is applicable and available in full text upon request

FAR Clause 52.204-24 Representation Regarding Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (THIS IS NOT AN ORDER)		THIS RFQ <input type="checkbox"/> IS <input type="checkbox"/> IS NOT A SMALL BUSINESS SET-ASIDE		PAGE OF PAGES
1. REQUEST NO.	2. DATE ISSUED	3. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQUEST NO.	4. CERT. FOR NAT. DEF. UNDER BDSA REG. 2 AND/OR DMS REG. 1	RATING
5a. ISSUED BY			6. DELIVER BY (Date)	
5b. FOR INFORMATION CALL (NO COLLECT CALLS)			7. DELIVERY	
NAME		TELEPHONE NUMBER		<input type="checkbox"/> FOB DESTINATION <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (See Schedule)
		AREA CODE	NUMBER	9. DESTINATION
8. TO:				
a. NAME		b. COMPANY		b. STREET ADDRESS
c. STREET ADDRESS				c. CITY
d.. CITY		e.. STATE	f.. ZIP CODE	d.. STATE e. ZIP CODE
10. PLEASE FURNISH QUOTATIONS TO THE ISSUING OFFICE IN BLOCK 5a ON OR BEFORE CLOSE OF BUSINESS (Date)		IMPORTANT: This is a request for information, and quotations furnished are not offers. If you are unable to quote, please indicate on this form and return it to the address in Block 5a. This request does not commit the Government to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of the submission of this quotation or to contract for supplies or services. Supplies are of domestic origin unless otherwise indicated by quoter. Any representations and/or certifications attached to this Request for Quotations must be completed by the quoter.		

11. SCHEDULE (Include applicable Federal, State and local taxes)

ITEM NO. (a)	SUPPLIES/SERVICES (b)	QUANTITY (c)	UNIT (d)	UNIT PRICE (e)	AMOUNT (f)

12. DISCOUNT FOR PROMPT PAYMENT	a. 10 CALENDAR DAYS (%)	b. 20 CALENDAR DAYS (%)	c. 30 CALENDAR DAYS (%)	d. CALENDAR DAYS
				NUMBER PERCENTAGE

NOTE: Additional provisions and representations are are not attached.

13. NAME AND ADDRESS OF QUOTER		14. SIGNATURE OF PERSON AUTHORIZED TO SIGN QUOTATION	15. DATE OF QUOTATION
a. NAME OF QUOTER			
b. STREET ADDRESS		16. SIGNER	
c. COUNTY		a. NAME (Type or print)	b. TELEPHONE
d. CITY		AREA CODE	
e. STATE f. ZIP CODE		c. TITLE (Type or print)	
		NUMBER	

**STATEMENT OF WORK,
re: CONTRACT WITH DR. JASON FINE**

A. TITLE

Innovative Statistical Methods for Competing Risks in Epidemiology Studies

B. BACKGROUND

Accounting for competing risks is essential in cohort and case-control studies. DCEG has many studies where innovative designs are necessary for dealing with competing risks. Additional high-level expertise is needed to provide consultation with Biostatistics Branch (BB) investigators in solving these problems. Analytic challenges occur in a number of DCEG projects. The Radiation Epidemiology Branch (REB) is studying secondary cancers among survivors of childhood cancers. Secondary cancers are particularly susceptible to competing risks since individuals often obtain multiple cancers and the incidence of cancer is high. Of interest in these studies is to estimate the effects of radiation dose used to treat the first cancer on the risk of secondary cancer later in life. However, extracting accurate estimates of exposure dose is resource intensive. An epidemiologic design that is efficient and cost-effective is needed. Standard case-control designs may be subject to bias, so other designs need to be developed. Another problem is in analyzing time-to-event data with competing risk when the observation process comes from registry data that may be incomplete and be missing event times. This issue occurs in many of our cohort studies where incidence data comes from state registries and individuals move out of states where we have access to incidence data. Developing new epidemiological designs and analysis techniques for handling this problem is needed, particularly with the advent of our new prospective cohort, CONNECT.

The work requires an individual with extensive experience in competing risk methodology with strong knowledge and experience with epidemiologic data. Dr. Jason Fine is uniquely qualified to perform this task.

C. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PROCUREMENT

The tasks of this contract will address the following questions

- 1) Develop new designs and analysis techniques for competing risks with retrospective designs to minimize the need to estimate radiation dose exposure in secondary cancer cohorts.
- 2) Develop new analysis techniques for relative risk estimation in cohort studies with incomplete observation process due to registry non-converge.

D. TYPE OF ORDER

This is a firm fixed price purchase order, totaling \$24,950

E. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

September 15, 2021 – September 14, 2022

F. PLACE OF PERFORMANCE

Work from home

G. DELIVERABLES

All written draft and final deliverable products shall be submitted in electronic copy for review and comment. If requested, final deliverable products shall be submitted in hard copy. Electronic copies shall be submitted in Microsoft Office of 2010 or Word format or more recent version, unless prior approval for another format has been obtained from the COR.

All deliverables shall be sent electronically, unless approved by the COR per the following deliverable schedule:

Deliverable	Description of deliverable	Due Date
Task 1 : Cox regression methodology to incorporate incomplete follow-up due to registry non-converge	A draft manuscript with the results of this investigation.	9 months after award
Task 2: Statistical case-control type design for handling competing risks	A draft manuscript	12 months after award

H. INSPECTION AND ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA

Pursuant to FAR clause 52.212-4, all work described in the SOW to be delivered under this contract is subject to final inspection and acceptance by an authorized representative of the Government. The authorized representative of the Government is the Contracting Officer's Representative (COR), who is responsible for inspection and acceptance of all services, materials, or supplies to be provided by the Contractor.

Regardless of format, all digital content or communications materials produced as a deliverable under this contract, shall conform to applicable Section 508 Standards to allow Federal employees and members of the public with disabilities to have access to and use of information and data that is comparable to the access to and use of information and data by Federal employees or by members of the public who are not individuals with disabilities. Remediation of any materials that do not comply with the applicable Section 508 requirements as set forth below, shall be the responsibility of the Contractor.

HHS guidance regarding accessibility of documents can be found at:
<http://www.hhs.gov/web/section-508/making-files-accessible/index.html>;

Federal Government-wide guidance regarding accessibility of documents can be found at: <https://www.section508.gov/best-practices>, including the documents describing the preferred method of authoring and testing documents produced in Microsoft Word 2013 or later, Microsoft Excel, and files formatted as PDF.

I. PAYMENT

Payment authorization requires submission and approval of invoices to the COR and NIH OFM, in accordance with the attached payment provisions listed below:

The following clause is applicable to all Purchase Orders, Task or Delivery Orders, and Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) Calls: **Prompt Payment** (Jan 2017) FAR 52.232-25. Highlights of this clause and NIH implementation requirements follow:

I. Invoice Requirements

- A. An invoice is the Contractor's bill or written request for payment under the contract for supplies delivered or services performed. A proper invoice is an "Original" which must include the items listed in subdivisions 1 through 12, below, in addition to the requirements of FAR 32.9. If the invoice does not comply with these requirements, the Contractor will be notified of the defect within 7 days after the date the designated billing office received the invoice (3 days for meat, meat food products, or fish, and 5 days for perishable agricultural commodities, dairy products, edible fats or oils) with a statement of the reasons why it is not a proper invoice. (See exceptions under II., below.) Untimely notification will be taken into account in the computation of any interest penalty owed the Contractor.
1. Vendor/Contractor: Name, Address, Point of Contact for the invoice (Name, title, telephone number, e-mail and mailing address of point of contact).
 2. Remit-to address (Name and complete mailing address to send payment).
 3. Remittance name must match exactly with name on original order/contract. If the Remittance name differs from the Legal Business Name, then both names must appear on the invoice.
 4. Invoice date.
 5. Unique invoice #s for all invoices per vendor regardless of site.
 6. NBS document number formats must be included for awards created in the NBS: Contract Number; Purchase Order Number; Task or Delivery Order Number and Source Award Number (e.g., Indefinite Delivery Contract number; General Services Administration number); or, BPA Call Number and BPA Parent Award Number.
 7. Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) or DUNS + 4 as registered in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR).
 8. Federal Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN). In those exceptional cases where a Contractor does not have a DUNS number or TIN, a Vendor Identification Number (VIN) must be referenced on the invoice. The VIN is the number that appears after the Contractor's name on the face page of the award document.
 9. Identify that payment is to be made using a three-way match.
 10. Description of supplies/services **that match** the description on the award, by line billed.*

11. Freight or delivery charge must be billed as shown on the award. If it is included in the item price do not bill it separately. If identified in the award as a separate line item, it must be billed separately.
12. Quantity, Unit of Measure, Unit Price, Extended Price of supplies delivered or services performed, as applicable, and that **match** the line items specified in the award.*

* NOTE: If your invoice must differ from the line items on the award, please contact the Contracting Officer before submitting the invoice. A modification to the order or contract may be needed before the invoice can be submitted and paid.

- B. Shipping costs will be reimbursed only if authorized by the Contract/Purchase Order. If authorized, shipping costs must be itemized. Where shipping costs exceed \$100, the invoice must be supported by a bill of lading or a paid carrier's receipt.
- C. Mail an original and 1 copy of the itemized invoice to:

National Institutes of Health
Office of Financial Management,
Commercial Accounts
2115 East Jefferson Street, Room 4B-432, MSC 8500
Bethesda, MD 20892-8500

For inquiries regarding payment call: (301) 496-6088

To facilitate the prompt payment of invoices, it is recommended that the vendor submit a photocopy of the invoice to the "Consignee" designated for the acquisition in blocks 6A – 6E of the face page of the Order/Award document.

II. Invoice Payment

- A. Except as indicated in paragraph B., below, the due date for making invoice payments by the designated payment office shall be the later of the following two events:
 1. The 30th day after the designated billing office has received a proper invoice.
 2. The 30th day after Government acceptance of supplies delivered or services performed.
- B. The due date for making invoice payments for meat and meat food products, perishable agricultural commodities, dairy products, and edible fats or oils, shall be in accordance with the Prompt Payment Act, as amended.

III. Interest Penalties

- A. An interest penalty shall be paid automatically, if payment is not made by the due date and the conditions listed below are met, if applicable.
 - 1. A proper invoice was received by the designated billing office.
 - 2. A receiving report or other Government documentation authorizing payment was processed and there was no disagreement over quantity, quality, or Contractor compliance with a term or condition.
 - 3. In the case of a final invoice for any balance of funds due the Contractor for supplies delivered or services performed, the amount was not subject to further settlement actions between the Government and the Contractor.

- B. Determination of interest and penalties due will be made in accordance with the provisions of the Prompt Payment Act, as amended, the Contract Disputes Act, and regulations issued by the Office of Management and Budget.

IV. PROVIDING ACCELERATED PAYMENT TO SMALL BUSINESS SUBCONTRACTORS, FAR 52.232-40 (December 2013)

- A. Upon receipt of accelerated payments from the Government, the Contractor shall make accelerated payments to its small business subContractors under this contract, to the maximum extent practicable and prior to when such payment is otherwise required under the applicable contract or subcontract, after receipt of a proper invoice and all other required documentation from the small business subContractor.
- B. The acceleration of payments under this clause does not provide any new rights under the prompt Payment Act.

Include the substance of this clause, include this paragraph c, in all subcontracts with small business concerns, including subcontracts with small business concerns for the acquisition of commercial items.

52.204-24 Representation Regarding Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.

As prescribed in 4.2105(a), insert the following provision:

REPRESENTATION REGARDING CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT (AUG 2019)

(a) Definitions. As used in this provision—

Covered telecommunications equipment or services, Critical technology, and Substantial or essential component have the meanings provided in clause 52.204-25, Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.

(b) Prohibition. Section 889(a)(1)(A) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Pub. L. 115-232) prohibits the head of an executive agency on or after August 13, 2019, from procuring or obtaining, or extending or renewing a contract to procure or obtain, any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. Contractors are not prohibited from providing—

- (1) A service that connects to the facilities of a third-party, such as backhaul, roaming, or interconnection arrangements; or
- (2) Telecommunications equipment that cannot route or redirect user data traffic or permit visibility into any user data or packets that such equipment transmits or otherwise handles.

(c) Representation. The Offeror represents that—

It [] will, [] will not provide covered telecommunications equipment or services to the Government in the performance of any contract, subcontract or other contractual instrument resulting from this solicitation.

(d) Disclosures. If the Offeror has responded affirmatively to the representation in paragraph (c) of this provision, the Offeror shall provide the following information as part of the offer—

- (1) All covered telecommunications equipment and services offered (include brand; model number, such as original equipment manufacturer (OEM) number, manufacturer part number, or wholesaler number; and item description, as applicable);
- (2) Explanation of the proposed use of covered telecommunications equipment and services and any factors relevant to determining if such use would be permissible under the prohibition in paragraph (b) of this provision;
- (3) For services, the entity providing the covered telecommunications services (include entity name, unique entity identifier, and Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) code, if known); and
- (4) For equipment, the entity that produced the covered telecommunications equipment (include entity name, unique entity identifier, CAGE code, and whether the entity was the OEM or a distributor, if known).

(End of provision)