



QA/ Test Analyst

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

State Term Schedule

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INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

PURPOSE OF THE REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

Please consider this as the State of Ohio, Department of Administration, Office of Information Technology's (OIT) Request for Quotation for the following consulting position:

QA/ Test Analyst

The State of Ohio is requesting resume(s) and quotation(s) for an QA/ Test Analyst. The role is needed from approximately **October 24, 2016 to June 30, 2017 for approximately no more than 1440 hours, with the potential for extension.**

BACKGROUND

The state of Ohio is seeking a QA/ Test Analyst for its Ohio Benefits Project. The desired candidate should possess a strong track record with large projects in complex environments and is expected to assist to help with complex Ohio Benefits Operations.

Key Responsibilities and Scope of Activities:

- Adhere to formal QA processes, ensuring that the Systems Implementation [SI] team is using industry-accepted best practices.
- Oversee all aspects of quality assurance including establishing and reporting on metrics, applying industry best practices, and developing new tools and processes to ensure quality goals are met.
- Act as key point of contact for all QA aspects of releases, providing test services and coordinating QA resources internally and externally.
- **Collaborates with the data warehouse architect, the ETL lead and data warehouse developers in the construction and execution of test scenarios including those applicable to the development, test, and production data warehouse environments**
- Create and Provide feedback on test cases, scripts, plans and procedures (manual and automated). Responsible for executing them.
- Diagnose defects and track them from discovery to resolution.
- Ensure that the SI maintains high quality and accuracy up to software release
- Ensure all testing work is carried out in accordance with the Testing Plan, including schedule and quality requirements
- Provide feedback to the SI on the implications of testing outcomes on the Ohio Benefits systems
- Respond to all requests from stakeholders in a timely professional manner.

Skills and Credentials:

- 2+ years' experience in the software quality field including prior hands-on quality assurance experience
- Data quality and performance acceptance criteria.
- **BI Test Strategy development experience and demonstrate the knowledge in the key areas of the strategy**
- Demonstrated experience developing and executing test cases, scripts, plans and procedures to support various development methodologies
- Familiarity with entire software development life cycle and test cycles (Unit, Regression, Functional, Systems, Stress & Scale, Smoke & Sanity)
- Understanding of multi-tier web application architecture and deployment
- Understanding of existing QA best practices and methodologies to design, implement and automate processes
- Experience coordinating with external QA resources
- Prior success using a metrics-driven approach and closed-loop feedback to improve software deliverables and improve predictability and reliability of releases
- Detailed and effective written communication skills for documenting the features tested and bugs found
- Highly organized, detail oriented, extremely responsive and able to prioritize a large number of tasks
- Self-motivated, works well independently and with others

Other Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in computer science, management information systems, or related field
- Knowledge of software implementation methodologies such as SDLC, Agile, etc.
- General knowledge of application architecture and data modeling
- Knowledge of interfacing with various applications, management information systems, data structures, systems analysis and design, and programming languages
- Ability to design, implement and modify systems
- Ability to work effectively in a multi-disciplinary team
- Strong organizational skills
- Verbal and written communication skills
- Interpersonal/human relations skills
- Ability to maintain confidentiality

ADMINISTRATIVE

DUE DATES

All quotations are due by 1:00 pm, EST, on October 11, 2016. Any quotation received at the designated location after the required time and date specified for receipt shall be considered late and non-responsive. Any late quotations will not be evaluated for award.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

All times are Eastern Standard Time (EST).

Event	Date
1. RFQ Distribution to Suppliers	September 30, 2016
2. Proposal/Quotation Due Date	1:00 p.m., October 11, 2016
3. Target Date for Review of Proposal/Quotation	October 12, 2016
4. Projected Interview Dates	October 14, 2016 - October 17, 2016
5. Anticipated decision and selection of Supplier	October 18, 2016
5. Anticipated commencement date of work	October 24, 2016

EVALUATION FACTORS FOR AWARD

EVALUATION

The following will be considered in determining the supplier to be selected for this engagement, according to a standardized scoring methodology:

- Relevant experience
 - Relevant skill level
 - Proposed contractor rate(s)
- The contractor will not be permitted to substitute personnel for those submitted for RFQ evaluation (during the RFQ evaluation or at project start-up), except when a candidate's unavailability is no fault of the contractor (e.g., Candidate is no longer employed by the Contractor, is deceased, etc.). Note: If a substitution situation occurs, the proposal will be re-evaluated. If the substitution gives the contractor an unfair advantage during the RFQ process, the proposal may be eliminated or the other suppliers will also be given the chance to submit substitutions of personnel also.
 - All proposals will be evaluated for meeting the requested information. Incomplete proposals will not be reviewed. The proposals that provided the requested information will be evaluated for at least the highest prioritized candidate. The proposals will be scored based on the criteria requested above. We reserve the option to interview the top candidates. Candidate substitutions between the proposal evaluation and interview periods are highly discouraged (see above). If OIT has other qualified candidates, the contractor's proposal requesting a substitution will be denied at this stage and the proposal will be eliminated from evaluation. If OIT does not have enough qualified candidates due to the substitution, all received proposals will be asked to confirm their candidates, given a couple of days to provide replacements, and the entire process will start over.

TERM AND CONTRACT

- The contract will be for **Time and Material** through State Term Schedule (STS) contract and must reflect or be lower than STS rates, and must use STS categories.
- The term will be until June 30, 2017.
- No additional costs, such as travel, meals, lodging, taxes, parking or other associated costs may be charged separately for this work. The supplier's sole compensation for the duties described herein shall be the billings at the supplier's hourly rate.
- All contractors shall read, acknowledge and follow DAS policies, rules and guidelines.
- All work performed by the supplier shall be deemed a "work-for-hire," and shall be the sole property of the State of Ohio. The supplier may not use such work without OIT's written consent.
- Contractors shall use supplier provided equipment (i.e. laptop computers, mobile phones, etc.) and will follow State security policies.

- The contractor, as a component of the project kick-off meeting, will be required to sign any state policy documents that are deemed appropriate by the OIT Division.

STATUS REPORTING

The contractor will provide weekly status reports to the State. The contractor will be responsible for meeting all timelines designated by assigned Project Manager. Weekly timesheets will be reviewed and signed by the OIT Project Manager. Invoices must be accompanied by timesheets and submitted monthly for payment.

NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

Both candidate and company will be required to sign a non-disclosure agreement which prevents disclosure of any data obtained while on the engagement which can be used to personally identify any parties at any time either during or after the engagement.

GUIDELINES FOR QUOTATION PREPARATION

QUOTATION SUBMITTAL

Each Supplier must submit three (3) complete, sealed and signed copies of its quotation (excluding cost information), and each quotation must be clearly marked "QA/ Test Analyst" on the outside of its envelope along with Suppliers name.

The cost information MUST be signed, and submitted in a SEPARATELY SEALED ENVELOPE.

The envelope must be clearly marked "QA/ Test Analyst" on the outside of its envelope along with the Supplier's name.

A single electronic copy of the complete quotation must also be submitted with the printed quotations. Electronic submissions should be on a CD, DVD or USB memory stick. **The electronic copy MUST be submitted in a SEPARATELY SEALED ENVELOPE.**

Each proposal must be organized in the same format as described below. Any material deviation from the format outlined below may result in a rejection of the non-conforming proposal. Each proposal must contain an identifiable tab sheet preceding each section of the proposal. Quote should be good for a minimum of 45 days.

- Cover Letter (include email address)
- MBE or EDGE Certification – if applicable
- State Term Schedule Number
- STS Labor Category Code
- Candidate Information:
 - Position References (3 minimum) - form
 - Candidate Resume(s)

- Additional candidate Information (optional) – supplier form
 - Candidate Hourly Rate
 - Conflict of Interest Statement
 - Payment Address
 - Proof of Insurance
 - W-9 Form

The State will not be liable for any costs incurred by any offeror in responding to this RFQ, even if the State does not award a contract through this process. The State may decide not to award a contract at the State's discretion. The State may reject late quotations regardless of the cause for the delay. The State may also reject any quotation that it believes is not in its interest to accept and may decide not to do business with any of the Suppliers responding to this RFQ.

Quotations MUST be submitted to the State's Procurement Representative:

Ms. Nychola Richardson
30 East Broad Street, 39th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

All quotations and other material submitted will become the property of the State and may be returned only at the State's option. Proprietary information should not be included in a quotation or supporting materials because the State will have the right to use any materials or ideas submitted in any quotation without compensation to the Supplier. Additionally, all quotations will be open to the public after the contract has been awarded.

The State may reject any Proposal if the Supplier takes exception to the terms and conditions of this RFQ.

WAIVER OF DEFECTS

The State has the right to waive any defects in any quotation or in the submission process followed by a Supplier. But the State will only do so if it believes that is in the State's interest and will not cause any material unfairness to other Suppliers.

REJECTION OF QUOTATIONS

The State may reject any quotation that is not in the required format, does not address all the requirements of this RFQ, or that the State believes is excessive in price or otherwise not in its interest to consider or to accept. The State will reject any Non-STS responses. The State reserves the right to reject proposals from suppliers who provide services as a subcontractor under, or who have otherwise been involved in, the State of Ohio Integrated Eligibility and HHS Business Intelligence RFP #0A1103 and #0A1115. In addition, the State may cancel this RFQ, reject all the quotations, and seek to do the work through a new RFQ or other means.

EVALUATION OF QUOTATIONS

Clarifications and Corrections

During the evaluation process, the State may request clarifications from any Supplier under active consideration. It also may give any Supplier the opportunity to correct defects in its quotation. But the State will allow corrections only if they do not result in an unfair advantage for the Supplier and it is in the State's best interest.

Requirements

This RFQ asks for responses and submissions from Suppliers. While each criterion represents only a part of the total basis for a decision to award the contract to a Supplier, a failure by a Supplier to make a required submission or meet a requirement will normally result in a rejection of that Supplier's quotation. The value assigned to each criterion is only a value used to determine which quotation is the most advantageous to the State in relation to the other quotations that the State received. It is not a basis for determining the importance of meeting any requirement to participate in the quotation process.

The evaluation process may consist of up to three distinct phases:

1. The procurement representative's initial review of all quotations for defects;
2. The evaluation committee's evaluation of the quotations; and
3. Interviews (optional).

Initial Review

The procurement representative normally will reject any incomplete or incorrectly formatted quotation, though the procurement representative may elect to waive any defects or allow a Supplier to submit a correction. If a late quotation is rejected, the procurement representative will not open or evaluate the late quotations. The procurement representative will forward all timely, complete, and properly formatted quotations to an evaluation committee, which the procurement representative will chair.

Committee Review of the Quotations

The State's review committee will evaluate and numerically score each quotation that the procurement representative has forwarded to it.

The evaluation will result in a point total being calculated for each quotation. Those Suppliers submitting the highest-rated quotations may be scheduled for the next phase. The number of quotations forwarded to the next phase will be within the committee's discretion, but regardless of the number of quotations selected for the next phase, they will always be the highest rated quotations from this phase.

At any time during this phase, the State may ask a Supplier to correct, revise, or clarify any portions of its quotation.

The State will document all major decisions in writing and make these a part of the file along with the evaluation results for each quotation considered.

Once the technical merits of a quotation are considered, the costs of that quotation will be considered. But the State may also consider costs before evaluating the technical merits of the quotations by doing an initial review of costs to determine if any quotations should be rejected because of excessive cost. And the State may reconsider the excessiveness of any quotation's cost at any time in the evaluation process.

Interviews

The State may record any presentations, demonstrations and interviews.

An on-site interview will be required prior to the selection of a candidate.

Determination of Responsibility

The State may review the highest-ranking Suppliers or its key team members to ensure that the Supplier is responsible. The Contract may not be awarded to a Supplier that is determined to be not responsible. The State's determination of a Supplier's responsibility may include the following factors: the Supplier's and its key team members' experience, past conduct on previous Contracts, past performance on previous Contracts, ability to execute this contract properly and management skill. The State will make such determination of responsibility based on the Supplier's quotation, reference evaluations and any other information the State requests or determines to be relevant.

Changing Candidates

The major criterion on which the State bases the award of the contract is the quality of the Supplier's candidate(s). Changing personnel after the award may be a basis for termination of the contract.

Contract Award Process

It is OIT's intention to award one contract under the scope of this RFQ and as based on the RFQ Calendar of Events schedule, so long as OIT determines that doing so is in the State's best interests and OIT has not otherwise changed the award date. Any award decision by OIT under this RFQ is final. After OIT makes its decision under this RFQ, all Proposers will be notified in writing of the final evaluation and determination as to their proposals.

OIT anticipates making one award depending on program needs and the fit of the Proposer to the scope of this RFQ.

ATTACHMENT ONE

PERSONNEL PROFILE SUMMARY

CANDIDATE REFERENCES

Candidate's Name:

References

Provide three references for which the proposed candidate has successfully demonstrated meeting the requirements of the RFQ on projects of similar size and scope in the past five years. The name of the person to be contacted, phone number, company, address, brief description of project size and complexity, and date (month and year) of employment must be given for each reference. These references must be able to attest to the candidate's specific qualifications.

The reference given should be a person within the client's organization and not a co-worker or a contact within the offerors organization.

If less than three references are provided, the offeror must explain the reason for the shortage. The State may disqualify the Proposal if fewer than three references are given.

Client Company:	Client Contact Name:	Client Contact Title:	
Client Address:		Client Contact Phone Number:	
Project Name:	Beginning Date of Employment: Month/Year	Ending Date of Employment: Month/Year	
Description of services provided that are in line with those to be provided as part of this Project:			
Description of how client project size and complexity are similar to this project:			

ATTACHMENT ONE

**PERSONNEL PROFILE SUMMARY
 CANDIDATE REFERENCES CONTINUED**

Client Company:	Client Contact Name:	Client Contact Title:	
Client Address:		Client Contact Phone Number:	
Project Name:		Beginning Date of Employment: Month/Year	Ending Date of Employment: Month/Year
<p>Description of services provided that are in line with those to be provided as part of this Project:</p> <p>Description of how client project size and complexity are similar to this project:</p>			

