DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Preferred Supplier Program (PSP)

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of proposed policy letter.

SUMMARY: The Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Acquisition and Logistics Management (DASN (A&LM)), is soliciting comments that the Department of the Navy (DON) may use in drafting a policy that will establish a Preferred Supplier Program (PSP). Under the PSP, contractors that have demonstrated exemplary performance, at the corporate level; in the areas of cost, schedule, performance, quality, and business relations would be granted Preferred Supplier Status (PSS). Contractors that achieved PSS would receive more favorable contract terms and conditions in DON contracts. Upon approval of the policy by the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition, DON will initiate the pilot phase of the PSP.

DATES: DON invites interested parties from both the public and private sectors to provide comments to be considered in the formulation of the final policy letter. In particular, DON encourages respondents to offer their views as discussed below, in Section D, “Solicitation of Public Comment.” Interested parties should submit comments, in writing, to the address below, on or before July 23, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

E-mail: preferredsupplier@navy.mil.

Instructions: Please submit comments only and cite “Proposed DON PSP Policy Letter” in all correspondence. All comments received will be posted, without change or redaction, to https://acquisition.navy.mil/rd/a/home/acquisition_one_source/business_opportunities/preferred_supplier, so commenters should not include information that they do not wish to be posted (for example, personal or business-confidential).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Clarence Belton, 703–693–4006 or clarence.belton@navy.mil.

B. Proposed Policy Letter Concepts

The general outline of the pilot phase of the PSP, to be established under the proposed policy letter, is set forth below.

DASN (A&LM) shall be responsible for the assessment of contractors under the PSP. DASN (A&LM) will confer PSS at the corporate level, and will not rate individual affiliates or subdivisions of corporations.

DASN (A&LM) shall use the Contractor Performance Assessment Reporting System (CPARS) as the baseline data during the pilot phase of the PSP. In the course of the pilot phase, DON also will identify other sources of data, including information available to Navy program offices and government contract administration organizations that the Department may use to supplement CPARS data in implementing the PSP. The factors that DASN (A&LM) will use to assess contractors during the pilot phase include, at a minimum, the following CPARS areas:

Technical (Quality of Product);
Schedule;
Cost Control;
Management Responsiveness;
Management of Key Personnel;
Utilization of Small Business;
Other CPARS Factors As Appropriate.

DASN (A&LM) shall assess Energy Efficiency for all contractors as an “excellence factor,” in addition to the areas above. During the pilot phase of the PSP, DON will use a 5-star system based upon the 5-color ratings used in CPARS, as follows:
C. Solicitation of Public Comment

DON invites interested parties from both the public and private sectors to provide comments for consideration in the formulation of a policy letter establishing the PSP. In particular, DON seeks to better understand how to incentivize contractors, at the corporate level, to achieve sustained superior performance in the areas of cost, schedule, performance, quality, and business relations. Accordingly, DON welcomes feedback regarding the following questions.

1. What clauses are currently being used in government subcontracts, and commercial contracts and subcontracts, to incentivize superior performance, at the corporate level, in the areas of cost, schedule, performance, quality, and business relations?

2. What solicitation provisions, contract clauses, and performance incentives will provide contractors with the greatest motivation to achieve PSS?

3. Energy Efficiency is a critical DON requirement significantly impacting the successful achievement of DON’s missions. How should a contractor’s use of energy, as it relates to the entire life-cycle of a product—design, manufacture, use, maintenance, and disposal—be considered in the designation of Preferred Suppliers?

4. Is there any other aspect of the proposed PSP on which you wish to comment?


A. M. Vallandingham,
Lieutenant Commander, Office of the Judge Advocate General, U.S. Navy, Federal Register Liaison Officer.

BILLING CODE 3810–FF–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Innovation and Improvement; Overview Information; Charter Schools Program (CSP) Grants for Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.282M.

Dates:

Date of Pre-Application Meeting: June 8, 2010.

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The purpose of the CSP is to increase national understanding of the charter school model and to expand the number of high-quality charter schools available to students across the Nation by providing financial assistance for the planning, program design, initial implementation, or expansion of charter schools, and to evaluate the effects of charter schools, including their effects on students, student academic achievement, staff, and parents.

The purpose of this competition (CFDA 84.282M) is to award grants to eligible applicants to enable them to replicate or expand high-quality charter schools with demonstrated records of success, including success in increasing student academic achievement. Eligible applicants may use their CSP funds to expand the enrollment of one or more existing charter schools by substantially increasing the number of available seats per school, or to open one or more new charter schools that are based on the charter school model for which the eligible applicant has presented evidence of success.

Priorities: This competition includes one absolute priority, three competitive preference priorities, and one invitational priority. We are establishing these priorities for the FY 2010 grant competition and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applicants from this competition, in accordance with section 437(d)(1) of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA), 20 U.S.C. 1232(d)(1).

Absolute Priority: This priority is an absolute priority. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3) we consider only applications that meet this priority.

This priority is:
Experience Operating or Managing High-Quality Charter Schools

The applicant must have experience operating or managing more than one high-quality charter school. For purposes of this priority, a high-quality charter school is a school that shows evidence of strong academic results, based on the criteria described in Selection Criterion (a), and has no significant issues in the areas of student safety, financial management, or statutory or regulatory compliance. For purposes of this competition, significant issue means something that did, will, or could lead to the revocation of a school’s charter.

Competitive Preference Priorities:
These priorities are competitive