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Tender

Provision of UK Based Language Training and Examinations

Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-007656

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-02a559

Published 12 April 2021, 10:55pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office

King Charles Street

London

SW1A 2AH

Email

nadeem.ilyas@fcdo.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 02070081467

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.gov.uk/fcdo

Buyer's address

<https://fcdo.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.html>

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

I.3) Communication

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://fcdo.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.html>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://fcdo.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.html>

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Provision of UK Based Language Training and Examinations

Reference number

Project _5703

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80580000 - Provision of language courses

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Operational and developmental language training and online examination services for FCDO and wider HMG officers.

Language training and examination services play a critical role in ensuring that officers from the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) and across Her Majesty's Government (HMG) have the appropriate level of foreign language skills. This is to enable them to operate confidently and effectively to help fulfil HMG's objectives and project and enhance the UK's global influence overseas.

Officers use their language skills in a variety of contexts such as engaging with politicians, dealing with local authorities and officials, speaking to businesses, talking to students, negotiation, giving speeches and media interviews, engaging on social media, reading newspapers and understanding broadcasts.

We expect this opportunity will be of interest to providers of language training, including universities, in a large number of languages, Centres of Excellence that specialise in one or several languages, and providers of online testing or examinations services including but not limited to those with existing capability in online language proficiency testing.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

Tenders may be submitted for all lots

The contracting authority reserves the right to award contracts combining the following lots or groups of lots:

Suppliers accessing tender documentation, please see attachment 2 - Instructions To Tenderers in relation to the separation of training and examination responsibilities and awarding of each of the five (5) Lots.

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

PRIME PROVIDER - UK BASED LANGUAGE TRAINING

Lot No

1

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 80000000 - Education and training services
- 80580000 - Provision of language courses

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The current language training and examination services contracts for Her Majesty's Government (HMG) end on 31 March 2022. We (the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, hereafter referred to as 'the Authority') are offering 5 lots to suppliers to replace these contracts. Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4 are for language training services and Lot 5 is for examinations services.

UK GOVERNMENT (HMG) PROVISION OF UK-BASED LANGUAGE TRAINING SERVICES – LOT 1 – MAIN PROVIDER

Aim

1. To identify and contract a 'Main Provider' to deliver a managed, professional language school including (but not limited to) the following requirements:

- Deliver UK-based language training mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages:
<https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages> .
- Deliver 3 types of language assessments, including 2 mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages> .
- Provide central management of the Language Centre at the Authority's King Charles Street building.
- Deliver administration services.

2. The appointed Main Provider will have full responsibility for delivering the requirements described within this Specification. The Main Provider will be expected to support HMG's objective of delivering excellence in language training within a culture of continuous improvement, innovation, and value for money.

Further information is available via tender documents.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

II.2.6) Estimated value

Value excluding VAT: £13,708,146

II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system

Start date

1 April 2022

End date

31 March 2025

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

3 x 12 month optional extension years are available in addition to the initial contract period

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR FRENCH

Lot No

2

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 80000000 - Education and training services
- 80580000 - Provision of language courses

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The current language training and examination services contracts for Her Majesty's Government (HMG) end on 31 March 2022. We (the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, hereafter referred to as 'the Authority') are offering 5 lots to suppliers to replace these contracts. Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4 are for language training services and Lot 5 is for examinations services.

UK GOVERNMENT (HMG) PROVISION OF UK-BASED FRENCH LANGUAGE TRAINING SERVICES – LOT 2 – CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR FRENCH

Aim

1. To identify and contract a 'Centre of Excellence for French' to deliver a managed, professional language training service including (but not limited to) the following requirements:

- Deliver UK-based French language training mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages:
<https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages> .
- Deliver 2 types of French language assessments, both mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages> .
- Deliver administration services.

2. The appointed Centre of Excellence for French will have full responsibility for delivering the requirements described within this Specification. The Centre of Excellence for French will be expected to support HMG's objective of delivering excellence in language training within a culture of continuous improvement, innovation, and value for money.

Further information is available via tender documents

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

II.2.6) Estimated value

Value excluding VAT: £2,436,476

II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system

Start date

1 April 2022

End date

31 March 2025

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

3 x 12 month optional extension years are available in addition to the initial contract period

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR SPANISH

Lot No

3

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 80000000 - Education and training services
- 80580000 - Provision of language courses

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The current language training and examination services contracts for Her Majesty's Government (HMG) end on 31 March 2022. We (the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, hereafter referred to as 'the Authority') are offering 5 lots to suppliers to replace these contracts. Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4 are for language training services and Lot 5 is for examinations services.

UK GOVERNMENT (HMG) PROVISION OF UK-BASED SPANISH LANGUAGE TRAINING SPECIFICATION – LOT 3 – CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR SPANISH

Aim

To identify and contract a 'Centre of Excellence for Spanish to deliver a managed, professional language training service including (but not limited to) the following requirements:

- Deliver UK-based Spanish language training mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages:
<https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages> .
- Deliver 2 types of Spanish language assessments, both mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages> .
- Deliver administration services.

2. The appointed Centre of Excellence for Spanish will have full responsibility for delivering the requirements described within this Specification. The Centre of Excellence for Spanish will be expected to support HMG's objective of delivering excellence in language training within a culture of continuous improvement, innovation, and value for money.

Further information is available via tender document

1. To identify and contract a 'Centre of Excellence for Spanish to deliver a managed, professional language training service including (but not limited to) the following requirements:

- Deliver UK-based Spanish language training mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages:
<https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages> .
- Deliver 2 types of Spanish language assessments, both mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages> .
- Deliver administration services.

2. The appointed Centre of Excellence for Spanish will have full responsibility for delivering the requirements described within this Specification. The Centre of Excellence for Spanish will be expected to support HMG's objective of delivering excellence in language training within a culture of continuous improvement, innovation, and value for money.

Further information is available via tender document

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

II.2.6) Estimated value

Value excluding VAT: £2,616,938

II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system

Start date

1 April 2022

End date

31 March 2025

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

3 x 12 month optional extension years are available in addition to the initial contract period

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR ARABIC

Lot No

4

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 80000000 - Education and training services
- 80580000 - Provision of language courses

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

1. The current language training and examination services contracts for Her Majesty's Government (HMG) end on 31 March 2022. We (the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, hereafter referred to as 'the Authority') are offering 5 lots to suppliers to replace these contracts. Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4 are for language training services and Lot 5 is for examinations services.

UK GOVERNMENT (HMG) PROVISION OF UK-BASED ARABIC LANGUAGE

TRAINING SPECIFICATION – LOT 4 – CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR ARABIC

Aim

1. To identify and contract a 'Centre of Excellence for Arabic' to deliver a managed, professional language training service including (but not limited to) the following requirements:

- Deliver UK-based Arabic language training mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages:

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages> .

- Deliver 2 types of Arabic language assessments, both mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages> .

- Deliver administration services.

2. The appointed Centre of Excellence for Arabic will have full responsibility for delivering the requirements described within this Specification. The Centre of Excellence for Arabic will be expected to support HMG's objective of delivering excellence in language training within a culture of continuous improvement, innovation, and value for money.

Further information is available via tender documents

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

II.2.6) Estimated value

Value excluding VAT: £4,200,000

II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system

Start date

1 April 2022

End date

31 March 2025

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

3 x 12 month optional extension years are available in addition to the initial contract period

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

EXAMINATIONS

Lot No

5

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 80000000 - Education and training services
- 80580000 - Provision of language courses

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

1. The current language training and examination services contracts for Her Majesty's Government (HMG) end on 31 March 2022. We (the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, hereafter referred to as 'the Authority') are offering 5 lots to suppliers to replace these contracts. Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4 are for language training services and Lot 5 is for examinations services.

UK GOVERNMENT (HMG) PROVISION OF ONLINE LANGUAGE EXAMINATIONS SPECIFICATION – LOT 5 – EXAMINATIONS PROVIDER

Aim

1. To identify and contract an 'Examinations Provider' to deliver a managed, professional examination provision including (but not limited to) the following requirements:

- Deliver formal online language examinations mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages (CEFR): <https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages> .
- Deliver application, marking, moderation, and appeals services.
- Deliver administration services, including (but not limited to): staffing; examiner selection, training, and monitoring; full service reporting and evaluation.

2. The appointed Examinations Provider will have full responsibility for delivering the requirements described within this Specification. The Examinations Provider will be expected to support HMG's objective of delivering excellence in language examinations within a culture of continuous improvement, innovation, and value for money.

Further information is available via tender documents

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

II.2.6) Estimated value

Value excluding VAT: £1,430,820

II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system

Start date

1 April 2022

End date

31 March 2025

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

3 x 12 month optional extension years are available in addition to the initial contract period

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions for participation

III.1.2) Economic and financial standing

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

III.1.3) Technical and professional ability

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

IV.1.6) Information about electronic auction

An electronic auction will be used

Additional information about electronic auction

The Authority reserves the right to use an electronic auction (e-auction) at its sole discretion

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2020/S 197-478571](#)

IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate

Date

28 May 2021

Local time

5:00pm

IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted

English

IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender

Duration in months: 3 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date

1 June 2021

Local time

12:00pm

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

VI.2) Information about electronic workflows

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

VI.3) Additional information

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL POTENTIAL SUPPLIERS

In order to participate and gain access to all documentation in relation to this procurement, potential suppliers should access the FCDO's e-procurement portal, JAGGAER ONE, available via the below link.

URL: <https://fcdo.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.html>

Once logged in, search for project reference 5703 and / or itt_4268

If a potential supplier is not registered on the portal, click the link above to be taken to the home page, click the "Click here to register!" button, and follow the on-screen instructions to complete registration.

Registration takes approximately 5 minutes and is free of charge.

TWO-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION (2FA)

Potential suppliers should note that two-factor authentication will be required to access the FCDO's e-procurement portal, JAGGAER ONE, which requires Google Authenticator to be downloaded onto a mobile device. For more information in relation to two-factor authentication, a guide can be accessed by clicking the link on the home page of the FCDO's e-procurement portal, JAGGAER ONE.

FURTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Potential Providers wishing to participate should note that there are 5 lots to this tender. When accessing the project (5703), you must access itt_4268 first. This is the Selection Questionnaire.

Failure to do so means that you will not be able to access any of the Lots 1 - 5 respectively

OTHER DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES AND PUBLIC BODIES WITH ACCESS TO CONTRACT

The service provision will be available to Central Government Departments, their Executive Agencies and their Non Departmental Public Bodies (NDPBs), and any successors (hereafter Her Majesty's Government/HMG).

Without limiting the forgoing, the following is an indicative list of the Central Government bodies which will have access to use the contract resulting from this procurement. These contracts will not preclude HMG from sourcing alternative language training and examinations, with the exception of the Authority unless otherwise stated in the Specification:

Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street

Attorney General's Office

Cabinet Office

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

Department for Education

Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

Department for International Trade

Department for Transport

Department for Work & Pensions

Department of Health & Social Care

HM Treasury

Home Office

Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

Ministry of Justice

Northern Ireland Office

Office of the Advocate General for Scotland

Office of the Leader of the House of Commons

Office of the Leader of the House of Lords

Office of the Secretary of State for Scotland

Office of the Secretary of State for Wales

UK Export Finance

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

London

SW1A 2AH

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures

Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR)

London

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

London

SW1A 2AH

Country

United Kingdom