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Tender

Online Distance Learning Services Framework

University of Birmingham

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-031011

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-037e8b

Published 2 November 2022, 6:24pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

University of Birmingham

Procurement Division - Finance Office, Aston Webb Building, Edgbaston

Birmingham

B312LR

Contact

Paul Markham

Email

p.markham@bham.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 1214158807

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKG31 - Birmingham

Companies House

RC000645

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.birmingham.ac.uk>

Buyer's address

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/universityofbirmingham.aspx/Home>

I.3) Communication

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

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/universityofbirmingham.aspx/Home>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/universityofbirmingham.aspx/Home>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Online Distance Learning Services Framework

Reference number

FRAM555/22

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80300000 - Higher education services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The University of Birmingham is one of the UK's largest providers of distance learning and we have bold ambitions to further grow our online learning portfolio and online student community. To support this ambition, we wish to engage with relevant suppliers who share our desire to develop and deliver high quality online learning experiences.

The intention is to establish a framework agreement with a suitably qualified supplier (or suppliers) who will be able to provide one or more services that will augment inhouse provision.

It is anticipated that services required may include, but not necessarily limited to, the following broad areas of provision:

- Market insight - access to data and analysis of the global market for online learning.
- Student acquisition - including marketing, recruitment, and enrolment.
- Course design and production - learning design and media production.
- Student support and retention services - front line support and triage of student queries.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKG31 - Birmingham

Main site or place of performance

University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

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It is anticipated that services required may include, but not necessarily limited to, the following broad areas of provision:

- Market insight - access to data and analysis of the global market for online learning.
- Student acquisition - including marketing, recruitment, and enrolment.
- Course design and production - learning design and media production.
- Student support and retention services - front line support and triage of student queries.

We would therefore welcome the opportunity for potential suppliers of these services to help us refine these requirements and explore appropriate business models through a Competitive Procedure with negotiation.

II.2.5) Award criteria

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

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

Duration in months

84

This contract is subject to renewal

No

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

Initial 7 year period with an option to extend for a further 3 years. (individual call offs as part of the framework may be for up to a 10 year period once awarded).

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

Competitive procedure with negotiation

IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

Framework agreement with several operators

In the case of framework agreements, provide justification for any duration exceeding 4 years:

Initial 7 year period with an option to extend for a further 3 years. (individual call offs as part of the framework may be for up to a 10 year period once awarded).

Rationale is based on return on investment for the supplier(s) concerned and the University. It is standard within the market for call off contracts of this nature to be for a much longer period than 4 years.

IV.1.4) Information about reduction of the number of solutions or tenders during negotiation or dialogue

Recourse to staged procedure to gradually reduce the number of solutions to be discussed or tenders to be negotiated

IV.1.5) Information about negotiation

The contracting authority reserves the right to award the contract on the basis of the initial tenders without conducting negotiations

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

Date

2 December 2022

Local time

12:00pm

IV.2.3) Estimated date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates

16 January 2023

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

English

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

University of Birmingham

Edgbaston

Birmingham

B15 2TT

Country

United Kingdom