

<b>SOLICITATION/CONTRACT/ORDER FOR COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES</b>				1. REQUISITION NO. 437-23-2-751-0001		PAGE 1 OF 103			
<b>OFFEROR TO COMPLETE BLOCKS 12, 17, 23, 24, &amp; 30</b>									
2. CONTRACT NO.		3. AWARD/EFFECTIVE DATE		4. ORDER NO.		5. SOLICITATION NUMBER 36C26323Q0103			
						6. SOLICITATION ISSUE DATE 11-29-2022			
7. FOR SOLICITATION INFORMATION CALL:		a. NAME Pradeepkumar Elayath			b. TELEPHONE NO. (No Collect Calls) 651-293-3002		8. OFFER DUE DATE/LOCAL TIME 12-09-2022 11:00 AM CST		
9. ISSUED BY Department of Veterans Affairs NETWORK 23 CONTRACTING OFFICE  316 Robert Street N. STE. 506 St. Paul MN 55101 Pradeepkumar Elayath Pradeepkumar.elayath@va.gov				CODE 36C263		10. THIS ACQUISITION IS <input type="checkbox"/> UNRESTRICTED OR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SET ASIDE: 100 % FOR:  <input type="checkbox"/> SMALL BUSINESS <input type="checkbox"/> HUBZONE SMALL BUSINESS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS <input type="checkbox"/> WOMEN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS (WOSB) ELIGIBLE UNDER THE WOMEN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM <input type="checkbox"/> EDWOSB <input type="checkbox"/> 8(A) NAICS: 621111 SIZE STANDARD: \$14 Million			
11. DELIVERY FOR FOB DESTINATION UNLESS BLOCK IS MARKED <input type="checkbox"/> SEE SCHEDULE		12. DISCOUNT TERMS		<input type="checkbox"/> 13a. THIS CONTRACT IS A RATED ORDER UNDER DPAS (15 CFR 700)		13b. RATING N/A			
						14. METHOD OF SOLICITATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RFQ <input type="checkbox"/> IFB <input type="checkbox"/> RFP			
15. DELIVER TO Department of Veterans Affairs Minneapolis VA Medical Center One Veterans Drive, Building 70  Minneapolis MN 55417				CODE		16. ADMINISTERED BY Department of Veterans Affairs NETWORK 23 CONTRACTING OFFICE  316 Robert Street N. STE. 506 St. Paul MN 55101			
17a. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR		CODE		FACILITY CODE		18a. PAYMENT WILL BE MADE BY Department of Veterans Affairs Financial Services Center PO Box 149971  Austin TX 78714-9971  PHONE: FAX:			
TELEPHONE NO.		UEI:		EFT:		CODE Y			
<input type="checkbox"/> 17b. CHECK IF REMITTANCE IS DIFFERENT AND PUT SUCH ADDRESS IN OFFER				<input type="checkbox"/> 18b. SUBMIT INVOICES TO ADDRESS SHOWN IN BLOCK 18a UNLESS BLOCK BELOW IS CHECKED <input type="checkbox"/> SEE ADDENDUM					
19. ITEM NO.		20. See CONTINUATION Page SCHEDULE OF SUPPLIES/SERVICES		21. QUANTITY		22. UNIT			
						23. UNIT PRICE			
						24. AMOUNT			
		Board Eligible/Board Certified On-Site Hospitalist Physician Service (1 FTE) to support the Fargo ND VA Hospital located at 2101 Elm Street, Fargo ND 58102. See Price/Cost Schedule and Performance Work Statement for additional information. Period of Performance: Base Period: 1/16/2023 to 1/15/2024 Option Period 1: 1/16/2024 to 1/15/2025 Contract exempted from Fair Labor Standards Act for professional services (physician). This is a SDVOSB set aside. Offerors shall be registered and verified as eligible in the VIP database and the System for Award Management at the time of submission of quote and prior to contract award. Evaluation of Quotes: Lowest Priced Technically Acceptable evaluation process. See FAR 52.212-1 Addendum Instructions to Offerors and FAR 52.212-2 Evaluation Commercial Products and Services for specific documentation to be submitted with offer  (Use Reverse and/or Attach Additional Sheets as Necessary)							
25. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA See CONTINUATION Page 437-3630160-751-820400 2560 0100K0000 437-23-2-751-0001				26. TOTAL AWARD AMOUNT (For Govt. Use Only)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 27a. SOLICITATION INCORPORATES BY REFERENCE FAR 52.212-1, 52.212-4. FAR 52.212-3 AND 52.212-5 ARE ATTACHED. ADDENDA				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARE <input type="checkbox"/> ARE NOT ATTACHED.					
<input type="checkbox"/> 27b. CONTRACT/PURCHASE ORDER INCORPORATES BY REFERENCE FAR 52.212-4. FAR 52.212-5 IS ATTACHED. ADDENDA				<input type="checkbox"/> ARE <input type="checkbox"/> ARE NOT ATTACHED					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 28. CONTRACTOR IS REQUIRED TO SIGN THIS DOCUMENT AND RETURN <u>one (1)</u> COPIES TO ISSUING OFFICE. CONTRACTOR AGREES TO FURNISH AND DELIVER ALL ITEMS SET FORTH OR OTHERWISE IDENTIFIED ABOVE AND ON ANY ADDITIONAL SHEETS SUBJECT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS SPECIFIED				<input type="checkbox"/> 29. AWARD OF CONTRACT: REF. _____ OFFER DATED _____, YOUR OFFER ON SOLICITATION (BLOCK 5), INCLUDING ANY ADDITIONS OR CHANGES WHICH ARE SET FORTH HEREIN IS ACCEPTED AS TO ITEMS:					
30a. SIGNATURE OF OFFEROR/CONTRACTOR				31a. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (SIGNATURE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER)					
30b. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (TYPE OR PRINT)		30c. DATE SIGNED		31b. NAME OF CONTRACTING OFFICER (TYPE OR PRINT) John Becker VA-VHA-2020-VEE57D1B		31c. DATE SIGNED			

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## SECTION B - CONTINUATION OF SF 1449 BLOCKS

### B.1 CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION DATA

1. Contract Administration: All contract administration matters will be handled by the following individuals:

a. CONTRACTOR:

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Unique SAM Entity: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

b. GOVERNMENT: Contracting Officer

Name: Pradeepkumar Elayath

Email: [Pradeepkumar.Elayath@va.gov](mailto:Pradeepkumar.Elayath@va.gov)

Phone: 651-293-3002

2. CONTRACTOR REMITTANCE ADDRESS: All payments by the Government to the contractor will be made in accordance with:

☒ 52.232-33, Payment by Electronic Funds Transfer—System for Award Management

3. INVOICES: Invoices shall be submitted in arrears:

- Monthly or Upon Completion of Work or a period agreed between the Contractor and Government.
- Contractor shall submit final invoice on any services performed no later than 30 days after end of the period of performance of the purchase order or contract. This ensures timely closeout of purchase orders and/or contracts.

4. GOVERNMENT INVOICE ADDRESS: All Invoices from the contractor shall be submitted electronically in accordance with VAAR Clause 852.232-72 Electronic Submission of Payment Requests.

Department of Veterans Affairs  
Tungsten Electronic Invoicing  
VA Tungsten Number: AAA544240062  
[va.registration@tungsten-network.com](mailto:va.registration@tungsten-network.com)  
Refer to VAAR Clause 852.232-72

5. INVOICING: All invoices from the contractor shall be submitted electronically in accordance with VAAR Clause 852.232-72 Electronic Submission of Payment Requests. VA's Electronic Invoice Presentment and Payment System. The FSC uses a third-party contractor, Tungsten, to transition vendors from paper to electronic invoice submission. Please go to this website: <http://www.tungsten-network.com/US/en/veterans-affairs/> to begin submitting electronic invoices, free of charge.

- Tungsten Network web link. Website: <http://www.tungsten-network.com/customer-campaigns/veterans-affairs/>
- Tungsten's Email Assistance: [VA.Registration@tungsten-network.com](mailto:VA.Registration@tungsten-network.com)
- Tungsten's Contact Phone: 1-877-489-6135 for support or 1-877-752-0900 for Client Services.
- VA Financial Services Center is available at <http://www.fsc.va.gov/einvoice.asp>.
- VA FSC email: [vafscshd@va.gov](mailto:vafscshd@va.gov)
- VA FSC Contact Phone: 877-353-9791

6. VA ISSUED BADGE: Contract employees may be required to obtain a VA Identification Badge. Determination of badging will be made by the VA Health Care System Technical Representative.

- Background investigations and special agreement checks: All contractor personnel are subject to the same level of investigation as VA employees who have access to VA Sensitive Information. The level of background investigation commensurate with the level of access needed to perform the statement of work is: National Agency Check (NAC). Contract employees may be required to submit fingerprints and undergo a background check.
- Employee training requirements are applicable to the level of access granted to the contractor. All contractor personnel are subject to the same level of training as VA employees who have access to VA Sensitive Information.
- This requirement is applicable to all subcontractor personnel requiring the same access.
- Contract employees will be required to obtain a favorable National Criminal History Check (NCHC) before a Notice to Proceed is provided by the Contracting Officer for contract employee to provide services under the contract.

7. VA REQUIRED TRAINING: Contract employees may be required to complete VA training prior to and annually to retain information systems access. Determination of training courses will be made by the VA Health Care System Technical Representative. Contract employees shall remain current on all training requirements throughout the life of the contract. Contract employee(s) who are delinquent in training will lose access to IT systems which may impact contract performance.

- PRIVACY AND HIPAA FOCUSED TRAINING (VA TMS ID: 10203)
- VA PRIVACY AND INFORMATION SECURITY AWARENESS AND RULES OF BEHAVIOR (VA TMS ID: 10176)

8. VHA Supplemental Contract Requirements for Combatting COVID-19.

a. Contractor employees who work in or travel to VHA locations must comply with the following:

(1) Documentation requirements:

(a) If fully vaccinated, shall show proof of vaccination

- i. NOTE: Acceptable proof of vaccination includes a signed record of immunization from a health care provider or pharmacy, a copy of the COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card (CDC Form MLS-319813\_r, published on September 3, 2020), or a copy of medical records documenting the vaccination

(2) If unvaccinated and granted a medical or religious exception, shall show negative COVID-19 test results dated within three calendar days prior to desired entry date. Test must be approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for emergency use or full approval. This includes tests available by a doctor's order or an FDA approved over-the-counter test.

(3) Documentation cited in this section shall be digitally or physically maintained on each contractor employee while in a VA facility and is subject to inspection prior to entry to

- VA facilities and after entry for spot inspections by Contracting Officer Representatives (CORs) or other hospital personnel.
- (4) Documentation will not be collected by the VA; contractors shall, at all times, adhere to and ensure compliance with federal laws designed to protect contractor employee health information and personally identifiable information.
- b. Contractor employees are subject to daily screening for COVID-19 and may be denied entry to VA facilities if they fail to pass screening protocols. As part of the screening process contractors may be asked screening questions found on the following website: [COVID-19 Screening Tool](#). Regularly check the website for updates.
- (1) Contractor employees who work away from VA locations, but who will have direct patient contact with VA patients shall self-screen utilizing the [COVID-19 Screening Tool](#), in advance each day that they will have direct patient contact and in accordance with their person or persons who coordinate COVID-19 workplace safety efforts at covered contractor workplaces. Contractors shall, at all times, adhere to and ensure compliance with federal laws designed to protect contractor employee health information and personally identifiable information.
- c. Contractor must immediately notify their COR or Contracting Officer if contract performance is jeopardized due to contractor employees being denied entry into VA Facilities.”
- d. For indefinite delivery contracts: Contractor agrees to comply with VHA Supplemental Contract Requirements for any task or delivery orders issued prior to this modification when performance has already commenced.

9. **CONTRACTOR ATTIRE AND IDENTIFICATION.** The Contractor shall wear industry clothing that enables easy recognition as a “Contract Employee.” Clothing shall present a neat, distinctive appearance; shall be clean and maintained in good repair; and shall be worn as designed by the manufacturer. The Contractor shall wear appropriate clothing with logo identifying the contractor’s and employee’s name. The Contractor’s attire and presentation shall be appropriate per industry standard.

10. **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES.** The Contractor shall take such safety precautions as necessary to protect the lives and health of occupants of the buildings. The Contractor shall comply with applicable Federal, State, Local and facility safety and fire regulations and codes which are in effect at the beginning of the contract period. The Contractor shall keep abreast of and comply with changes in these regulations and codes applicable to the contract. The Contractor shall follow applicable facility policies concerning fire and/or disaster events. The Contractor shall display approved warning devices in all areas where operations may cause traffic obstruction or personnel hazard.

11. **SERVICE CONTRACT LABOR STANDARDS REQUIREMENT, *if applicable*.** Contractor shall provide hourly wages in accordance with U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) Wage Determinations and FAR Subpart 22.10 (Service Contract Labor Standards); USDOL Wage Determinations are attached in Section D below. For guidance on Service Contract Labor Standards and to find the nearest USDOL resource, please refer to <https://www.dol.gov/whd/local/index.htm>.

12. **VETS-4212 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS** (for contracts awarded over \$150,000.00). Contractor shall complete VETS-4212 reporting in accordance with FAR requirements. Reference. Please refer to <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets/programs/vets4212> for guidance on completing the required VETS-4212 report.

- FAR 52.222-35, Equal Opportunity for Veterans
- FAR 52.222-37, Employment Reports on Veterans

13. SERVICE CONTRACT REPORTING (for contracts awarded over \$500,000.00), *if applicable*. Service Contract reporting, to be completed by the contractor, is required for service contracts and orders as following are checked off under Section C, FAR 52.212-5 (Contract Terms and Conditions Required to Implement Statutes or Executive Orders--Commercial Items). The contractor shall report the information via the System for Award Management (SAM) at <https://beta.sam.gov>. The information is collected through SAM and included in the agency service contract inventory. Contractors shall log in annually to their SAM profile to complete the service contract inventory reporting requirements. Contractors performing on covered contracts must report their information between October 1 and October 31 each year. Agencies are required to review contractor input and work with them to make revisions, if and as necessary, by November 30 each year.

- FAR 52.204-14, Service Contract Reporting Requirement
- FAR 52.204-15, Service Contract Reporting Requirements for Indefinite-Delivery Contracts (as applicable) Contractors shall log in annually to their SAM profile to complete the service contract inventory reporting requirements. Contractors performing on covered contracts must report their information between October 1 and October 31 each year. Agencies are required to review contractor input and work with them to make revisions, if and as necessary, by November 30 each year.

14. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF AMENDMENTS: The offeror acknowledges receipt of amendments to the Solicitation numbered and dated as follows:

AMENDMENT NO	DATE

## B.2 SPECIAL CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS

Under the authority of Public Law 104-262 and 38 USC 8153, the contractor agrees to provide Health Care Resources in accordance with the terms and conditions stated herein, to furnish to and at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Fargo ND VA Hospital, the services and prices specified in the Section entitled Schedule of Supplies/Services of this contract.

### 1. SERVICES:

a. The services specified in the Sections entitled Schedule of Supplies/Services and Special Contract Requirements may be changed by written modification to this contract.

b. Other necessary personnel for the operation of the services contracted for at the VA will be provided by the VA at levels mutually agreed upon which are compatible with the safety of the patient and personnel and with quality medical care programming.

c. The services to be performed by the contractor will be performed in accordance with VA policies and procedures and the regulations of the medical staff by laws of the VA facility.

### 2. TERM OF CONTRACT:

This contract is effective one year from date of award.

### 3. QUALIFICATIONS:

Personnel assigned by the Contractor to perform the services covered by this contract shall be licensed in a State, Territory, or Commonwealth of the United States or the District of Columbia. All licenses held by the personnel working on this contract shall be full and unrestricted licenses. The qualifications of such personnel shall also be subject to review by the VA Chief of Staff and approval by the VA Facility Director. Each person assigned to work under this contract shall be licensed by the State of North Dakota. See the Contract's Performance Work Statement (PWS) for additional information.

### 4. WORK HOURS:

a. The services covered by this contract shall be furnished by the contractor as defined herein. The contractor will not be required, except in case of emergency, to furnish such services during off-duty hours as described below.

b. The following terms have the following meanings:

(1) Work hours: See Performance Work Statement (PWS)

(2) National Holidays: The 10 holidays observed by the Federal Government are:

New Year's Day

Martin Luther King's Birthday

Presidents Day

Memorial Day

Independence Day

Labor Day

Columbus Day

Veterans Day

Thanksgiving

Christmas AND

any other day specifically declared by the President of the United States to be a national holiday.

### 5. PERSONNEL POLICY:

The contractor shall be responsible for protecting the personnel furnishing services under this contract. To carry out this responsibility, the contractor shall provide the following for these personnel:

- general liability



- workers compensation
- professional liability insurance
- health examinations
- income tax withholding, and
- social security payments.

The parties agree that the contractor, its employees, agents and subcontractors shall not be considered VA employees for any purpose.

**6. RECORD KEEPING:**

The VA Medical Center, Fargo ND VA Hospital shall establish and maintain a record keeping system that will record the hours worked by the contractor employee(s). Contractor's employee(s) shall report to the Fargo ND VA Hospital Administrative Officer, or designee upon arrival at the Fargo ND VA Hospital.

**7. CONTRACT PERFORMANCE MONITORING:**

Monitoring of contractors time shall be demonstrated through sign-in/ sign-out sheets. The contractor shall be required to sign an attendance log upon reporting to work and departing from work. The Fargo ND VA Hospital Administrative Officer, shall be the VA official responsible for verifying contract compliance. After contract award, any incidents of contractor noncompliance as evidenced by the monitoring procedures shall be forwarded immediately to the Contracting Officer.

**8. KEY PERSONNEL AND TEMPORARY EMERGENCY SUBSTITUTIONS:**

The Contractor shall assign to this contract the following key personnel:

a. During the first ninety (90) days of performance, the Contractor shall make NO substitutions of key personnel unless the substitution is necessitated by illness, death, or termination of employment. The Contractor shall notify the Contracting Officer, in writing, within 15 calendar days after the occurrence of any of these events and provide the information required by paragraph (c) below. After the initial 90-day period of the contract, the Contractor shall submit the information required by paragraph (c) to the Contracting Officer at least 15 days prior to making any permanent substitutions.

b. The Contractor shall provide a detailed explanation of the circumstances necessitating the proposed substitutions, complete resumes for the proposed substitutes, and any additional information requested by the Contracting Officer. Proposed substitutes shall have comparable qualifications to those of the persons being replaced. The Contracting Officer will notify the Contractor within 15 calendar days after receipt of all required information of the decision on the proposed substitutes. The contract will be modified to reflect any approved changes of key personnel.

c. For temporary substitutions where the key person will not be reporting to work for three (3) consecutive work days or more, the Contractor will provide a qualified replacement for the key person. This substitute shall have comparable qualifications to the key person. Any period exceeding two weeks will require the procedure as stated above.

### B.3 NON-PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACT

1. This is a Service Contract. *Service contract* means a contract that directly engages the time and effort of a contractor whose primary purpose is to perform an identifiable task rather than to furnish an end item of supply. A service contract may be either a nonpersonal or personal contract. It can also cover services performed by either professional or nonprofessional personnel whether on an individual or organizational basis.

2. This is a Non-Personal Services Contract. *Nonpersonal services contract* means a contract under which the personnel rendering the services are not subject, either by the contract's terms or by the manner of its administration, to the supervision and control usually prevailing in relationships between the Government and its employees. The parties agree that the Contractor and all Contractor's employee(s) shall not be considered VA employees for any purpose.

3. Indemnification: The Contractor shall be liable for, and shall indemnify and hold harmless the Government against, all actions or claims for loss of or damage to property or the injury or death of persons, arising out of or resulting from the fault, negligence, or act or omission of the Contractor, its agents, or employees.

4. Inherent Government Functions: Contractor and Contractor's employee(s) shall not perform inherently governmental functions. This includes, but is not limited to, determination of agency policy, determination of Federal program priorities for budget requests, direction and control of government employees, approval of position descriptions and performance standards for Federal employees, approving any contractual documents, approval of Federal licensing actions and inspections, and/or determination of budget policy, guidance, and strategy.

5. No Employee status: The Contractor shall be responsible for protecting Contractor's employee(s) furnishing services. To carry out this responsibility, the Contractor shall provide or certify that the following is provided for all their staff providing services under the resultant contract:

- Workers' compensation
- Professional liability insurance
- Health examinations
- Income tax withholding, and
- Social security payments.

**B.4 PRICE/COST SCHEDULE****ITEM INFORMATION**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLIES/SERVICES</b>	<b>QUANTITY</b>	<b>UNIT</b>	<b>UNIT PRICE</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>0001</b>	Hospitalist Physician Services  Contract Period: Base POP Begin: 01-16-2023 POP End: 01-15-2024 PRINCIPAL NAICS CODE: 621111 - Offices of Physicians (except Mental Health Specialists) PRODUCT/SERVICE CODE: Q201 - Medical - General Health Care	1,194.00	HR		
<b>0001AA</b>	LIN 1001: Basis for Estimated Unit (hourly) rate: The estimate for this LIN is based on the price per hour of the previous contract times the escalation rate.  The government has established a specified quantity/amount and is only obligated to make payment for services that are rendered and/or received. No payment will be provided for any services not received.  Contract Period: Base POP Begin: 01-16-2023 POP End: 01-15-2024 PRINCIPAL NAICS CODE: 621111 - Offices of Physicians (except Mental Health Specialists) PRODUCT/SERVICE CODE: Q201 - Medical - General Health Care	1,092.00	HR		
<b>0001AB</b>	LIN 1002: Training and Administrative Basis for Estimated Unit: The estimate for this LIN is based on the price per hour of the previous contract times the escalation rate. The number of hours is based on the identified trainings and administrative meetings required in the Performance Work Statement.  The government has established a specified quantity/amount and is only obligated to make payment for services that are rendered and/or received. No payment will be provided for any services not received.  Contract Period: Base POP Begin: 01-16-2023	102.00	HR		

ITEM NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLIES/SERVICES	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
	POP End: 01-15-2024 PRINCIPAL NAICS CODE: 621111 - Offices of Physicians (except Mental Health Specialists) PRODUCT/SERVICE CODE: Q201 - Medical - General Health Care				

**TOTAL COST FOR BASE PERIOD:** \_\_\_\_\_

ITEM NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLIES/SERVICES	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
<b>0002</b>	Hospitalist Physician Services Contract Period: Option 1 POP Begin: 01-16-2024 POP End: 01-15-2025 PRINCIPAL NAICS CODE: 621111 - Offices of Physicians (except Mental Health Specialists) PRODUCT/SERVICE CODE: Q201 - Medical - General Health Care	1,194.00	HR		
<b>0002AA</b>	LIN 1001: Basis for Estimated Unit (hourly) rate: The estimate for this LIN is based on the price per hour of the previous contract times the escalation rate.  The government has established a specified quantity/amount and is only obligated to make payment for services that are rendered and/or received. No payment will be provided for any services not received.  Contract Period: Option 1 POP Begin: 01-16-2024 POP End: 01-15-2025 PRINCIPAL NAICS CODE: 621111 - Offices of Physicians (except Mental Health Specialists) PRODUCT/SERVICE CODE: Q201 - Medical - General Health Care	1,092.00	HR	_____	_____
<b>0002AB</b>	LIN 1002: Training and Administrative Basis for Estimated Unit: The estimate for this LIN is based on the price per hour of the previous contract times the escalation rate. The number of hours is based on the identified trainings and administrative meetings required in the Performance Work Statement.	102.00	HR	_____	_____

ITEM NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLIES/SERVICES	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
	<p>The government has established a specified quantity/amount and is only obligated to make payment for services that are rendered and/or received. No payment will be provided for any services not received.</p> <p>Contract Period: Option 1  POP Begin: 01-16-2024  POP End: 01-15-2025  PRINCIPAL NAICS CODE: 621111 - Offices of Physicians  (except Mental Health Specialists)  PRODUCT/SERVICE CODE: Q201 - Medical - General Health  Care</p>				

**TOTAL COST FOR OPTION PERIOD 1:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL CONTRACT COST:** \_\_\_\_\_

## B.5 PERFORMANCE WORK STATEMENT

### Onsite Hospitalist Physician Services

#### 1. **GENERAL:**

- 1.1. Services Provided: The Contractor shall provide Board Certified/Board Eligible Inpatient Hospitalist Physician Services on site in accordance with the specifications contained herein to beneficiaries of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Fargo VA Health Care System (VAHCS). A contractor providing onsite hospitalist physician services that meet or exceed the American College of Hospitalist Physicians (AAFP). <http://www.AAFP.org>
- 1.2. Place of Performance - Contractor shall furnish services at the Fargo VAHCS 2101 N Elm Street Fargo ND 58102
- 1.3. Authority: Title 38 USC 8153, Health Care Resources (HCR) Sharing Authority.
- 1.4. Policy/Handbooks: the contractor shall be subject to the following policies, including any subsequent updates during the period of performance:
  - 1.4.1. - VA Directive 1663: Health Care Resources Contracting - Buying [http://www1.va.gov/vapubs/viewPublication.asp?Pub\\_ID=347](http://www1.va.gov/vapubs/viewPublication.asp?Pub_ID=347)
  - 1.4.2. VHA Directive 2006-041 "Veterans' Health Care Service Standards" (expired but still in effect pending revision) [https://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=1443](https://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1443)
  - 1.4.3. - VHA Handbook 1100.17: National Practitioner Data Bank Reports - [http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=2135](http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=2135)
  - 1.4.4. - VHA Handbook 1100.18 Reporting And Responding To State Licensing Boards - [http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=1364](http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1364)
  - 1.4.5. - VHA Handbook 1100.19 Credentialing and Privileging - [http://www.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=2910](http://www.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=2910)
  - 1.4.6. VHA Handbook 1907.01 Health Information Management and Health Records: [http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=2791](http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=2791)
  - 1.4.7. - Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) as amended [http://www.justice.gov/oip/foia\\_updates/Vol\\_XVII\\_4/page2.htm](http://www.justice.gov/oip/foia_updates/Vol_XVII_4/page2.htm)
- 1.5. Definitions/Acronyms- Terms used in this contract shall be interpreted as follows unless the context expressly requires a different construction and/or interpretation. In case of a conflict in language between the Definitions and other sections of this contract, the language in this section shall govern.
  - 1.5.1. ABIM: American Board of Internal Medicine <http://www.abim.org/>
  - 1.5.2. ACGME: Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education
  - 1.5.3. ACLS: Advanced Cardiac Life Support
  - 1.5.4. ATLS: Advanced Trauma Life Support
  - 1.5.5. AOD: Admitting Officer of the Day
  - 1.5.6. BLS: Basic Life Support
  - 1.5.7. CCNE: Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education: [www.aacn.nche.edu/accreditation](http://www.aacn.nche.edu/accreditation)
  - 1.5.8. CDC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
  - 1.5.9. CR: Contract Discrepancy Report
  - 1.5.10. CEU: Certified Education Unit
  - 1.5.11. CME: Continuing Medical Education
  - 1.5.12. CMS: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

- 1.5.13. Contracting Officer (CO) – The person executing this contract on behalf of the Government with the authority to enter into and administer contracts and make related determinations and findings.
- 1.5.14. Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) – A person appointed by the CO to take necessary action to ensure the Contractor performs in accordance with and adheres to the specifications contained in the contract and to protect the interest of the Government. The COR shall report to the CO promptly any indication of non-compliance in order that appropriate action can be taken.
- 1.5.15. COS: Chief of Staff
- 1.5.16. CPARS: Contractor Performance Assessment Reporting System
- 1.5.17. CPRS: Computerized Patient Recordkeeping System- electronic health record system used by the VA.
- 1.5.18. Credentialing: Credentialing is the systematic process of screening and evaluating qualification and other credentials, including licensure, required education, relevant training and experience and current competence and health status.
- 1.5.19. DEA: Drug Enforcement Agency
- 1.5.20. ED: Hospitalist
- 1.5.21. FSMB: Federation of State Medical Boards
- 1.5.22. HHS: Department of Health and Human Services
- 1.5.23. HIPAA: Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
- 1.5.24. HR: Human Resources
- 1.5.25. ISO: Information Security Officer
- 1.5.26. Medical Emergency - a sudden onset of a medical condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity that the absence of immediate medical attention could reasonably result in: Permanently placing a patient's health in jeopardy, causing other serious medical consequences, causing impairments to body functions, or Causing serious or permanent dysfunction of any body-organ or part.
- 1.5.27. MOD: Medical Officer of the Day
- 1.5.28. National Provider Identifier (NPI): NPI is a standard, unique 10-digit numeric identifier required by HIPAA. The Veterans Health Administration must use NPIs in all HIPAA-standard electronic transactions for individual (health care practitioners) and organizational entities (medical centers).
- 1.5.29. NLNAC: National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission. [www.nlnac.org](http://www.nlnac.org)
- 1.5.30. Non-Contract Provider - any person, organization, agency, or entity that is not directly or indirectly employed by the Contractor or any of its subcontractors
- 1.5.31. NP: Nurse Practitioner
- 1.5.32. NPPES: National Plan and Provider Enumeration System
- 1.5.33. PA: Physician Assistant
- 1.5.34. PALS: Pediatric Advanced Life Support
- 1.5.35. POP: Period of Performance
- 1.5.36. PPD: Purified Protein Derivative
- 1.5.37. PWS: Performance Work Statement
- 1.5.38. Privileging (Clinical Privileging): Privileging is the process by which a practitioner, licensed for independent practice; e.g., without supervision, direction, required sponsor, preceptor, mandatory collaboration, etc.; is permitted by law and the facility to practice independently, to provide specific medical or other patient care services within the scope of the individual's license, based upon the individual's clinical competence as determined by peer references, professional experience, health status, education, training and licensure. Clinical privileges must be facility-specific and provider-specific.

- 1.5.39. QA/QI: Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement
- 1.5.40. QM/PI: Quality Management/Performance Improvement
- 1.5.41. QASP: Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan
- 1.5.42. Veterans Health Administration (VHA): The central office for administration of the VA medical centers through throughout the United States. The VHA is located in Washington, D.C.
- 1.5.43. Veterans Integrated Services Network (VISN) : The regional oversight for the VA medical centers.
- 1.5.44. VISTA (Veterans Integrated Systems Technology Architecture) : A PC based system that will capture and store clinical imagery, scanned documents and other non-textual data files and integrates them into patient's medical record and with the hospital information system.
- 1.5.45. VetPro: a federal web-based credentialing program for healthcare providers.
- 1.5.46. Fargo Veterans Affairs Health Care System (VAHCS) : Unless identified with the name of a different site, the Fargo Veterans Affairs Health Care System, for purposes of this contract, this term shall mean the Fargo Veterans Affairs Health Care System, based in Fargo, ND.

## 2. QUALIFICATIONS:

### 2.1. Staff/Facility

- 2.1.1. License – The Contractor's physician (s) assigned by the Contractor to perform the services covered by this contract shall have a current license to practice medicine in any State, Territory, or Commonwealth of the United States or the District of Columbia) when services are performed onsite on VA property.  
All licenses held by the personnel working on this contract shall be full and unrestricted licenses. Contractor's physician (s) who have current, full and unrestricted licenses in one or more states, but who have, or ever had, a license restricted, suspended, revoked, voluntarily revoked, voluntarily surrendered pending action or denied upon application will not be considered for the purposes of this contract.
- 2.1.2. Board Certification and Experience - All contractor's physician (s) shall be Board Certified/Board Eligible in Internal and or Family Medicine with work experience as a Hospitalist and, have experience in providing scope of care as described and be currently certified in Basic Life Support (BLS) Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) or equivalency All continuing education courses required for maintaining certification must be kept up to date at all times. Documentation verifying current certification shall be provided by the Contractor to the VA COR on an annual basis for each year of contract performance.
- 2.1.3. Credentialing and Privileging –Credentialing and privileging is to be done in accordance with the provisions of VHA Handbook 1100.19 referenced above. The Contractor is responsible to ensure that proposed physician(s) possesses the requisite credentials enabling the granting of privileges. No services shall be provided by any contractor's physician (s) prior to obtaining approval by the Fargo VAHCS Professional Standards Board, Medical Executive Board and Medical Center Director.
  - 2.1.3.1. If a contractor's physician (s) is not credentialed and privileged or has credentials/privileges suspended or revoked, the Contractor shall furnish an acceptable substitute without any additional cost to the government.



- 2.1.4. Technical Proficiency - Contractor's physician (s) shall be technically proficient in the skills necessary to fulfill the government's requirements, including the ability to speak, understand, read and write English fluently. Contractor shall provide documents upon request of the CO/COR to verify current and ongoing competency, skills, certification and/or licensure related to the provision of care, treatment and/or services performed. Contractor shall provide verifiable evidence of all educational and training experiences including any gaps in educational history for all contractor's physician (s) and contractor's physician (s) shall be responsible for abiding by the Facility's Medical Staff By-Laws, rules, and regulations (referenced herein) that govern medical staff behavior.
- 2.1.5. Continuing Medical Education (CME)/ Certified Education Unit (CEU) Requirements: Contractor shall provide the COR copies of current CMEs as required or requested by the VAMC. Contractor's physician (s) registered or certified by national/medical associations shall continue to meet the minimum standards for CME to remain current. Contractor shall report CME hours to the credentials office for tracking. These documents are required for both privileging and re-privileging. Failure to provide shall result in loss of privileges for contract physician(s).
- 2.1.6. Training (ACLS, BLS, CPRS and VA MANDATORY): Contractor shall meet all VA educational requirements and mandatory course requirements defined herein; all training must be completed by the contractor's physician (s) as required by the VA. List all Training required here (TMS courses, CPRS, etc.) and associated time. Remove this instruction from final RFP.

Training	Frequency	Annual Hours
Active Threat Training	Annually	1 Hour
Blood Administration: Complications	Annually	1 Hour
Blood Administration: Administration ( <i>all contract employees who administer blood components</i> )	Annually	1 Hour
Government Ethics	Annually	1 Hour
Hospice and Palliative Care for VA Clinicians	Annually	4 Hour
Military Sexual Trauma (MST) for Medical Providers	Annually	1 Hour
Moderate Sedation In-Service Training	Annually	2 Hours
Prevention of Workplace Harassment/No Fear Act	Annually	2 Hours
VA Core Values Training ( <i>ICARE Recommitment</i> )	Annually	1 Hour
VA Privacy and Information Security Awareness and Rules of Behavior	Annually	1 Hour
VHA Privacy and HIPAA Focused Training	Annually	1 Hour
Patient Safety	Annually	1 Hour
Patient Abuse	Annually	1 Hour
Patient Rights	Annually	1 Hour
Prevention/Management of Disruptive Behavior/Violence Prevention Level I	Annually	4 Hours
Suicide Prevention: Suicide Risk Management Training for Clinicians	Annually	2 Hours
General Infection Control	Annually	1 Hour
CPRS and EDIS	Annually	1 Hour
VISTA Imaging	Annually	1 Hour

Joint Patient Safety Reporting (JPSR)	Annually	1 Hour
VHA MRI Safety Training Level 1 Training (All who enter MRI suites)	Annually	1 Hour

- 2.1.7. Standard Personnel Testing (PPD, etc.) and Physical: Contractor shall provide proof of current physician physical and the following tests for physicians within five (5) calendar days after contract award and prior to the first duty shift to the COR and Contracting Officer. Tests shall be current within the past year.
- 2.1.7.1. TUBERCULOSIS TESTING: Contractor shall provide proof of a negative reaction to PPD testing for all contractor's physician (s). A negative chest radiographic report for active tuberculosis shall be provided in cases of positive PPD results. The PPD test shall be repeated annually.
- 2.1.7.2. RUBELLA TESTING: Contractor shall provide proof of immunization for all contractor's physician (s) for measles, mumps, rubella or a rubella titer of 1.8 or greater. If the titer is less than 1.8, a rubella immunization shall be administered with follow-up documentation to the COR.
- 2.1.7.3. OSHA REGULATION CONCERNING OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE TO BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS: Contractor shall provide generic self-study training for all contractor's physician (s); provide their own Hepatitis B vaccination series at no cost to the VA if they elect to receive it; maintain an exposure determination and control plan; maintain required records; and ensure that proper follow-up evaluation is provided following an exposure incident. The VAMC shall notify the Contractor of any significant communicable disease exposures as appropriate. Contractor shall adhere to current CDC/HICPAC Guideline for Infection Control in health care personnel (as published in American Journal for Infection Control- AJIC 1998; 26:289-354 <http://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/pdf/InfectControl98.pdf>) for disease control. Contractor shall provide follow up documentation of clearance to return to the workplace prior to their return.
- 2.1.7.4. INFLUENZA: Contractors shall provide proof that all Contractor physicians have received the annual Influenza vaccine unless it is contraindicated. If the Contractor physician has a medical contraindication to the vaccine they shall be required to wear a mask during the Influenza season. {This is applicable to all health care workers}.
- 2.1.7.5. COVID-19: Contractors shall comply with VHA Supplemental Contract Requirements for Combatting COVID-19 {This is applicable to all health care workers}.

#### **VHA Supplemental Contract Requirements for Combatting COVID-19**

### **1. Contractor employees who work in or travel to VHA locations must comply with the following:**

- (5) Documentation requirements:
- (a) If fully vaccinated, contractors shall show proof of vaccination.
- i. **NOTE:** *Acceptable proof of vaccination includes a signed record of immunization from a health care provider or pharmacy, a copy of the COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card (CDC Form MLS-319813\_r, published on September 3, 2020), or a copy of medical records documenting the vaccination.*
- (b) If unvaccinated, contractors shall show negative COVID-19 test results dated within three calendar days prior to desired entry date. Test must be approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for emergency use or full approval. This includes tests available by a doctor's order or an FDA approved over-the-counter test that includes an affiliated telehealth service.

- (c) Documentation cited in this section shall be digitally or physically maintained on each contractor employee while in a VA facility and is subject to inspection prior to entry to VA facilities and after entry for spot inspections by Contracting Officer Representatives (CORs) or other hospital personnel.
  - (d) Documentation will not be collected by the VA; contractors shall, at all times, adhere to and ensure compliance with federal laws designed to protect contractor employee health information and personally identifiable information.
2. **Contractor employees are subject to daily screening for COVID-19 and may be denied entry to VA facilities if they fail to pass screening protocols. As part of the screening process contractors may be asked screening questions found on the [COVID-19 Screening Tool](#). Check regularly for updates.**
    - a. Contractor employees who work away from VA locations, but who will have direct contact with VA patients shall self-screen utilizing the [COVID-19 Screening Tool](#), in advance, each day that they will have direct patient contact and in accordance with their person or persons who coordinate COVID-19 workplace safety efforts at covered contractor workplaces. Contractors shall, at all times, adhere to and ensure compliance with federal laws designed to protect contractor employee health information and personally identifiable information.
  3. **Contractor must immediately notify their COR or Contracting Officer if contract performance is jeopardized due to contractor employees being denied entry into VA Facilities.**
  4. **For indefinite delivery contracts: Contractor agrees to comply with VHA Supplemental Contract Requirements for any task or delivery orders issued prior to this modification when performance has already commenced. National Provider Identifier (NPI):** NPI is a standard, unique 10-digit numeric identifier required by HIPAA. The Veterans Health Administration must use NPIs in all HIPAA-standard electronic transactions for individual (health care practitioners) and organizational entities (medical centers). The Contractor shall have or obtain appropriate NPI and if pertinent the Taxonomy Code confirmation notice issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) be provided to the Contracting Officer with the proposal.
    - 2.1.8. DEA - Contractor shall provide copy of current DEA certificate.
    - 2.1.9. Conflict of Interest: The Contractor and all contractor's physician (s) are responsible for identifying and communicating to the CO and COR conflicts of interest at the time of proposal and during the entirety of contract performance. At the time of proposal, the Contractor shall provide a statement which describes, in a concise manner, all relevant facts concerning any past, present, or currently planned interest (financial, contractual, organizational, or otherwise) or actual or potential organizational conflicts of interest relating to the services to be provided. The Contractor shall also provide statements containing the same information for any identified consultants or subcontractors who shall provide services. The Contractor must also provide relevant facts that show how it's organizational and/or management system or other actions would avoid or mitigate any actual or potential organizational conflicts of interest. These statements shall be in response to the VAAR provision 852.209-70 Organizational Conflicts of Interest (Jan 2008) and fully outlined in response to the subject attachment in Section D of the solicitation document.
    - 2.1.10. Citizenship related Requirements:

- 2.1.10.1. The Contractor certifies that the Contractor shall comply with any and all legal provisions contained in the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, As Amended; its related laws and regulations that are enforced by Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the U.S Department of Labor as these may relate to non-immigrant foreign nationals working under contract or subcontract for the Contractor while providing services to Department of Veterans Affairs patient referrals;
- 2.1.10.2. While performing services for the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Contractor shall not knowingly employ, contract or subcontract with an illegal alien; foreign national non-immigrant who is in violation their status, as a result of their failure to maintain or comply with the terms and conditions of their admission into the United States. Additionally, the Contractor is required to comply with all "E-Verify" requirements consistent with "Executive Order 12989" and any related pertinent Amendments, as well as applicable Federal Acquisition Regulations.
- 2.1.10.3. If the Contractor fails to comply with any requirements outlined in the preceding paragraphs or its Agency regulations, the Department of Veterans Affairs may, at its discretion, require that the foreign national who failed to maintain their legal status in the United States or otherwise failed to comply with the requirements of the laws administered by Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the U.S Department of Labor, shall be prohibited from working at the Contractor's place of business that services Department of Veterans Affairs patient referrals; or other place where the Contractor provides services to veterans who have been referred by the Department of Veterans Affairs; and shall form the basis for termination of this contract for breach.
- 2.1.10.4. This certification concerns a matter within the jurisdiction of an agency of the United States and the making of a false, fictitious, or fraudulent certification may render the maker subject to prosecution under 18 U.S.C. 1001.
- 2.1.10.5. The Contractor agrees to obtain a similar certification from its subcontractors. The certification shall be made as part of the offerors response to the RFP using the subject attachment in Section D of the solicitation document.
- 2.1.11. Annual Office of Inspector General (OIG) Statement: In accordance with HIPAA and the Balanced Budget Act (BBA) of 1977, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG) has established a list of parties and entities excluded from Federal health care programs. Specifically, the listed parties and entities may not receive Federal Health Care program payments due to fraud and/or abuse of the Medicare and Medicaid programs.
  - 2.1.11.1. Therefore, Contractor shall review the HHS OIG List of Excluded Individuals/Entities on the HHS OIG web site at <http://oig.hhs.gov/exclusions/index.asp> to ensure that the proposed contractor's physician (s) are not listed. Contractor should note that any excluded individual or entity that submits a claim for reimbursement to a Federal health care program, or causes such a claim to be submitted, may be subject to a Civil Monetary Penalty (CMP) for each item or service furnished during a period that the person was excluded and may also be subject to treble damages for the amount claimed for each item or service. CMP's may also be imposed against the Contractor that employ or enter into contracts with excluded individuals to provide items or services to Federal program beneficiaries.
  - 2.1.11.2. By submitting their proposal, the Contractor certifies that the HHS OIG List of Excluded Individuals/Entities has been reviewed and that the Contractors are and/or firm is not listed as of the date the offer/bid was signed.

- 2.2. Clinical/Professional Performance: The qualifications of Contractor personnel are subject to review by VA Medical Center COS or his/her clinical designee and approval by the Medical Center Director as provided in VHA Handbook 1100.19. Clinical/Professional performance monitoring and review of all clinical personnel covered by this contract for quality purposes will be provided by the VAMC COS and/or the Chief of the Service or his designee. A clinical COR may be appointed, however, only the CO is authorized to consider any contract modification request and/or make changes to the contract during the administration of the resultant contract.
- 2.3. Non Personal Healthcare Services: The parties agree that the Contractor and all contractor's physician (s) shall not be considered VA employees for any purpose.
- 2.4. Indemnification: The Contractor shall be liable for, and shall indemnify and hold harmless the Government against, all actions or claims for loss of or damage to property or the injury or death of persons, arising out of or resulting from the fault, negligence, or act or omission of the Contractor, its agents, or employees.
- 2.5. Prohibition Against Self-Referral: Contractor's physicians are prohibited from referring VA patients to contractor's or their own practice(s).
- 2.6. Inherent Government Functions: Contractor and Contractor's physician (s) shall not perform inherently governmental functions. This includes, but is not limited to, determination of agency policy, determination of Federal program priorities for budget requests, direction and control of government employees (outside a clinical context), selection or non-selection of individuals for Federal Government employment including the interviewing of individuals for employment, approval of position descriptions and performance standards for Federal employees, approving any contractual documents, approval of Federal licensing actions and inspections, and/or determination of budget policy, guidance, and strategy.
- 2.7. No Employee status: The Contractor shall be responsible for protecting Contractor's physician (s) furnishing services. To carry out this responsibility, the Contractor shall provide or certify that the following is provided for all their staff providing services under the resultant contract:
- 2.7.1. Workers' compensation
  - 2.7.2. Professional liability insurance
  - 2.7.3. Health examinations
  - 2.7.4. Income tax withholding, and
  - 2.7.5. Social security payments.
- 2.8. Tort Liability: The Federal Tort Claims Act does not cover Contractor or contract physician(s). When a Contractor or contractor's physician (s) has been identified as a provider in a tort claim, the Contractor shall be responsible for notifying their legal counsel and/or insurance carrier. Any settlement or judgment arising from a Contractor's (or contract physician(s)) action or non-action shall be the responsibility of the Contractor and/or insurance carrier.
- 2.9. Key Personnel:
- 2.9.1. The VA Full Time Equivalency (FTE) for the services required is .5 FTE. A hospitalist FTE is defined as 84 hours every month and does not include holidays. The 84 requirement is expressed as follows: Seven 12-hour shifts per month = 84 hours. Shifts are either 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. (Day shift) or 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. (Night shift). The shift to be worked will be dependent on the VA HCS FTE scheduled for coverage at any given time.
  - 2.9.2. The number of Board Certified/Board eligible Hospitalist physicians required to be on site on a daily basis is two during the day shift, and one during the night shift, as defined in paragraph Hours of Operation in this section. This number of physicians is a combination of contract and permanent Fargo VAHCS staff.
  - 2.9.3. It is essential that continuity of services is maintained to the maximum degree possible, hence, substitution of contractor provided physicians shall be limited to urgent/emergent absences of approved, assigned providers. The Contractor shall

be responsible for providing coverage to the VA during periods of vacancies of the Contractor's personnel due to sick leave, personal leave, vacations and additional coverage as required

2.10. Personnel Substitutions:

- 2.10.1. During the first ninety (90) calendar days of performance, the Contractor shall make NO substitutions of key personnel unless the substitution is necessitated by illness, death or termination of employment. The Contractor shall notify the CO, in writing, within 7 day(s) after the occurrence of any of these events and provide the information required below. After 90 days, the Contractor shall submit the information required below to the CO at least 7 calendar days prior to making any permanent substitutions. The Contractor shall provide a detailed explanation of the circumstances necessitating the proposed substitutions, complete resumes for the proposed substitutes, and any additional information requested by the CO. Proposed substitutes shall have comparable qualifications to those of the persons being replaced. The CO will notify the Contractor within 7 calendar days after receipt of all required information of the decision on the proposed substitutes. The contract will be modified to reflect any approved changes of key personnel
- 2.10.2. For temporary substitutions where the key person shall not be reporting to work for three consecutive work days or more, the Contractor shall provide a qualified replacement for the key person. The substitute shall have comparable qualifications to the key person. Any period exceeding two weeks will require the procedure as stated above.
- 2.10.3. The Government reserves the right to refuse acceptance of any Contractor personnel at any time after performance begins, if personal or professional conduct jeopardizes patient care or interferes with the regular and ordinary operation of the facility. Breaches of conduct include intoxication or debilitation resulting from drug use, theft, patient abuse, dereliction or negligence in performing directed tasks, or other conduct resulting in formal complaints by patient or other staff members to designated Government representatives. Standards for conduct shall mirror those prescribed by current federal personnel regulations. Should the VA COS or designee show documented clinical problems or continual unprofessional behavior/actions with any contract physician(s), s/he may request, without cause, immediate replacement of said contract physician(s).
- 2.10.4. The CO and COR shall deal with issues raised concerning Contract physician(s) conduct. The final arbiter on questions of acceptability is the CO.

2.11. Contingency Plan:

- 2.12. Because continuity of care is an essential part of VAMC's medical services, The Contractor shall have a contingency plan in place to be utilized if the contract physician(s) leaves Contractor's employment or is unable to continue performance in accordance with the terms and conditions of the resulting contract.

**3. HOURS OF OPERATION**

- 3.1. **VA Business Hours:** The Fargo VA Health Care System's administrative offices, clinics and the Operating Room general hours of operation are Monday through Friday 8am – 4:30pm, including Federal Holidays.
  - 3.1.1. Fargo VA HCS Hospitalist Services are 24/7. There are two 12 hour shift periods (7AM to 7PM and 7PM to 7AM).
  - 3.1.2. Patients must be seen by a contractor's physician(s) on-site at the Fargo VAMC in a timely manner in accordance with VA Rules and Regulations on wait times and consult completion. Contractor shall notify the COR at least monthly about any obstacles to meeting this performance measure.

- 3.1.3. Contractor's Physician(s) shall be available to be scheduled to work during all hours of operation of the Hospitalist Services or as required by the facility Chief of Staff or designee. This includes shifts that fall on Federal Holidays.

#### **4. CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 4.1. Clinical Personnel Required: The Contractor shall provide contractor's physician (s) who are competent, qualified per this performance work statement and adequately trained to perform assigned duties.
- 4.1.0. Contractor's physician (s) shall be responsible for signing in and out when in attendance. Time sheets will be used by the COR to confirm hours/day and services provided against the contractor's invoices.
- 4.2. Standards of Care: The contractor's physician (s)' care shall cover the range of Hospitalist services as would be provided in a state-of-the-art health care treatment facility and the standard of care shall be of a quality, meeting or exceeding currently recognized national standards as established by:
- 4.2.0. The Society of Hospital Medicine (<http://www.hospitalmedicine.org>) would be the most reasonable replacements.
- 4.2.1. The American Board of Internal Medicine <http://www.abim.org/>
- 4.2.2. VA Standards: VHA Directive 2006-041 "Veterans' Health Care Service Standards" (expired but still in effect pending revision) [https://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=1443](https://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1443)
- 4.2.3. The professional standards of the The Joint Commission (TJC) <http://www.jointcommission.org/>
- 4.2.4. The standards of the American Hospital Association (AHA) <http://www.hpoe.org/resources?show=100&type=8> and;
- 4.2.5. The requirements contained in this PWS
- 4.3. **MEDICAL RECORDS**
- 4.3.0. Authorities: Contractor's physician (s) providing healthcare services to VA patients shall be considered as part of the Department Healthcare Activity and shall comply with the U.S.C.551a (Privacy Act), 38 U.S.C. 5701 (Confidentiality of claimants records), 5 U.S.C. 552 (FOIA), 38 U.S.C. 5705 (Confidentiality of Medical Quality Assurance Records) 38 U.S.C. 7332 (Confidentiality of certain medical records), Title 5 U.S.C. § 522a (Records Maintained on Individuals) as well as 45 C.F.R. Parts 160, 162, and 164 (HIPAA).
- 4.3.1. HIPAA: This contract and its requirements meet exception in 45 CFR 164.502(e), and do not require a BAA in order for Covered Entity to disclose Protected Health Information to: a health care provider for treatment. Based on this exception, a BAA is not required for this contract. Treatment and administrative patient records generated by this contract or provided to the Contractors by the VA are covered by the VA system of records entitled 'Patient Medical Records-VA' (24VA19). Contractor generated VA Patient records are the property of the VA and shall not be accessed, released, transferred, or destroyed except in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. Contractor shall ensure that all records pertaining to medical care and services are available for immediate transmission when requested by the VA. Records identified for review, audit, or evaluation by VA representatives and authorized federal and state officials, shall be accessed on-site during normal business hours or mailed by the Contractor at his expense. Contractor shall deliver all final patient records, correspondence, and notes to the VA within twenty-one (21) calendar days after the contract expiration date.
- 4.3.2. Disclosure: Contractor's physician (s) may have access to patient medical records: however, Contractor shall obtain permission from the VA before disclosing any patient information. Subject to applicable federal confidentiality or privacy laws, the Contractor, or their designated representatives, and designated



representatives of federal regulatory agencies having jurisdiction over Contractor, may have access to VA 's records, at VA's place of business on request during normal business hours, to inspect and review and make copies of such records. The VA will provide the Contractor with a copy of VHA Handbook 1907.1, Health Information management and Health Records and VHA Handbook 1605.1, Privacy and Release of Information. The penalties and liabilities for the unauthorized disclosure of VA patient information mandated by the statutes and regulations mentioned above, apply to the Contractor.

- 4.3.3. Professional Standards for Documenting Care: Care shall be appropriately documented in medical records in accordance with standard commercial practice and guidelines established by VHA Handbook 1907.01 *Health Information Management and Health Records*: [http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub\\_ID=2791](http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=2791) and all guidelines provided by the VAMC.

- 4.3.4. Release of Information: The VA shall maintain control of releasing any patient medical information and will follow policies and standards as defined, but not limited to Privacy Act requirements. In the case of the VA authorizing the Contractor to release patient information, the Contractor in compliance with VA regulations, and at his/her own expense, shall use VA Form 3288, Request for and Consent to Release of Information from Individual's Records, to process "Release of Information Requests." In addition, the Contractor shall be responsible for locating and forwarding records not kept at their facility. The VA's Release of Information Section shall provide the Contractor with assistance in completing forms. Additionally, the Contractor shall use VA Form 10-5345, Request for and Authorization to Release Medical Records or Health Information, when releasing records protected by 38 U.S.C. 7332. Treatment and release records shall include the patient's consent form. Completed Release of Information requests will be forwarded to the VA Privacy Officer at the following address:

Rhonda Cross

Privacy/FOIA Officer

Fargo VA HCS

FAX: 701-239-3705

Office: (701) 239-3700 ext. 3978

4.4. Direct Patient Care: estimated 95%

- 4.4.0. Per the qualification section of this PWS, the Contractor shall provide the following staff:

- 4.4.0.1. Board Certified /Board Eligible 2 FTE Hospitalist Physicians

- 4.4.1. Scope of Care: Contractor's physician (s) (as appropriate and within scope of practice/privileging) shall be responsible for providing Hospitalist care, including, but not limited to :

- 4.4.1.1. Evaluation, Treatment and Management: Contractor's physicians shall admit and coordinate all aspects of care for hospitalized medical patients including:

- 4.4.1.1.1. Admission, including history and physical examinations
- 4.4.1.1.2. Appropriate placement within the Hospital
- 4.4.1.1.3. Evaluation and treatment, including the ordering and interpretation of diagnostic studies, including laboratory, diagnostic imaging, and electrocardiographic examinations, and the administration of medications normally considered part of the practice of hospitalist medicine.
- 4.4.1.1.4. Discussion of end of life preferences/advanced care planning
- 4.4.1.1.5. Consultations with sub-specialists
- 4.4.1.1.6. Timely and proactive discharge planning
- 4.4.1.1.7. Coordination of care with primary care physician



- 4.4.1.1.8. Discharge including ensuring appropriate follow-up is arranged
- 4.4.1.1.9. This may include perioperative care but generally excludes preoperative assessments of patients for determination of fitness for surgery.
- 4.4.1.2. Contractor's physicians shall provide care to patients in critical/acute care settings in conformance with VA policies. Contractor's physicians shall assess, stabilize, and determine the disposition of inpatients with emergent conditions consistent with medical staff policy regarding emergency and consultative call services. This includes running code teams and rapid response teams.
- 4.4.1.3. The core privileges in this specialty include the procedures on the procedures list (below) and such other procedures that are extensions of the same techniques and skills. This is not intended to be an all-encompassing procedures list. It defines the types of activities/procedures/privileges that the majority of practitioners in this specialty perform at the VA and inherent activities/procedures/privileges requiring similar skill sets and techniques.
  - 4.4.1.3.1. Integumentary Procedures
    - 4.4.1.3.1.1. Abscess incision and drainage
    - 4.4.1.3.1.2. Wound debridement
    - 4.4.1.3.1.3. Insertion of sutures; simple, mattress, and subcuticular Wound closure
    - 4.4.1.3.1.4. Skin biopsy; shave, punch, and excisional
    - 4.4.1.3.1.5. Excision of dermal lesions, e.g., papilloma, nevus, or cyst Cryotherapy of skin lesions
    - 4.4.1.3.1.6. Electrocautery of skin lesions
    - 4.4.1.3.1.7. Skin scraping for fungus determination
    - 4.4.1.3.1.8. Use of Wood's lamp
    - 4.4.1.3.1.9. Release subungual hematoma
    - 4.4.1.3.1.10. Drainage acute paronychia
    - 4.4.1.3.1.11. Partial toenail removal
    - 4.4.1.3.1.12. Wedge excision for ingrown toenail
    - 4.4.1.3.1.13. Removal of foreign body, e.g., fish hook, splinter, or glass Pare skin callus
  - 4.4.1.3.2. Local Anesthetic Procedures
    - 4.4.1.3.2.1. Infiltration of local anesthetic Digital block in finger or toe
  - 4.4.1.3.3. Eye Procedures
    - 4.4.1.3.3.1. Instillation of fluorescein
    - 4.4.1.3.3.2. Slit lamp examination
    - 4.4.1.3.3.3. Removal of corneal or conjunctival foreign body
    - 4.4.1.3.3.4. Application of eye patch
  - 4.4.1.3.4. Ear Procedures
    - 4.4.1.3.4.1. Removal of cerumen
    - 4.4.1.3.4.2. Removal of foreign body
  - 4.4.1.3.5. Nose Procedures
    - 4.4.1.3.5.1. Removal of foreign body
    - 4.4.1.3.5.2. Cautery for anterior epistaxis
    - 4.4.1.3.5.3. Anterior nasal packing
  - 4.4.1.3.6. Cardiothoracic Procedures
    - 4.4.1.3.6.1. Removal of chest tube
    - 4.4.1.3.6.2. Thoracentesis
  - 4.4.1.3.7. Gastrointestinal Procedures
    - 4.4.1.3.7.1. Nasogastric tube insertion
    - 4.4.1.3.7.2. Reinsertion of gastric tube
    - 4.4.1.3.7.3. Fecal occult blood testing

- 4.4.1.3.7.4. Anoscopy/proctoscopy
  - 4.4.1.3.7.5. Incise and drain thrombosed external hemorrhoid
  - 4.4.1.3.7.6. Paracentesis
  - 4.4.1.3.8. Genitourinary and Women's Health Procedures
    - 4.4.1.3.8.1. Placement of transurethral catheter
    - 4.4.1.3.8.2. Reestablishment of suprapubic catheter
    - 4.4.1.3.8.3. Cryotherapy or chemical therapy genital warts
    - 4.4.1.3.8.4. Aspirate breast cyst
    - 4.4.1.3.8.5. Pap smear
  - 4.4.1.3.9. Musculoskeletal Procedures
    - 4.4.1.3.9.1. Splinting of injured extremities
    - 4.4.1.3.9.2. Application of sling—upper extremity
    - 4.4.1.3.9.3. Reduction of dislocated finger
    - 4.4.1.3.9.4. Reduce dislocated radial head (pulled elbow)
    - 4.4.1.3.9.5. Reduce dislocated shoulder
    - 4.4.1.3.9.6. Application of forearm cast
    - 4.4.1.3.9.7. Application of ulnar gutter splint
    - 4.4.1.3.9.8. Application of below-knee cast
    - 4.4.1.3.9.9. Aspiration and injection of joints except ankle and hip  
Injection of lateral epicondyle (tennis elbow)
    - 4.4.1.3.9.10. Aspiration and injection of bursae, e.g., patellar,  
subacromial
  - 4.4.1.3.10. Resuscitation Procedures
    - 4.4.1.3.10.1. All ACLS procedures
    - 4.4.1.3.10.2. Removal of lines and tubes
  - 4.4.1.3.11. Other
    - 4.4.1.3.11.1. Lumbar Puncture
- 4.4.1.4. Clinic: Contractor's physician (s) shall be present on-time for any scheduled clinics as documented by physical presence in the clinic at the scheduled start time.
- 4.4.1.5. Inpatient Admissions: Contractor's physician (s) shall review all admissions to inpatient hospital care recommended by Mid-level (Physician Assistant or Nurse Practitioner) provider. Every admission to inpatient care shall have a person-to-person hand-off/hand-over from the admitting Provider to a responsible member of the admitting team.
- 4.4.1.6. Consultation and Referral Responsibilities: Contractor's physician (s) shall provide consultation with and instruction to referring physicians regarding appropriate indications for procedures so that the most expeditious and clinically appropriate work-up can be done. Contractor's physician (s) shall determine the appropriate course of treatment and communicate in person or by phone with the referring clinicians.
- 4.4.1.6.1. Contractor's physician (s) shall initiate appropriate social work referrals for all identified homeless veterans and for patients who do not have primary care providers.
- 4.4.1.7. Medications: Contractor's physician (s) shall follow all established medication policies and procedures. No sample medications shall be provided to patients.
- 4.4.1.8. Discharge education: Contractor's physician (s) shall provide discharge education and follow up instructions that are coordinated with the next care setting for all Hospitalist patients.
- 4.4.2. **ADMINISTRATIVE**: estimated 5% of time not involved in direct patient care

- 4.4.2.1. Quality Improvement Meetings: The contractor's physician (s) shall participate in continuous quality improvement activities and meetings with committee participation as required by the VAMC Chief of Service, Chief of Staff, or designee.

List all meetings, associated time and frequency.

Meeting	Frequency	Annual Hours
Quality Improvement	Quarterly	4 Hours

- 4.4.2.2. Staff Meetings: The contractor's physician (s) shall attend staff meetings as required by the VAMC Chief of Service, Chief of Staff, or designee. Contractor to communicate with COR on this requirement and report any conflicts that may interfere with compliance with this requirement.

List all meetings, associated time and frequency.

Meeting	Frequency	Annual Hours
<i>Hospitalist Provider Meeting</i>	<i>Monthly</i>	<i>12 Hours</i>

- 4.4.2.3. QA/QI documentation: The contractor's physician (s) shall complete the appropriate QM/PI documentation pertaining to all procedures, complications and outcome of examinations.

- 4.4.2.4. Specialized CPRS Documentation Procedures: Patient documentation is completed using the Computerized Patient Record System (CPRS).

- 4.4.2.4.1. Contractor's physician (s) shall document care given and select appropriate Evaluation and Management (E&M) procedure codes in CPRS. Documentation must be sufficient to support both the E&M and procedure codes. Documentation and coding functions must be completed by the end of each patient care encounter.

- 4.4.2.5. Patient Safety Compliance and Reporting: Contractor's physician (s) shall follow all established patient safety and infection control standards of care. Contractor's physician (s) shall make every effort to prevent medication errors, falls, and patient injury caused by acts of commission or omission in the delivery of care. All events related to patient injury, medication errors, and other breeches of patient safety shall be reported to the COR VA Safety Policy. As soon as practicable (but within 24 hours) Contractors shall notify COR of incident and submit to the COR the Patient Safety Report, following up with COR as required or requested.

- 4.4.2.6. Customer Service: Contractor's physician (s) shall refer all patient/customer service issues to the Supervisory Physician and/or Nurse Manager or designee.

4.5. **PERFORMANCE STANDARDS, QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA) AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT(QI)**

- 4.5.0. Quality Management/Quality Assurance Surveillance: Contract personnel shall be subject to Quality Management measures, such as patient satisfaction surveys, timely completion of medical records, proper utilization of the VAMC Software used for patient tracking and Peer Reviews. Methods of Surveillance: Focused Provider Practice Evaluation (FPPE) and Ongoing Provider Practice Evaluation (OPPE). Contractor performance will be monitored by the government using the standards as outlined in this Performance Work Statement (PWS) and methods of surveillance detailed in the Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan (QASP). The QASP shall be attached to the resultant contract and shall define the methods and frequency of surveillance conducted.
- 4.5.1. Patient Complaints: The CO will resolve complaints concerning Contractor relations with the Government employees or patients. The CO is final authority on validating complaints. In the event that The Contractor is involved and named in a validated patient complaint, the Government reserves the right to refuse acceptance of the services of such personnel. This does not preclude refusal in the event of incidents involving physical or verbal abuse.
- 4.5.2. The Government reserves the right to refuse acceptance of any Contractor personnel at any time after performance begins, if personal or professional conduct jeopardizes patient care or interferes with the regular and ordinary operation of the facility. Breaches of conduct include intoxication or debilitation resulting from drug use, theft, patient abuse, dereliction or negligence in performing directed tasks, or other conduct resulting in formal complaints by patient or other staff members to designated Government representatives. Standards for conduct shall mirror those prescribed by current federal personnel regulations. The CO and COR shall deal with issues raised concerning Contractor's conduct. The final arbiter on questions of acceptability is the CO.
- 4.5.3. Performance Standards:
- 4.5.3.1. Measure: Provider Quality Performance  
Performance Requirement:  
Standard: OPPE documentation for all (100%) staff providing services under the contract. All staff (100%) meet Standards.  
Acceptable Quality Level: 90% meet Standards  
Surveillance Method: Periodic Inspection of OPPE chart review of CPRS documentation every 6 months by peer review.
- A. Patient Care Performance
  - B. Medical/Clinical knowledge
  - C. Practiced Based Learning and Improvement
  - D. Interpersonal and Communication Skills
  - E. Professionalism
  - F. System Based Practice
- Frequency: every 6 months
- 4.5.3.2. Measure: Qualifications of Key Personnel  
Performance Requirement: All contractor's physician (s) shall be board certified/board eligible in accordance with ABIM Standards.  
Standard: All (100%) contract physicians are board certified/board eligible.  
Acceptable Quality Level: 100%..  
Surveillance Method: Periodic Inspection of qualification documents. Hospitalist Supervisor will contact credentialing to verify current certifications  
Frequency: quarterly.

4.5.3.3. Measure: Scope of Practice/Privileging

Performance Requirement: Contractor's physician (s) perform within their individual scopes of practice/privileging.

Standard: All (100%) contractor's physician (s) perform within their scope of practice/privileges 100% of the time.

Acceptable Quality Level: 100%.contractor's physician (s) perform within their scope of practice/privileges 100% of the time.

Surveillance Method: Periodic Inspection of Patient Chart documentation.

Hospitalist Supervisor will review CPRS records

Frequency: Quarterly

4.5.3.4. Measure: Patient Access

Performance Requirement: The Contractor shall provide contractor's physician (s) in accordance with the operating hours and VA clinical schedule outlined in this PWS.

Standard: All (100%) contractor's physician (s) are on time and available to perform services.

Acceptable Quality Level: Contractor's physician (s) is on-time and available to perform services 90%.of the time

Surveillance Method: Periodic Inspection of Time and Attendance Sheets.

Hospitalist Supervisor will review and certify timesheets each contractor

Frequency: Physician Billing Cycle

4.5.3.5. Measure: Patient Safety

Performance Requirement: Patient safety incidents shall be reported using Patient Safety Report. All incidents reported immediately (within 24 hours.)

Standard: All (100%) of patient safety incidents are reported using Patient Safety Report within 24 hours of incident.

Acceptable Quality Level: 100%.of patient safety incidents are reported using Patient Safety Report within 24 hours of incident.

Surveillance Method: Periodic Inspection or Validated Customer Complaints

Hospitalist Supervisor will review CPRS records

Frequency: quarterly or as needed based on feedback from Service Line QSV

4.5.3.6. Measure: Maintains licensing, registration, and certification

Performance Requirement: Updated Licensing, registration and certification shall be provided as they are renewed. Licensing and registration information kept current.

Standard: All (100%) licensing, registration(s) and certification(s) for contractor's physician (s) shall be provided as they are renewed. Licensing and registration information kept current.

Acceptable Quality Level 100% licensing, registration(s) and certification(s) for contractor's physician (s) shall be provided as they are renewed. Licensing and registration information kept current.

Surveillance Method: Periodic Inspection. Contracted Providers recredentialed every two years. Licensing verified at time of renewal by VHA FAR Medical Staff Office

Frequency: two years.

4.5.3.7. Measure: Mandatory Training

Performance Requirement: Contractor shall complete all required training on time per VAMC policy

Standard: All (100%) of required training is complete on time by contractor's physician (s) Acceptable Quality Level: 90% completions..

Surveillance Method: Periodic Inspection or Random Sampling of TMS records by Hospitalist Supervisor and annual submission of FY Competency Form  
Frequency: Random Sampling and annual submission

4.5.3.8. Measure: Privacy, Confidentiality and HIPAA

Performance Requirement:

Standard: All (100%) contractor's physician (s) (s) comply with all laws, regulations, policies and procedures relating to Privacy, Confidentiality and HIPAA

Acceptable Quality Level: 100%.compliance; no deviations.

Surveillance Method: Periodic Inspection-Contractor shall provide evidence of annual training required by VAMC, reports violations per VA Directive 6500.6.

Frequency: Periodic Inspection

4.5.4. Registration with Contractor Performance Assessment Reporting System

- 4.5.4.1. As prescribed in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 42.15, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) evaluates Contractor past performance on all contracts that exceed \$150,000, and shares those evaluations with other Federal Government contract specialists and procurement officials. The FAR requires that the Contractor be provided an opportunity to comment on past performance evaluations prior to each report closing. To fulfill this requirement VA uses an online database, CPARS, which is maintained by the Naval Seal Logistics Center in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. CPARS has connectivity with the Past Performance Information Retrieval System (PPIRS) database, which is available to all Federal agencies. PPIRS is the system used to collect and retrieve performance assessment reports used in source selection determinations and completed CPARS report cards transferred to PPIRS. CPARS also includes access to the federal awardee performance and integrity information system (FAPIS). FAPIS is a web-enabled application accessed via CPARS for Contractor responsibility determination information.
- 4.5.4.2. Each Contractor whose contract award is estimated to exceed \$150,000 requires a CPARS evaluation. A government Focal Point will register your contract within thirty days after contract award and, at that time, you will receive an email message with a User ID (to be used when reviewing evaluations). Additional information regarding the evaluation process can be found at [www.cpars.gov](http://www.cpars.gov) or if you have any questions, you may contact the Customer Support Desk @ DSN: 684-1690 or COMM: 207-438-1690.
- 4.5.4.3. For contracts with a period of one year or less, the contracting officer will perform a single evaluation when the contract is complete. For contracts exceeding one year, the contracting officer will evaluate the Contractor's performance annually. Interim reports will be filed each year until the last year of the contract, when the final report will be completed. The report shall be assigned in CPARS to the Contractor's designated representative for comment. The Contractor representative will have sixty (60) days to submit any comments and re-assign the report to the CO.
- 4.5.4.4. Failure for the Contractor's representative to respond to the evaluation within those sixty (60) days, will result in the Government's evaluation being placed on file in the database with a statement that the Contractor failed to respond; the Contractor's representative will be "locked out" of the evaluation and may no longer send comments.

**5. GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 5.1. Contract Administration/Performance Monitoring: After award of contract, all inquiries and correspondence relative to the administration of the contract shall be addressed to:

(enter contract administration if not already listed in another area- list the title (not name) and contact information for COR, Clinical point of contact, and any other relevant personnel involved).

#### 5.1.0. CO RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 5.1.0.1. The Contracting Officer is the only person authorized to approve changes or modify any of the requirements of this contract. The Contractor shall communicate with the Contracting Officer on all matters pertaining to contract administration. Only the Contracting Officer is authorized to make commitments or issue any modification to include (but not limited to) terms affecting price, quantity or quality of performance of this contract.
- 5.1.0.2. The Contracting Officer shall resolve complaints concerning Contractor relations with the Government employees or patients. The Contracting Officer is final authority on validating complaints. In the event the Contractor effects any such change at the direction of any person other than the Contracting Officer without authority, no adjustment shall be made in the contract price to cover an increase in costs incurred as a result thereof.
- 5.1.0.3. In the event that contracted services do not meet quality and/or safety expectations, the best remedy will be implemented, to include but not limited to a targeted and time limited performance improvement plan; increased monitoring of the contracted services; consultation or training for Contractor personnel to be provided by the VA; replacement of the contract personnel and/or renegotiation of the contract terms or termination of the contract.
- 5.1.1. COR Responsibilities:
  - 5.1.1.1. The COR shall be the VA official responsible for verifying contract compliance. After contract award, any incidents of Contractor noncompliance as evidenced by the monitoring procedures shall be forwarded immediately to the Contracting Officer.
  - 5.1.1.2. The COR will be responsible for monitoring the Contractor's performance to ensure all specifications and requirements are fulfilled. Quality Improvement data that will be collected for ongoing monitoring includes but is not limited to: enter data that may be collected.
  - 5.1.1.3. The COR will maintain a record-keeping system of services by reviewing invoices in IPPS. The COR will review this data monthly when invoices are received and certify all invoices for payment by comparing the hours documented on the VA record-keeping system and those on the invoices. Any evidence of the Contractor's non-compliance as evidenced by the monitoring procedures shall be forwarded immediately to the Contracting Officer.
  - 5.1.1.4. The COR will review and certify monthly invoices for payment. If in the event the Contractor fails to provide the services in this contract, payments will be adjusted to compensate the Government for the difference.
  - 5.1.1.5. All contract administration functions will be retained by the VA.

## 6. **SPECIAL CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS**

- 6.1. **Reports/Deliverables:** The Contractor shall be responsible for complying with all reporting requirements established by the Contract. Contractor shall be responsible for assuring the accuracy and completeness of all reports and other documents as well as the timely submission of each. Contractor shall comply with contract requirements regarding the appropriate reporting formats, instructions, submission timetables, and technical assistance as required.
- 6.1.0. The following are brief descriptions of required documents that must be submitted by Contractor: upon award; weekly; monthly; quarterly; annually, etc. identified throughout the PWS and is provided here as a guide for Contractor convenience. If an item is within the PWS and not listed here, the Contractor remains responsible for the delivery of the item.

What	Submit as Noted	Submit To
Quality Control Plan: Description and reporting reflecting the contractor's plan for meeting of contract requirements and performance standards	Upon proposal and as frequently as indicated in the performance standards.	Contracting Officer
Copy of Sub Contracting Plan (as required) Copy of Contractor Certification Statement if non-subcontracting possibilities exist.	Upon proposal and as updated	Contracting Officer
Copies of any and all licenses, board certifications, NPI, to include primary source verification of all licensed and certified staff	Upon proposal and upon renewal of licenses and upon renewal of option periods or change of key personnel.	Contracting Officer with proposal; renewal submitted to VETPRO system.
Certification that staff list have been compared to OIG list	Upon proposal and upon new hires.	Contracting Officer
Proof of Indemnification and Medical Liability Insurance	Upon proposal and upon renewals.	Contracting Officer
Certificates of Completion for Cyber Security and Patient Privacy Training Courses	Before receiving an account on VA Network and annual training and new hires.	COR
Contingency plan for replacing key personnel to maintain services as required under the terms of the contract	Upon proposal and as updated	COR

## 6.2. Billing:

6.2.0. Invoice requirements and supporting documentation: Supporting documentation and invoice must be submitted no later than the 30th workday of the following month in which services were rendered. Subsequent changes or corrections shall be submitted by separate invoice. In addition to information required for submission of a "proper" invoice in accordance with FAR 52.212-4 (g), all invoices must include:

- 6.2.0.1. Your firm's Tax Payer ID Number (TIN)
- 6.2.0.2. Your firm's "Remit Address" information
- 6.2.0.3. The VA Purchase Order (PO) number
- 6.2.0.4. Your firm's contact information: (Personal Name, Email, and Phone)
- 6.2.0.5. Your VA point of contact information: (Personal Name, Email, and Phone)
- 6.2.0.6. The Period of Performance dates (Beginning and Ending)
- 6.2.0.7. All discount information if applicable (Percent and Date Terms)
- 6.2.0.8. Contractor's physician(s) (Name of Contractor's employee)
- 6.2.0.9. Hourly Rate
- 6.2.0.10. Quantity of hours worked
- 6.2.0.11. Total price

## 6.3. Vendor Electronic Invoice Submission Methods

Facsimile, e-mail, and scanned documents are not acceptable forms of submission for payment requests. Electronic form means an automated system transmitting information electronically according to the accepted electronic data transmission methods below:

- 6.3.0. Invoices will be electronically submitted to the Tungsten website at <https://us.tungsten-network.com/resources/support/> Tungsten direct vendor support number is 877-489-6135 for VA contracts. The VA-FSC pays all associated transaction fees for VA orders. During Implementation (technical set-up) Tungsten will confirm your Tax Payer ID Number with the VA-FSC. This process can take up to 5 business days to complete to ensure your invoice is



automatically routed to your Certifying Official for approval and payment. In order to successfully submit an invoice to VA-FSC please review "How to Create an Invoice" within the how to guides. All invoices submitted through Tungsten to the VA-FSC should mirror your current submission of Invoice, with the following items required. Clarification of additional requirements should be confirmed with your Certifying Official (your CO or buyer). The VA-FSC requires specific information in compliance with the Prompt Pay Act and Business Requirements. For additional information, please contact:

**Tungsten Support**

Phone: 1-877-489-6135

Website: <https://www.tungsten-network.com/us/support/>

**Department of Veterans Affairs Financial Service Center**

Phone: 1-877-353-9791 Email: [vafscched@va.gov](mailto:vafscched@va.gov)

- 6.4. Reduction in Services: This is a fixed quantity contract for a specified number of hours. If, at the end of the period of performance, the government has not utilized the total number of hours required under this contract because of a change in its requirements, the parties agree that they will attempt to negotiate in good faith a contract modification reducing the scope of the contract with a corresponding adjustment in the total contract price. In no event will the VA pay for hours that exceed the total number of hours specified in the contract for the period of performance.
- 6.5. Payments in full/No billing VA beneficiaries: The Contractor shall accept payment for services rendered under this contract as payment in full. VA beneficiaries shall not under any circumstances be charged nor their insurance companies charged for services rendered by the Contractor, even if VA does not pay for those services. This provision shall survive the termination or ending of the contract.
  - 6.5.0. To the extent that the Veteran desires services which are not a VA benefit or covered under the terms of this contract, the Contractor must notify the Veteran that there will be a charge for such service and that the VA will not be responsible for payment.
  - 6.5.1. The Contractor shall not bill, charge, collect a deposit from, seek compensation, remuneration, or reimbursement from, or have any recourse against, any person or entity other than VA for services provided pursuant to this contract. It shall be considered fraudulent for the Contractor to bill other third party insurance sources (including Medicare) for services rendered to Veteran enrollees under this contract.
- 6.6. Contractor Security Requirements: In accordance with VA Handbook 6500.6, the following information is included in this contract:
  - 6.6.0. General: Contractors, contractor personnel, subcontractors, and subcontractor personnel shall be subject to the same Federal laws, regulations, standards, and VA Directives and Handbooks as VA and VA personnel regarding information and information system security.
  - 6.6.1. Access to VA Information and VA Information Systems:
    - 6.6.1.1. A contractor/subcontractor shall request logical (technical) or physical access to VA information and VA information systems for their employees, subcontractors, and affiliates only to the extent necessary to perform the services specified in the contract, agreement, or task order.
    - 6.6.1.2. All contractors, subcontractors, and third-party servicers and associates working with VA information are subject to the same investigative requirements as those of VA appointees or employees who have access to the same types of information. The level and process of background security investigations for contractors must be in accordance with VA Directive and Handbook 0710, Personnel Suitability and Security Program. The Office for Operations, Security, and Preparedness is responsible for these policies and procedures.

- 6.6.1.3. Contract personnel who require access to national security programs must have a valid security clearance. National Industrial Security Program (NISP) was established by Executive Order 12829 to ensure that cleared U.S. defense industry contract personnel safeguard the classified information in their possession while performing work on contracts, programs, bids, or research and development efforts. The Department of Veterans Affairs does not have a Memorandum of Agreement with Defense Security Service (DSS). Verification of a Security Clearance must be processed through the Special Security Officer located in the Planning and National Security Service within the Office of Operations, Security, and Preparedness.
- 6.6.1.4. Custom software development and outsourced operations must be located in the U.S. to the maximum extent practical. If such services are proposed to be performed abroad and are not disallowed by other VA policy or mandates, the contractor/subcontractor must state where all non-U.S. services are provided and detail a security plan, deemed to be acceptable by VA, specifically to address mitigation of the resulting problems of communication, control, data protection, and so forth. Location within the U.S. may be an evaluation factor.
- 6.6.1.5. The contractor or subcontractor must notify the Contracting Officer immediately when an employee working on a VA system or with access to VA information is reassigned or leaves the contractor or subcontractor's employ. The Contracting Officer must also be notified immediately by the contractor or subcontractor prior to an unfriendly termination.
- 6.6.2. VA Information Custodial Language
  - 6.6.2.1. Information made available to the contractor or subcontractor by VA for the performance or administration of this contract or information developed by the contractor/subcontractor in performance or administration of the contract shall be used only for those purposes and shall not be used in any other way without the prior written agreement of the VA. This clause expressly limits the contractor/subcontractor's rights to use data as described in Rights in Data - General, FAR 52.227-14(d)(1).
  - 6.6.2.2. VA information should not be co-mingled, if possible, with any other data on the contractors/subcontractor's information systems or media storage systems in order to ensure VA requirements related to data protection and media sanitization can be met. If co-mingling must be allowed to meet the requirements of the business need, the contractor must ensure that VA's information is returned to the VA or destroyed in accordance with VA's sanitization requirements. VA reserves the right to conduct on site inspections of contractor and subcontractor IT resources to ensure data security controls, separation of data and job duties, and destruction/media sanitization procedures are in compliance with VA directive requirements.
  - 6.6.2.3. Prior to termination or completion of this contract, contractor/ subcontractor must not destroy information received from VA, or gathered/ created by the contractor in the course of performing this contract without prior written approval by the VA. Any data destruction done on behalf of VA by a contractor/subcontractor must be done in accordance with National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) requirements as outlined in VA Directive 6300, Records and Information Management and its Handbook 6300.1 Records Management Procedures, applicable VA Records Control Schedules, and VA Handbook 6500.1, Electronic Media Sanitization. Self-certification by the contractor that the data destruction requirements above have been met must be sent to the VA Contracting Officer within 30 days of termination of the contract.
  - 6.6.2.4. The contractor/subcontractor must receive, gather, store, back up, maintain, use, disclose and dispose of VA information only in compliance with the terms

of the contract and applicable Federal and VA information confidentiality and security laws, regulations and policies. If Federal or VA information confidentiality and security laws, regulations and policies become applicable to the VA information or information systems after execution of the contract, or if NIST issues or updates applicable FIPS or Special Publications (SP) after execution of this contract, the parties agree to negotiate in good faith to implement the information confidentiality and security laws, regulations and policies in this contract.

- 6.6.2.5. The contractor/subcontractor shall not make copies of VA information except as authorized and necessary to perform the terms of the agreement or to preserve electronic information stored on contractor/subcontractor electronic storage media for restoration in case any electronic equipment or data used by the contractor/subcontractor needs to be restored to an operating state. If copies are made for restoration purposes, after the restoration is complete, the copies must be appropriately destroyed.
- 6.6.2.6. If VA determines that the contractor has violated any of the information confidentiality, privacy, and security provisions of the contract, it shall be sufficient grounds for VA to withhold payment to the contractor or third party or terminate the contract for default or terminate for cause under Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) part 12.
- 6.6.2.7. If a VHA contract is terminated for cause, the associated BAA must also be terminated and appropriate actions taken in accordance with VHA Handbook 1600.01, Business Associate Agreements. Absent an agreement to use or disclose protected health information, there is no business associate relationship.
- 6.6.2.8. The contractor/subcontractor must store, transport, or transmit VA sensitive information in an encrypted form, using VA-approved encryption tools that are, at a minimum, FIPS 140-2 validated.
- 6.6.2.9. The contractor/subcontractor's firewall and Web services security controls, if applicable, shall meet or exceed VA's minimum requirements. VA Configuration Guidelines are available upon request.
- 6.6.2.10. Except for uses and disclosures of VA information authorized by this contract for performance of the contract, the contractor/subcontractor may use and disclose VA information only in two other situations: (i) in response to a qualifying order of a court of competent jurisdiction, or (ii) with VA's prior written approval. The contractor/subcontractor must refer all requests for, demands for production of, or inquiries about, VA information and information systems to the VA contracting officer for response.
- 6.6.2.11. Notwithstanding the provision above, the contractor/subcontractor shall not release VA records protected by Title 38 U.S.C. 5705, confidentiality of medical quality assurance records and/or Title 38 U.S.C. 7332, confidentiality of certain health records pertaining to drug addiction, sickle cell anemia, alcoholism or alcohol abuse, or infection with human immunodeficiency virus. If the contractor/subcontractor is in receipt of a court order or other requests for the above mentioned information, that contractor/subcontractor shall immediately refer such court orders or other requests to the VA contracting officer for response.
- 6.6.2.12. For service that involves the storage, generating, transmitting, or exchanging of VA sensitive information but does not require C&A or an MOU-ISA for system interconnection, the contractor/subcontractor must complete a Contractor Security Control Assessment (CSCA) on a yearly basis and provide it to the COR.
- 6.6.3. Information System Design and Development

- 6.6.3.1. Information systems that are designed or developed for or on behalf of VA at non-VA facilities shall comply with all VA directives developed in accordance with FISMA, HIPAA, NIST, and related VA security and privacy control requirements for Federal information systems. This includes standards for the protection of electronic PHI, outlined in 45 C.F.R. Part 164, Subpart C, information and system security categorization level designations in accordance with FIPS 199 and FIPS 200 with implementation of all baseline security controls commensurate with the FIPS 199 system security categorization (reference Appendix D of VA Handbook 6500, VA Information Security Program). During the development cycle a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) must be completed, provided to the COR, and approved by the VA Privacy Service in accordance with Directive 6507, VA Privacy Impact Assessment.
- 6.6.3.2. The contractor/subcontractor shall certify to the COR that applications are fully functional and operate correctly as intended on systems using the VA Federal Desktop Core Configuration (FDCC), and the common security configuration guidelines provided by NIST or the VA. This includes Internet Explorer 7 configured to operate on Windows XP and Vista (in Protected Mode on Vista) and future versions, as required.
- 6.6.3.3. The standard installation, operation, maintenance, updating, and patching of software shall not alter the configuration settings from the VA approved and FDCC configuration. Information technology staff must also use the Windows Installer Service for installation to the default "program files" directory and silently install and uninstall.
- 6.6.3.4. Applications designed for normal end users shall run in the standard user context without elevated system administration privileges.
- 6.6.3.5. The security controls must be designed, developed, approved by VA, and implemented in accordance with the provisions of VA security system development life cycle as outlined in NIST Special Publication 800-37, Guide for Applying the Risk Management Framework to Federal Information Systems, VA Handbook 6500, Information Security Program and VA Handbook 6500.5, Incorporating Security and Privacy in System Development Lifecycle.
- 6.6.3.6. The contractor/subcontractor is required to design, develop, or operate a System of Records Notice (SOR) on individuals to accomplish an agency function subject to the Privacy Act of 1974, (as amended), Public Law 93-579, December 31, 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) and applicable agency regulations. Violation of the Privacy Act may involve the imposition of criminal and civil penalties.
- 6.6.3.7. The contractor/subcontractor agrees to:
  - 6.6.3.7.1. Comply with the Privacy Act of 1974 (the Act) and the agency rules and regulations issued under the Act in the design, development, or operation of any system of records on individuals to accomplish an agency function when the contract specifically identifies:
    - 6.6.3.7.1.1. The Systems of Records (SOR); and
    - 6.6.3.7.1.2. The design, development, or operation work that the contractor/ subcontractor is to perform;
  - 6.6.3.7.2. Include the Privacy Act notification contained in this contract in every solicitation and resulting subcontract and in every subcontract awarded without a solicitation, when the work statement in the proposed subcontract requires the redesign, development, or operation of a SOR on individuals that is subject to the Privacy Act; and

- 6.6.3.7.3. Include this Privacy Act clause, including this subparagraph (3), in all subcontracts awarded under this contract which requires the design, development, or operation of such a SOR.
- 6.6.3.8. In the event of violations of the Act, a civil action may be brought against the agency involved when the violation concerns the design, development, or operation of a SOR on individuals to accomplish an agency function, and criminal penalties may be imposed upon the officers or employees of the agency when the violation concerns the operation of a SOR on individuals to accomplish an agency function. For purposes of the Act, when the contract is for the operation of a SOR on individuals to accomplish an agency function, the contractor/subcontractor is considered to be an employee of the agency.
  - 6.6.3.8.1. "Operation of a System of Records" means performance of any of the activities associated with maintaining the SOR, including the collection, use, maintenance, and dissemination of records.
  - 6.6.3.8.2. "Record" means any item, collection, or grouping of information about an individual that is maintained by an agency, including, but not limited to, education, financial transactions, medical history, and criminal or employment history and contains the person's name, or identifying number, symbol, or any other identifying particular assigned to the individual, such as a fingerprint or voiceprint, or a photograph.
- 6.6.3.9. "System of Records" means a group of any records under the control of any agency from which information is retrieved by the name of the individual or by some identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual.
- 6.6.3.10. The vendor shall ensure the security of all procured or developed systems and technologies, including their subcomponents (hereinafter referred to as "Systems"), throughout the life of this contract and any extension, warranty, or maintenance periods. This includes, but is not limited to workarounds, patches, hotfixes, upgrades, and any physical components (hereafter referred to as Security Fixes) which may be necessary to fix all security vulnerabilities published or known to the vendor anywhere in the Systems, including Operating Systems and firmware. The vendor shall ensure that Security Fixes shall not negatively impact the Systems.
- 6.6.3.11. The vendor shall notify VA within 24 hours of the discovery or disclosure of successful exploits of the vulnerability which can compromise the security of the Systems (including the confidentiality or integrity of its data and operations, or the availability of the system). Such issues shall be remediated as quickly as is practical, but in no event longer than seven days.
- 6.6.3.12. When the Security Fixes involve installing third party patches (such as Microsoft OS patches or Adobe Acrobat), the vendor will provide written notice to the VA that the patch has been validated as not affecting the Systems within 10 working days. When the vendor is responsible for operations or maintenance of the Systems, they shall apply the Security Fixes within seven days.
- 6.6.3.13. All other vulnerabilities shall be remediated as specified in this paragraph in a timely manner based on risk, but within 60 days of discovery or disclosure. Exceptions to this paragraph (e.g. for the convenience of VA) shall only be granted with approval of the contracting officer and the VA Assistant Secretary for Office of Information and Technology.
- 6.6.4. Information System Hosting, Operation, Maintenance or Use
  - 6.6.4.1. For information systems that are hosted, operated, maintained, or used on behalf of VA at non-VA facilities, contractors/subcontractors are fully responsible and accountable for ensuring compliance with all HIPAA, Privacy Act, FISMA, NIST, FIPS, and VA security and privacy directives and

handbooks. This includes conducting compliant risk assessments, routine vulnerability scanning, system patching and change management procedures, and the completion of an acceptable contingency plan for each system. The contractor's security control procedures must be equivalent, to those procedures used to secure VA systems. A Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) must also be provided to the COR and approved by VA Privacy Service prior to operational approval. All external Internet connections to VA's network involving VA information must be reviewed and approved by VA prior to implementation.

- 6.6.4.2. Adequate security controls for collecting, processing, transmitting, and storing of Personally Identifiable Information (PII), as determined by the VA Privacy Service, must be in place, tested, and approved by VA prior to hosting, operation, maintenance, or use of the information system, or systems by or on behalf of VA. These security controls are to be assessed and stated within the PIA and if these controls are determined not to be in place, or inadequate, a Plan of Action and Milestones (POA&M) must be submitted and approved prior to the collection of PII.
- 6.6.4.3. Outsourcing (contractor facility, contractor equipment or contractor staff) of systems or network operations, telecommunications services, or other managed services requires certification and accreditation (authorization) (C&A) of the contractor's systems in accordance with VA Handbook 6500.3, Certification and Accreditation and/or the VA OCS Certification Program Office. Government- owned (government facility or government equipment) contractor-operated systems, third party or business partner networks require memorandums of understanding and interconnection agreements (MOU-ISA) which detail what data types are shared, who has access, and the appropriate level of security controls for all systems connected to VA networks.
- 6.6.4.4. The contractor/subcontractor's system must adhere to all FISMA, FIPS, and NIST standards related to the annual FISMA security controls assessment and review and update the PIA. Any deficiencies noted during this assessment must be provided to the VA contracting officer and the ISO for entry into VA's POA&M management process. The contractor/subcontractor must use VA's POA&M process to document planned remedial actions to address any deficiencies in information security policies, procedures, and practices, and the completion of those activities. Security deficiencies must be corrected within the timeframes approved by the government. Contractor/subcontractor procedures are subject to periodic, unannounced assessments by VA officials, including the VA Office of Inspector General. The physical security aspects associated with contractor/ subcontractor activities must also be subject to such assessments. If major changes to the system occur that may affect the privacy or security of the data or the system, the C&A of the system may need to be reviewed, retested and re- authorized per VA Handbook 6500.3. This may require reviewing and updating all of the documentation (PIA, System Security Plan, Contingency Plan). The Certification Program Office can provide guidance on whether a new C&A would be necessary.
- 6.6.4.5. The contractor/subcontractor must conduct an annual self assessment on all systems and outsourced services as required. Both hard copy and electronic copies of the assessment must be provided to the COR. The government reserves the right to conduct such an assessment using government personnel or another contractor/subcontractor. The contractor/subcontractor must take appropriate and timely action (this can be specified in the contract) to correct or mitigate any weaknesses discovered during such testing, generally at no additional cost.

- 6.6.4.6. VA prohibits the installation and use of personally-owned or contractor/subcontractor-owned equipment or software on VA's network. If non-VA owned equipment must be used to fulfill the requirements of a contract, it must be stated in the service agreement, SOW or contract. All of the security controls required for government furnished equipment (GFE) must be utilized in approved other equipment (OE) and must be funded by the owner of the equipment. All remote systems must be equipped with, and use, a VA-approved antivirus (AV) software and a personal (host-based or enclave based) firewall that is configured with a VA-approved configuration. Software must be kept current, including all critical updates and patches. Owners of approved OE are responsible for providing and maintaining the anti-viral software and the firewall on the non-VA owned OE.
- 6.6.4.7. All electronic storage media used on non-VA leased or non-VA owned IT equipment that is used to store, process, or access VA information must be handled in adherence with VA Handbook 6500.1, Electronic Media Sanitization upon: (i) completion or termination of the contract or (ii) disposal or return of the IT equipment by the contractor/subcontractor or any person acting on behalf of the contractor/subcontractor, whichever is earlier. Media (hard drives, optical disks, CDs, back-up tapes, etc.) used by the contractors/subcontractors that contain VA information must be returned to the VA for sanitization or destruction or the contractor/subcontractor must self-certify that the media has been disposed of per 6500.1 requirements. This must be completed within 30 days of termination of the contract.
- 6.6.4.8. Bio-Medical devices and other equipment or systems containing media (hard drives, optical disks, etc.) with VA sensitive information must not be returned to the vendor at the end of lease, for trade-in, or other purposes. The options are:
  - 6.6.4.8.1. Vendor must accept the system without the drive;
  - 6.6.4.8.2. VA's initial medical device purchase includes a spare drive which must be installed in place of the original drive at time of turn-in; or
  - 6.6.4.8.3. VA must reimburse the company for media at a reasonable open market replacement cost at time of purchase.
  - 6.6.4.8.4. Due to the highly specialized and sometimes proprietary hardware and software associated with medical equipment/systems, if it is not possible for the VA to retain the hard drive, then;
    - 6.6.4.8.4.1. The equipment vendor must have an existing BAA if the device being traded in has sensitive information stored on it and hard drive(s) from the system are being returned physically intact; and
    - 6.6.4.8.4.2. Any fixed hard drive on the device must be non-destructively sanitized to the greatest extent possible without negatively impacting system operation. Selective clearing down to patient data folder level is recommended using VA approved and validated overwriting technologies/methods/tools. Applicable media sanitization specifications need to be pre-approved and described in the purchase order or contract.
    - 6.6.4.8.4.3. A statement needs to be signed by the Director (System Owner) that states that the drive could not be removed and that (a) and (b) controls above are in place and completed. The ISO needs to maintain the documentation.
- 6.6.5. Security Incident Investigation
  - 6.6.5.1. The term "security incident" means an event that has, or could have, resulted in unauthorized access to, loss or damage to VA assets, or sensitive information, or an action that breaches VA security procedures. The

contractor/ subcontractor shall immediately notify the COR and simultaneously, the designated ISO and Privacy Officer for the contract of any known or suspected security/privacy incidents, or any unauthorized disclosure of sensitive information, including that contained in system(s) to which the contractor/ subcontractor has access.

- 6.6.5.2. To the extent known by the contractor/subcontractor, the contractor/subcontractor's notice to VA shall identify the information involved, the circumstances surrounding the incident (including to whom, how, when, and where the VA information or assets were placed at risk or compromised), and any other information that the contractor/subcontractor considers relevant.
- 6.6.5.3. With respect to unsecured protected health information, the business associate is deemed to have discovered a data breach when the business associate knew or should have known of a breach of such information. Upon discovery, the business associate must notify the covered entity of the breach. Notifications need to be made in accordance with the executed business associate agreement.
- 6.6.5.4. In instances of theft or break-in or other criminal activity, the contractor/subcontractor must concurrently report the incident to the appropriate law enforcement entity (or entities) of jurisdiction, including the VA OIG and Security and Law Enforcement. The contractor, its employees, and its subcontractors and their employees shall cooperate with VA and any law enforcement authority responsible for the investigation and prosecution of any possible criminal law violation(s) associated with any incident. The contractor/subcontractor shall cooperate with VA in any civil litigation to recover VA information, obtain monetary or other compensation from a third party for damages arising from any incident, or obtain injunctive relief against any third party arising from, or related to, the incident.
- 6.6.6. Liquidated Damages for Data Breach
  - 6.6.6.1. Consistent with the requirements for 38 U.S.C. §5725, a contract may require access to sensitive personal information. If so, the contractor is liable to the VA for liquidated damages in the event of a data breach or privacy incident involving any SPI the contractor/subcontractor processes or maintains under this contract. However it is the policy of the VA to forgo collection of liquidated damages in the event the contractor provides payment of actual damages in an amount determined adequate by the agency.
  - 6.6.6.2. The contractor/subcontractor shall provide notice to VA of a "security incident" as set forth in the Security Incident Investigation section above. Upon such notification, VA must secure from a non-Department entity or the VA Office of Inspector General an independent risk analysis of the data breach to determine the level of risk associated with the data breach for the potential misuse of any sensitive personal information involved in the data breach. The term 'data breach' means the loss, theft, or other unauthorized access, or any access other than that incidental to the scope of employment, to data containing sensitive personal information, in electronic or printed form, that results in the potential compromise of the confidentiality or integrity of the data. Contractor shall fully cooperate with the entity performing the risk analysis. Failure to cooperate may be deemed a material breach and grounds for contract termination.
  - 6.6.6.3. Each risk analysis shall address all relevant information concerning the data breach, including the following:
    - 6.6.6.3.1. Nature of the event (loss, theft, unauthorized access);
    - 6.6.6.3.2. Description of the event, including:
      - 6.6.6.3.2.1. Date of occurrence;



- 6.6.6.3.2.2. Data elements involved, including any PII, such as full name, social security number, date of birth, home address, account number, disability code;
- 6.6.6.3.3. Number of individuals affected or potentially affected;
- 6.6.6.3.4. Names of individuals or groups affected or potentially affected;
- 6.6.6.3.5. Ease of logical data access to the lost, stolen or improperly accessed data in light of the degree of protection for the data, e.g., unencrypted, plain text;
- 6.6.6.3.6. Amount of time the data has been out of VA control;
- 6.6.6.3.7. The likelihood that the sensitive personal information will or has been compromised (made accessible to and usable by unauthorized persons);
- 6.6.6.3.8. Known misuses of data containing sensitive personal information, if any;
- 6.6.6.3.9. Assessment of the potential harm to the affected individuals;
- 6.6.6.3.10. Data breach analysis as outlined in 6500.2 Handbook, Management of Security and Privacy Incidents, as appropriate; and
- 6.6.6.3.11. Whether credit protection services may assist record subjects in avoiding or mitigating the results of identity theft based on the sensitive personal information that may have been compromised.
- 6.6.6.4. Based on the determinations of the independent risk analysis, the contractor shall be responsible for paying to the VA liquidated damages in the amount of \$37.50 per affected individual to cover the cost of providing credit protection services to affected individuals consisting of the following:
  - 6.6.6.4.1. Notification;
  - 6.6.6.4.2. One year of credit monitoring services consisting of automatic daily monitoring of at least 3 relevant credit bureau reports;
  - 6.6.6.4.3. Data breach analysis;
  - 6.6.6.4.4. Fraud resolution services, including writing dispute letters, initiating fraud alerts and credit freezes, to assist affected individuals to bring matters to resolution;
  - 6.6.6.4.5. One year of identity theft insurance with \$20,000.00 coverage at \$0 deductible; and
  - 6.6.6.4.6. Necessary legal expenses the subjects may incur to repair falsified or damaged credit records, histories, or financial affairs.
- 6.6.7. Security Controls Compliance Testing: On a periodic basis, VA, including the Office of Inspector General, reserves the right to evaluate any or all of the security controls and privacy practices implemented by the contractor under the clauses contained within the contract. With 10 working-day's notice, at the request of the government, the contractor must fully cooperate and assist in a government-sponsored security controls assessment at each location wherein VA information is processed or stored, or information systems are developed, operated, maintained, or used on behalf of VA, including those initiated by the Office of Inspector General. The government may conduct a security control assessment on shorter notice (to include unannounced assessments) as determined by VA in the event of a security incident or at any other time.
- 6.6.8. Training
  - 6.6.8.1. All contractor employees and subcontractor employees requiring access to VA information and VA information systems shall complete the following before being granted access to VA information and its systems:
    - 6.6.8.1.1. Sign and acknowledge (either manually or electronically) understanding of and responsibilities for compliance with the Contractor Rules of Behavior, Appendix E relating to access to VA information and information systems;

- 6.6.8.1.2. Successfully complete the VA Cyber Security Awareness and Rules of Behavior training and annually complete required security training;
  - 6.6.8.1.3. Successfully complete the appropriate VA privacy training and annually complete required privacy training; and
  - 6.6.8.1.4. Successfully complete any additional cyber security or privacy training, as required for VA personnel with equivalent information system access [to be defined by the VA program official and provided to the contracting officer for inclusion in the solicitation document - e.g., any role-based information security training required in accordance with NIST Special Publication 800-16, Information Technology Security Training Requirements.]
- 6.6.8.2. The contractor shall provide to the contracting officer and/or the COR a copy of the training certificates and certification of signing the Contractor Rules of Behavior for each applicable employee within 1 week of the initiation of the contract and annually thereafter, as required.

Failure to complete the mandatory annual training and sign the Rules of Behavior annually, within the timeframe required, is grounds for suspension or termination of all physical or electronic access privileges and removal from work on the contract until such time as the training and documents are complete.

## SECTION C - CONTRACT CLAUSES

### C.1 52.212-4 CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS—COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES (NOV 2021)

(a) *Inspection/Acceptance.* The Contractor shall only tender for acceptance those items that conform to the requirements of this contract. The Government reserves the right to inspect or test any supplies or services that have been tendered for acceptance. The Government may require repair or replacement of nonconforming supplies or reperformance of nonconforming services at no increase in contract price. If repair/replacement or reperformance will not correct the defects or is not possible, the Government may seek an equitable price reduction or adequate consideration for acceptance of nonconforming supplies or services. The Government must exercise its post-acceptance rights—

(1) Within a reasonable time after the defect was discovered or should have been discovered; and

(2) Before any substantial change occurs in the condition of the item, unless the change is due to the defect in the item.

(b) *Assignment.* The Contractor or its assignee may assign its rights to receive payment due as a result of performance of this contract to a bank, trust company, or other financing institution, including any Federal lending agency in accordance with the Assignment of Claims Act (31 U.S.C. 3727). However, when a third party makes payment (e.g., use of the Governmentwide commercial purchase card), the Contractor may not assign its rights to receive payment under this contract.

(c) *Changes.* Changes in the terms and conditions of this contract may be made only by written agreement of the parties.

(d) *Disputes.* This contract is subject to 41 U.S.C. chapter 71, Contract Disputes. Failure of the parties to this contract to reach agreement on any request for equitable adjustment, claim, appeal or action arising under or relating to this contract shall be a dispute to be resolved in accordance with the clause at Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 52.233-1, Disputes, which is incorporated herein by reference. The Contractor shall proceed diligently with performance of this contract, pending final resolution of any dispute arising under the contract.

(e) *Definitions.* The clause at FAR 52.202-1, Definitions, is incorporated herein by reference.

(f) *Excusable delays.* The Contractor shall be liable for default unless nonperformance is caused by an occurrence beyond the reasonable control of the Contractor and without its fault or negligence such as, acts of God or the public enemy, acts of the Government in either its sovereign or contractual capacity, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, unusually severe weather, and delays of common carriers. The Contractor shall notify the Contracting Officer in writing as soon as it is reasonably possible after the commencement of any excusable delay, setting forth the full particulars in connection therewith, shall remedy such occurrence with all reasonable dispatch, and shall promptly give written notice to the Contracting Officer of the cessation of such occurrence.

(g) Invoice.

(1) The Contractor shall submit an original invoice and three copies (or electronic invoice, if authorized) to the address designated in the contract to receive invoices. An invoice must include—

(i) Name and address of the Contractor;

(ii) Invoice date and number;

(iii) Contract number, line item number and, if applicable, the order number;

(iv) Description, quantity, unit of measure, unit price and extended price of the items delivered;

(v) Shipping number and date of shipment, including the bill of lading number and weight of shipment if shipped on Government bill of lading;

(vi) Terms of any discount for prompt payment offered;

(vii) Name and address of official to whom payment is to be sent;

(viii) Name, title, and phone number of person to notify in event of defective invoice; and

(ix) Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN). The Contractor shall include its TIN on the invoice only if required elsewhere in this contract.

(x) Electronic funds transfer (EFT) banking information.

(A) The Contractor shall include EFT banking information on the invoice only if required elsewhere in this contract.

(B) If EFT banking information is not required to be on the invoice, in order for the invoice to be a proper invoice, the Contractor shall have submitted correct EFT banking information in accordance with the applicable solicitation provision, contract clause (e.g., 52.232-33, Payment by Electronic Funds Transfer—System for Award Management, or 52.232-34, Payment by Electronic Funds Transfer—Other Than System for Award Management), or applicable agency procedures.

(C) EFT banking information is not required if the Government waived the requirement to pay by EFT.

(2) Invoices will be handled in accordance with the Prompt Payment Act (31 U.S.C. 3903) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) prompt payment regulations at 5 CFR part 1315.

(h) *Patent indemnity*. The Contractor shall indemnify the Government and its officers, employees and agents against liability, including costs, for actual or alleged direct or contributory infringement of, or inducement to infringe, any United States or foreign patent, trademark or copyright, arising out of the performance of this contract, provided the Contractor is reasonably notified of such claims and proceedings.

(i) Payment.—

(1) *Items accepted.* Payment shall be made for items accepted by the Government that have been delivered to the delivery destinations set forth in this contract.

(2) *Prompt payment.* The Government will make payment in accordance with the Prompt Payment Act (31 U.S.C. 3903) and prompt payment regulations at 5 CFR part 1315.

(3) *Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).* If the Government makes payment by EFT, see 52.212-5(b) for the appropriate EFT clause.

(4) *Discount.* In connection with any discount offered for early payment, time shall be computed from the date of the invoice. For the purpose of computing the discount earned, payment shall be considered to have been made on the date which appears on the payment check or the specified payment date if an electronic funds transfer payment is made.

(5) *Overpayments.* If the Contractor becomes aware of a duplicate contract financing or invoice payment or that the Government has otherwise overpaid on a contract financing or invoice payment, the Contractor shall—

(i) Remit the overpayment amount to the payment office cited in the contract along with a description of the overpayment including the—

(A) Circumstances of the overpayment (e.g., duplicate payment, erroneous payment, liquidation errors, date(s) of overpayment);

(B) Affected contract number and delivery order number, if applicable;

(C) Affected line item or subline item, if applicable; and

(D) Contractor point of contact.

(ii) Provide a copy of the remittance and supporting documentation to the Contracting Officer.

(6) *Interest.*

(i) All amounts that become payable by the Contractor to the Government under this contract shall bear simple interest from the date due until paid unless paid within 30 days of becoming due. The interest rate shall be the interest rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury as provided in 41 U.S.C. 7109, which is applicable to the period in which the amount becomes due, as provided in (i)(6)(v) of this clause, and then at the rate applicable for each six-month period as fixed by the Secretary until the amount is paid.

(ii) The Government may issue a demand for payment to the Contractor upon finding a debt is due under the contract.

(iii) *Final decisions.* The Contracting Officer will issue a final decision as required by 33.211 if—

(A) The Contracting Officer and the Contractor are unable to reach agreement on the existence or amount of a debt within 30 days;

(B) The Contractor fails to liquidate a debt previously demanded by the Contracting Officer within the timeline specified in the demand for payment unless the amounts were not repaid because the Contractor has requested an installment payment agreement; or

(C) The Contractor requests a deferment of collection on a debt previously demanded by the Contracting Officer (see 32.607-2).

(iv) If a demand for payment was previously issued for the debt, the demand for payment included in the final decision shall identify the same due date as the original demand for payment.

(v) Amounts shall be due at the earliest of the following dates:

(A) The date fixed under this contract.

(B) The date of the first written demand for payment, including any demand for payment resulting from a default termination.

(vi) The interest charge shall be computed for the actual number of calendar days involved beginning on the due date and ending on—

(A) The date on which the designated office receives payment from the Contractor;

(B) The date of issuance of a Government check to the Contractor from which an amount otherwise payable has been withheld as a credit against the contract debt; or

(C) The date on which an amount withheld and applied to the contract debt would otherwise have become payable to the Contractor.

(vii) The interest charge made under this clause may be reduced under the procedures prescribed in FAR 32.608-2 in effect on the date of this contract.

(j) *Risk of loss.* Unless the contract specifically provides otherwise, risk of loss or damage to the supplies provided under this contract shall remain with the Contractor until, and shall pass to the Government upon:

(1) Delivery of the supplies to a carrier, if transportation is f.o.b. origin; or

(2) Delivery of the supplies to the Government at the destination specified in the contract, if transportation is f.o.b. destination.

(k) *Taxes.* The contract price includes all applicable Federal, State, and local taxes and duties.

(l) *Termination for the Government's convenience.* The Government reserves the right to terminate this contract, or any part hereof, for its sole convenience. In the event of such termination, the Contractor shall immediately stop all work hereunder and shall immediately cause any and all of its suppliers and subcontractors to cease work. Subject to the terms of this contract, the Contractor shall be paid a percentage of the contract price reflecting the percentage of the work performed prior to the notice of termination, plus reasonable charges the Contractor can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Government using its standard record keeping system, have resulted from the termination. The Contractor shall not be required to

comply with the cost accounting standards or contract cost principles for this purpose. This paragraph does not give the Government any right to audit the Contractor's records. The Contractor shall not be paid for any work performed or costs incurred which reasonably could have been avoided.

(m) *Termination for cause.* The Government may terminate this contract, or any part hereof, for cause in the event of any default by the Contractor, or if the Contractor fails to comply with any contract terms and conditions, or fails to provide the Government, upon request, with adequate assurances of future performance. In the event of termination for cause, the Government shall not be liable to the Contractor for any amount for supplies or services not accepted, and the Contractor shall be liable to the Government for any and all rights and remedies provided by law. If it is determined that the Government improperly terminated this contract for default, such termination shall be deemed a termination for convenience.

(n) *Title.* Unless specified elsewhere in this contract, title to items furnished under this contract shall pass to the Government upon acceptance, regardless of when or where the Government takes physical possession.

(o) *Warranty.* The Contractor warrants and implies that the items delivered hereunder are merchantable and fit for use for the particular purpose described in this contract.

(p) *Limitation of liability.* Except as otherwise provided by an express warranty, the Contractor will not be liable to the Government for consequential damages resulting from any defect or deficiencies in accepted items.

(q) *Other compliances.* The Contractor shall comply with all applicable Federal, State and local laws, executive orders, rules and regulations applicable to its performance under this contract.

(r) *Compliance with laws unique to Government contracts.* The Contractor agrees to comply with 31 U.S.C. 1352 relating to limitations on the use of appropriated funds to influence certain Federal contracts; 18 U.S.C. 431 relating to officials not to benefit; 40 U.S.C. chapter 37, Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards; 41 U.S.C. chapter 87, Kickbacks; 41 U.S.C. 4712 and 10 U.S.C. 2409 relating to whistleblower protections; 49 U.S.C. 40118, Fly American; and 41 U.S.C. chapter 21 relating to procurement integrity.

(s) *Order of precedence.* Any inconsistencies in this solicitation or contract shall be resolved by giving precedence in the following order:

- (1) The schedule of supplies/services.
- (2) The Assignments, Disputes, Payments, Invoice, Other Compliances, Compliance with Laws Unique to Government Contracts, and Unauthorized Obligations paragraphs of this clause;
- (3) The clause at 52.212-5.
- (4) Addenda to this solicitation or contract, including any license agreements for computer software.
- (5) Solicitation provisions if this is a solicitation.

(6) Other paragraphs of this clause.

(7) The Standard Form 1449.

(8) Other documents, exhibits, and attachments

(9) The specification.

(t) [Reserved]

(u) *Unauthorized Obligations.*

(1) Except as stated in paragraph (u)(2) of this clause, when any supply or service acquired under this contract is subject to any End User License Agreement (EULA), Terms of Service (TOS), or similar legal instrument or agreement, that includes any clause requiring the Government to indemnify the Contractor or any person or entity for damages, costs, fees, or any other loss or liability that would create an Anti-Deficiency Act violation (31 U.S.C. 1341), the following shall govern:

(i) Any such clause is unenforceable against the Government.

(ii) Neither the Government nor any Government authorized end user shall be deemed to have agreed to such clause by virtue of it appearing in the EULA, TOS, or similar legal instrument or agreement. If the EULA, TOS, or similar legal instrument or agreement is invoked through an “I agree” click box or other comparable mechanism (e.g., “click-wrap” or “browse-wrap” agreements), execution does not bind the Government or any Government authorized end user to such clause.

(iii) Any such clause is deemed to be stricken from the EULA, TOS, or similar legal instrument or agreement.

(2) Paragraph (u)(1) of this clause does not apply to indemnification by the Government that is expressly authorized by statute and specifically authorized under applicable agency regulations and procedures.

(v) *Incorporation by reference.* The Contractor’s representations and certifications, including those completed electronically via the System for Award Management (SAM), are incorporated by reference into the contract.

(End of Clause)

#### ADDENDUM to FAR 52.212-4 CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS—COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES

Clauses that are incorporated by reference (by Citation Number, Title, and Date), have the same force and effect as if they were given in full text. Upon request, the Contracting Officer will make their full text available.

The following clauses are incorporated into 52.212-4 as an addendum to this contract:



## C.2 52.252-2 CLAUSES INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE (FEB 1998)

This contract incorporates one or more clauses by reference, with the same force and effect as if they were given in full text. Upon request, the Contracting Officer will make their full text available. Also, the full text of a clause may be accessed electronically at this/these address(es):

<http://www.acquisition.gov/far/index.html>

<http://www.va.gov/oal/library/vaar/>

(End of Clause)

<u>FAR Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
52.203-17	CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEE WHISTLEBLOWER RIGHTS AND REQUIREMENT TO INFORM EMPLOYEES OF WHISTLEBLOWER RIGHTS	JUN 2020
52.204-4	PRINTED OR COPIED DOUBLE-SIDED ON POSTCONSUMER FIBER CONTENT PAPER	MAY 2011
52.204-9	PERSONAL IDENTITY VERIFICATION OF CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL	JAN 2011
52.204-13	SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT MAINTENANCE	OCT 2018
52.204-18	COMMERCIAL AND GOVERNMENT ENTITY CODE MAINTENANCE	AUG 2020
52.228-5	INSURANCE—WORK ON A GOVERNMENT INSTALLATION	JAN 1997
52.232-40	PROVIDING ACCELERATED PAYMENTS TO SMALL BUSINESS SUBCONTRACTORS	NOV 2021
852.204-70	PERSONAL IDENTITY VERIFICATION OF CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL	MAY 2020
852.237-72	CRIME CONTROL ACT—REPORTING OF CHILD ABUSE	OCT 2019

## C.3 52.207-3 RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL OF EMPLOYMENT (MAY 2006)

(a) The Contractor shall give Government personnel who have been or will be adversely affected or separated as a result of award of this contract the right of first refusal for employment openings under the contract in positions for which they are qualified, if that employment is consistent with post-Government employment conflict of interest standards.

(b) Within 10 days after contract award, the Contracting Officer will provide to the Contractor a list of all Government personnel who have been or will be adversely affected or separated as a result of award of this contract.

(c) The Contractor shall report to the Contracting Officer the names of individuals identified on the list who are hired within 90 days after contract performance begins. This report shall be forwarded within 120 days after contract performance begins.

(End of Clause)

## C.4 52.217-8 OPTION TO EXTEND SERVICES (NOV 1999)

The Government may require continued performance of any services within the limits and at the rates specified in the contract. These rates may be adjusted only as a result of revisions to

prevailing labor rates provided by the Secretary of Labor. The option provision may be exercised more than once, but the total extension of performance hereunder shall not exceed 6 months. The Contracting Officer may exercise the option by written notice to the Contractor within fifteen (15) days prior to contract expiration.

(End of Clause)

#### **C.5 52.217-9 OPTION TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE CONTRACT (MAR 2000)**

(a) The Government may extend the term of this contract by written notice to the Contractor within fifteen (15) days prior to contract expiration; provided that the Government gives the Contractor a preliminary written notice of its intent to extend at least sixty (60) days before the contract expires. The preliminary notice does not commit the Government to an extension.

(b) If the Government exercises this option, the extended contract shall be considered to include this option clause.

(c) The total duration of this contract, including the exercise of any options under this clause, shall not exceed two (2) years.

(End of Clause)

#### **C.6 52.223-99 ENSURING ADEQUATE COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR FEDERAL CONTRACTORS (OCT 2021) (DEVIATION)**

(a) *Definition.* As used in this clause—

*United States or its outlying areas* means—

- (1) The fifty States;
- (2) The District of Columbia;
- (3) The commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands;
- (4) The territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the United States Virgin Islands; and
- (5) The minor outlying islands of Baker Island, Howland Island, Jarvis Island, Johnston Atoll, Kingman Reef, Midway Islands, Navassa Island, Palmyra Atoll, and Wake Atoll.

(b) *Authority.* This clause implements Executive Order 14042, Ensuring Adequate COVID Safety Protocols for Federal Contractors, dated September 9, 2021 (published in the Federal Register on September 14, 2021, 86 FR 50985).

(c) *Compliance.* The Contractor shall comply with all guidance, including guidance conveyed through Frequently Asked Questions, as amended during the performance of this contract, for contractor or subcontractor workplace locations published by the Safer Federal Workforce Task Force (Task Force Guidance) at <https://www.saferfederalworkforce.gov/contractors/>.

(d) *Subcontracts.* The Contractor shall include the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (d), in subcontracts at any tier that exceed the simplified acquisition threshold, as

defined in Federal Acquisition Regulation 2.101 on the date of subcontract award, and are for services, including construction, performed in whole or in part within the United States or its outlying areas.

(End of Clause)

## **C.7 SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS**

In accordance with FAR 28.307-2 and FAR 52.228-5, the following minimum coverage shall apply to this contract:

(a) Workers' compensation and employers liability: Contractors are required to comply with applicable Federal and State workers' compensation and occupational disease statutes. If occupational diseases are not compensable under those statutes, they shall be covered under the employer's liability section of the insurance policy, except when contract operations are so commingled with a Contractor's commercial operations that it would not be practical to require this coverage. Employer's liability coverage of at least \$100,000 is required, except in States with exclusive or monopolistic funds that do not permit workers' compensation to be written by private carriers.

(b) General Liability: \$500,000.00 per occurrences.

(c) Automobile liability: \$200,000.00 per person; \$500,000.00 per occurrence and \$20,000.00 property damage.

(d) The successful bidder must present to the Contracting Officer, prior to award, evidence of general liability insurance without any exclusionary clauses for asbestos that would void the general liability coverage.

(End of Clause)

## **C.8 VAAR 852.212-70 PROVISIONS AND CLAUSES APPLICABLE TO VA ACQUISITION OF COMMERCIAL ITEMS (APR 2020)**

(a) The Contractor agrees to comply with any provision or clause that is incorporated herein by reference to implement agency policy applicable to acquisition of commercial items or components. The following provisions and clauses that have been checked by the Contracting Officer are incorporated by reference.

☒ 852.203–70, Commercial Advertising.

☐ 852.209–70, Organizational Conflicts of Interest.

☐ 852.211–70, Equipment Operation and Maintenance Manuals.

☐ 852.214–71, Restrictions on Alternate Item(s).

☐ 852.214–72, Alternate Item(s). [Note: this is a fillable clause.]

☐ 852.214–73, Alternate Packaging and Packing.

☐ 852.214–74, Marking of Bid Samples.

☐ 852.215–70, Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned and Veteran-Owned Small Business Evaluation Factors.

☐ 852.215–71, Evaluation Factor Commitments.

☐ 852.216–71, Economic Price Adjustment of Contract Price(s) Based on a Price Index.

☐ 852.216–72, Proportional Economic Price Adjustment of Contract Price(s) Based on a Price Index.

☐ 852.216–73, Economic Price Adjustment—State Nursing Home Care for Veterans.

☐ 852.216–74, Economic Price Adjustment—Medicaid Labor Rates.

☐ 852.216–75, Economic Price Adjustment—Fuel Surcharge.

☐ 852.219–9, VA Small Business Subcontracting Plan Minimum Requirements.

☒ 852.219–10, VA Notice of Total Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business Set-Aside.

☐ 852.219–11, VA Notice of Total Veteran-Owned Small Business Set-Aside.

☐ 852.222–70, Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards—Nursing Home Care for Veterans.

☐ 852.228–70, Bond Premium Adjustment.

☐ 852.228–71, Indemnification and Insurance.

☐ 852.228–72, Assisting Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned and Veteran-Owned Small Businesses in Obtaining Bonds.

☒ 852.232–72, Electronic Submission of Payment Requests.

☒ 852.233–70, Protest Content/Alternative Dispute Resolution.

☒ 852.233–71, Alternate Protest Procedure.

☐ 852.237–70, Indemnification and Medical Liability Insurance.

☐ 852.246–71, Rejected Goods.

☐ 852.246–72, Frozen Processed Foods.

☐ 852.246–73, Noncompliance with Packaging, Packing, and/or Marking Requirements.

☒ 852.270–1, Representatives of Contracting Officers.

☐ 852.271–72, Time Spent by Counselee in Counseling Process.

☐ 852.271–73, Use and Publication of Counseling Results.

☐ 852.271–74, Inspection.

☐ 852.271–75, Extension of Contract Period.

☒ 852.273–70, Late Offers.

☐ 852.273–71, Alternative Negotiation Techniques.

☐ 852.273–72, Alternative Evaluation.

☒ 852.273–73, Evaluation—Health-Care Resources.

☒ 852.273–74, Award without Exchanges.

(b) All requests for quotations, solicitations, and contracts for commercial item services to be provided to beneficiaries must include the following clause:

☒ 852.237–74, Nondiscrimination in Service Delivery.

(End of Clause)

## **C.9 VAAR 852.219-74 LIMITATIONS ON SUBCONTRACTING— MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE (JUL 2018)**

(a) This solicitation includes VAAR 852.219-10 VA Notice of Total Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business Set-Aside.

(b) Accordingly, any contract resulting from this solicitation is subject to the limitation on subcontracting requirements in 13 CFR 125.6, or the limitations on subcontracting requirements in the FAR clause, as applicable. The Contractor is advised that in performing contract administration functions, the Contracting Officer may use the services of a support contractor(s) retained by VA to assist in assessing the Contractor's compliance with the limitations on subcontracting or percentage of work performance requirements specified in the clause. To that end, the support contractor(s) may require access to Contractor's offices where the Contractor's business records or other proprietary data are retained and to review such business records regarding the Contractor's compliance with this requirement.

(c) All support contractors conducting this review on behalf of VA will be required to sign an "Information Protection and Non-Disclosure and Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest Agreement" to ensure the Contractor's business records or other proprietary data reviewed or obtained in the course of assisting the Contracting Officer in assessing the Contractor for compliance are protected to ensure information or data is not improperly disclosed or other impropriety occurs.

(d) Furthermore, if VA determines any services the support contractor(s) will perform in assessing compliance are advisory and assistance services as defined in FAR 2.101, Definitions, the support contractor(s) must also enter into an agreement with the Contractor to protect proprietary information as required by FAR 9.505-4, Obtaining access to proprietary information, paragraph (b). The Contractor is required to cooperate fully and make available any records as may be required to enable the Contracting Officer to assess the Contractor's compliance with the limitations on subcontracting or percentage of work performance requirement.

(End of Clause)

## **C.10 VAAR 852.219-77 VA NOTICE OF LIMITATIONS ON SUBCONTRACTING—CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE FOR SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION (SEP 2021) (DEVIATION)**

(a) Pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 8127(k)(2), the offeror certifies that—

(1) If awarded a contract (see FAR 2.101 definition), it will comply with the limitations on subcontracting requirement as provided in the solicitation and the resultant contract, as follows:

(i) ☒ Services. In the case of a contract for services (except construction), the contractor will not pay more than 50% of the amount paid by the government to it to firms that are not VIP-listed SDVOSBs as set forth in 852.219-10 or VOSBs as set forth in 852.219-11. Any work that a similarly situated VIP-listed subcontractor further subcontracts will count towards the 50% subcontract amount that cannot be exceeded. Other direct costs may be excluded to the extent they are not the principal purpose of the acquisition and small business concerns do not provide the service as set forth in 13 CFR 125.6.

(ii) ☐ General construction. In the case of a contract for general construction, the contractor will not pay more than 85% of the amount paid by the government to it to firms that are not VIP-listed SDVOSBs as set forth in 852.219-10 or VOSBs as set forth in 852.219-11. Any work that a similarly situated VIP-listed subcontractor further subcontracts will count towards the 85% subcontract amount that cannot be exceeded. Cost of materials are excluded and not considered to be subcontracted.

(iii) ☐ Special trade construction contractors. In the case of a contract for special trade contractors, the contractor will not pay more than 75% of the amount paid by the government to it to firms that are not VIP-listed SDVOSBs as set forth in 852.219-10 or VOSBs as set forth in 852.219-11. Any work that a similarly situated subcontractor further subcontracts will count towards the 75% subcontract amount that cannot be exceeded. Cost of materials are excluded and not considered to be subcontracted.

(2) The offeror acknowledges that this certification concerns a matter within the jurisdiction of an Agency of the United States. The offeror further acknowledges that this certification is subject to Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001, and, as such, a false, fictitious, or fraudulent certification may render the offeror subject to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties, including prosecution.

(3) If VA determines that an SDVOSB/VOSB awarded a contract pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 8127 did not act in good faith, such SDVOSB/VOSB shall be subject to any or all of the following:

(i) Referral to the VA Suspension and Debarment Committee;

(ii) A fine under section 16(g)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 645(g)(1)); and

(iii) Prosecution for violating section 1001 of title 18.

(b) The offeror represents and understands that by submission of its offer and award of a contract it may be required to provide copies of documents or records to VA that VA may review to determine whether the offeror complied with the limitations on subcontracting requirement specified in the contract. The Contracting Officer may, at their discretion, require the Contractor

to demonstrate its compliance with the limitations on subcontracting at any time during performance and upon completion of a contract if the information regarding such compliance is not already available to the Contracting Officer. Evidence of compliance includes, but is not limited to, invoices, copies of subcontracts, or a list of the value of tasks performed.

(c) The offeror further agrees to cooperate fully and make available any documents or records as may be required to enable VA to determine compliance with the limitations on subcontracting requirement. The offeror understands that failure to provide documents as requested by VA may result in remedial action as the Government deems appropriate.

(d) Offeror completed certification/fill-in required. The formal certification must be completed, signed, and returned with the offeror's bid, quotation, or proposal. The Government will not consider offers for award from offerors that do not provide the certification, and all such responses will be deemed ineligible for evaluation and award.

Certification:

I hereby certify that if awarded the contract, *[insert name of offeror]* will comply with the limitations on subcontracting specified in this clause and in the resultant contract. I further certify that I am authorized to execute this certification on behalf of *[insert name of offeror]*.

Printed Name of Signee: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Title of Signee: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name and Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(End of Clause)

### **C.11 VAAR 852.237-75 KEY PERSONNEL (OCT 2019)**

The key personnel specified in this contract are considered to be essential to work performance. At least 30 days prior to the Contractor voluntarily diverting any of the specified individuals to other programs or contracts the Contractor shall notify the Contracting Officer and shall submit a justification for the diversion or replacement and a request to replace the individual. The request must identify the proposed replacement and provide an explanation of how the replacement's skills, experience, and credentials meet or exceed the requirements of the contract. If the employee of the Contractor is terminated for cause or separates from the contractor voluntarily with less than thirty days notice, the Contractor shall provide the maximum notice practicable under the circumstances. The Contractor shall not divert, replace, or announce any such change to key personnel without the written consent of the Contracting Officer. The contract will be modified to add or delete key personnel as necessary to reflect the agreement of the parties.

(End of Clause)



## **C.12 VAAR 852.242-71 ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACTING OFFICER (OCT 2020)**

The Contracting Officer reserves the right to designate an Administrative Contracting Officer (ACO) for the purpose of performing certain tasks/duties in the administration of the contract. Such designation will be in writing through an ACO Letter of Delegation and will identify the responsibilities and limitations of the ACO. A copy of the ACO Letter of Delegation will be furnished to the Contractor.

(End of Clause)

## **C.13 IT CONTRACT SECURITY**

### **VA INFORMATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEM SECURITY/PRIVACY**

#### **1. GENERAL**

Contractors, contractor personnel, subcontractors, and subcontractor personnel shall be subject to the same Federal laws, regulations, standards, and VA Directives and Handbooks as VA and VA personnel regarding information and information system security.

#### **2. ACCESS TO VA INFORMATION AND VA INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

a. A contractor/subcontractor shall request logical (technical) or physical access to VA information and VA information systems for their employees, subcontractors, and affiliates only to the extent necessary to perform the services specified in the contract, agreement, or task order.

b. All contractors, subcontractors, and third-party servicers and associates working with VA information are subject to the same investigative requirements as those of VA appointees or employees who have access to the same types of information. The level and process of background security investigations for contractors must be in accordance with VA Directive and Handbook 0710, Personnel Suitability and Security Program. The Office for Operations, Security, and Preparedness is responsible for these policies and procedures.

c. Contract personnel who require access to national security programs must have a valid security clearance. National Industrial Security Program (NISP) was established by Executive Order 12829 to ensure that cleared U.S. defense industry contract personnel safeguard the classified information in their possession while performing work on contracts, programs, bids, or research and development efforts. The Department of Veterans Affairs does not have a Memorandum of Agreement with Defense Security Service (DSS). Verification of a Security Clearance must be processed through the Special Security Officer located in the Planning and National Security Service within the Office of Operations, Security, and Preparedness.

d. Custom software development and outsourced operations must be located in the U.S. to the maximum extent practical. If such services are proposed to be performed abroad and are not disallowed by other VA policy or mandates, the contractor/subcontractor must state where all non-U.S. services are provided and detail a security plan, deemed to be acceptable by VA, specifically to address mitigation of the resulting problems of communication, control, data protection, and so forth. Location within the U.S. may be an evaluation factor.



e. The contractor or subcontractor must notify the Contracting Officer immediately when an employee working on a VA system or with access to VA information is reassigned or leaves the contractor or subcontractor's employ. The Contracting Officer must also be notified immediately by the contractor or subcontractor prior to an unfriendly termination.

### 3. VA INFORMATION CUSTODIAL LANGUAGE

a. Information made available to the contractor or subcontractor by VA for the performance or administration of this contract or information developed by the contractor/subcontractor in performance or administration of the contract shall be used only for those purposes and shall not be used in any other way without the prior written agreement of the VA. This clause expressly limits the contractor/subcontractor's rights to use data as described in Rights in Data - General, FAR 52.227-14(d) (1).

b. VA information should not be co-mingled, if possible, with any other data on the contractors/subcontractor's information systems or media storage systems in order to ensure VA requirements related to data protection and media sanitization can be met. If co-mingling must be allowed to meet the requirements of the business need, the contractor must ensure that VA's information is returned to the VA or destroyed in accordance with VA's sanitization requirements. VA reserves the right to conduct on site inspections of contractor and subcontractor IT resources to ensure data security controls, separation of data and job duties, and destruction/media sanitization procedures are in compliance with VA directive requirements.

c. Prior to termination or completion of this contract, contractor/ subcontractor must not destroy information received from VA, or gathered/ created by the contractor in the course of performing this contract without prior written approval by the VA. Any data destruction done on behalf of VA by a contractor/subcontractor must be done in accordance with National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) requirements as outlined in VA Directive 6300, Records and Information Management and its Handbook 6300.1 Records Management Procedures, applicable VA Records Control Schedules, and VA Handbook 6500.1, Electronic Media Sanitization. Self-certification by the contractor that the data destruction requirements above have been met must be sent to the VA Contracting Officer within 30 days of termination of the contract.

d. The contractor/subcontractor must receive, gather, store, back up, maintain, use, disclose and dispose of VA information only in compliance with the terms of the contract and applicable Federal and VA information confidentiality and security laws, regulations and policies. If Federal or VA information confidentiality and security laws, regulations and policies become applicable to the VA information or information systems after execution of the contract, or if NIST issues or updates applicable FIPS or Special Publications (SP) after execution of this contract, the parties agree to negotiate in good faith to implement the information confidentiality and security laws, regulations and policies in this contract.

e. The contractor/subcontractor shall not make copies of VA information except as authorized and necessary to perform the terms of the agreement or to preserve electronic information stored on contractor/subcontractor electronic storage media for restoration in case any electronic equipment or data used by the contractor/subcontractor needs to be restored to an

operating state. If copies are made for restoration purposes, after the restoration is complete, the copies must be appropriately destroyed.

f. If VA determines that the contractor has violated any of the information confidentiality, privacy, and security provisions of the contract, it shall be sufficient grounds for VA to withhold payment to the contractor or third party or terminate the contract for default or terminate for cause under Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) part 12.

g. If a VHA contract is terminated for cause, the associated BAA must also be terminated and appropriate actions taken in accordance with VHA Handbook 1600.01, Business Associate Agreements. Absent an agreement to use or disclose protected health information, there is no business associate relationship.

h. The contractor/subcontractor must store, transport, or transmit VA sensitive information in an encrypted form, using VA-approved encryption tools that are, at a minimum, FIPS 140-2 validated.

i. The contractor/subcontractor's firewall and Web services security controls, if applicable, shall meet or exceed VA's minimum requirements. VA Configuration Guidelines are available upon request.

j. Except for uses and disclosures of VA information authorized by this contract for performance of the contract, the contractor/subcontractor may use and disclose VA information only in two other situations: (i) in response to a qualifying order of a court of competent jurisdiction, or (ii) with VA's prior written approval. The contractor/subcontractor must refer all requests for, demands for production of, or inquiries about, VA information and information systems to the VA contracting officer for response.

k. Notwithstanding the provision above, the contractor/subcontractor shall not release VA records protected by Title 38 U.S.C. 5705, confidentiality of medical quality assurance records and/or Title 38 U.S.C. 7332, confidentiality of certain health records pertaining to drug addiction, sickle cell anemia, alcoholism or alcohol abuse, or infection with human immunodeficiency virus. If the contractor/subcontractor is in receipt of a court order or other requests for the above mentioned information, that contractor/subcontractor shall immediately refer such court orders or other requests to the VA contracting officer for response.

l. For service that involves the storage, generating, transmitting, or exchanging of VA sensitive information but does not require C&A or an MOU-ISA for system interconnection, the contractor/subcontractor must complete a Contractor Security Control Assessment (CSCA) on a yearly basis and provide it to the COR.

#### 4. INFORMATION SYSTEM DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

a. Information systems that are designed or developed for or on behalf of VA at non-VA facilities shall comply with all VA directives developed in accordance with FISMA, HIPAA, NIST, and related VA security and privacy control requirements for Federal information systems. This includes standards for the protection of electronic PHI, outlined in 45 C.F.R. Part 164, Subpart C, information and system security categorization level designations in accordance with FIPS 199 and FIPS 200 with implementation of all baseline security controls commensurate with the

FIPS 199 system security categorization (reference Appendix D of VA Handbook 6500, VA Information Security Program). During the development cycle a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) must be completed, provided to the COR, and approved by the VA Privacy Service in accordance with Directive 6507, VA Privacy Impact Assessment.

b. The contractor/subcontractor shall certify to the COR that applications are fully functional and operate correctly as intended on systems using the VA Federal Desktop Core Configuration (FDCC), and the common security configuration guidelines provided by NIST or the VA. This includes Internet Explorer 7 configured to operate on Windows XP and Vista (in Protected Mode on Vista) and future versions, as required.

c. The standard installation, operation, maintenance, updating, and patching of software shall not alter the configuration settings from the VA approved and FDCC configuration. Information technology staff must also use the Windows Installer Service for installation to the default "program files" directory and silently install and uninstall.

d. Applications designed for normal end users shall run in the standard user context without elevated system administration privileges.

e. The security controls must be designed, developed, approved by VA, and implemented in accordance with the provisions of VA security system development life cycle as outlined in NIST Special Publication 800-37, Guide for Applying the Risk Management Framework to Federal Information Systems, VA Handbook 6500, Information Security Program and VA Handbook 6500.5, Incorporating Security and Privacy in System Development Lifecycle.

f. The contractor/subcontractor is required to design, develop, or operate a System of Records Notice (SOR) on individuals to accomplish an agency function subject to the Privacy Act of 1974, (as amended), Public Law 93-579, December 31, 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) and applicable agency regulations. Violation of the Privacy Act may involve the imposition of criminal and civil penalties.

g. The contractor/subcontractor agrees to:

(1) Comply with the Privacy Act of 1974 (the Act) and the agency rules and regulations issued under the Act in the design, development, or operation of any system of records on individuals to accomplish an agency function when the contract specifically identifies:

(a) The Systems of Records (SOR); and

(b) The design, development, or operation work that the contractor/ subcontractor is to perform;

(1) Include the Privacy Act notification contained in this contract in every solicitation and resulting subcontract and in every subcontract awarded without a solicitation, when the work statement in the proposed subcontract requires the redesign, development, or operation of a SOR on individuals that is subject to the Privacy Act; and

(2) Include this Privacy Act clause, including this subparagraph (3), in all subcontracts awarded under this contract which requires the design, development, or operation of such a SOR.

h. In the event of violations of the Act, a civil action may be brought against the agency involved when the violation concerns the design, development, or operation of a SOR on individuals to accomplish an agency function, and criminal penalties may be imposed upon the officers or employees of the agency when the violation concerns the operation of a SOR on individuals to accomplish an agency function. For purposes of the Act, when the contract is for the operation of a SOR on individuals to accomplish an agency function, the contractor/subcontractor is considered to be an employee of the agency.

(1) "Operation of a System of Records" means performance of any of the activities associated with maintaining the SOR, including the collection, use, maintenance, and dissemination of records.

(2) "Record" means any item, collection, or grouping of information about an individual that is maintained by an agency, including, but not limited to, education, financial transactions, medical history, and criminal or employment history and contains the person's name, or identifying number, symbol, or any other identifying particular assigned to the individual, such as a fingerprint or voiceprint, or a photograph.

(3) "System of Records" means a group of any records under the control of any agency from which information is retrieved by the name of the individual or by some identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual.

i. The vendor shall ensure the security of all procured or developed systems and technologies, including their subcomponents (hereinafter referred to as "Systems"), throughout the life of this contract and any extension, warranty, or maintenance periods. This includes, but is not limited to workarounds, patches, hotfixes, upgrades, and any physical components (hereafter referred to as Security Fixes) which may be necessary to fix all security vulnerabilities published or known to the vendor anywhere in the Systems, including Operating Systems and firmware. The vendor shall ensure that Security Fixes shall not negatively impact the Systems.

j. The vendor shall notify VA within 24 hours of the discovery or disclosure of successful exploits of the vulnerability which can compromise the security of the Systems (including the confidentiality or integrity of its data and operations, or the availability of the system). Such issues shall be remediated as quickly as is practical, but in no event longer than 1 days.

k. When the Security Fixes involve installing third party patches (such as Microsoft OS patches or Adobe Acrobat), the vendor will provide written notice to the VA that the patch has been validated as not affecting the Systems within 10 working days. When the vendor is responsible for operations or maintenance of the Systems, they shall apply the Security Fixes within 1 days.

l. All other vulnerabilities shall be remediated as specified in this paragraph in a timely manner based on risk, but within 60 days of discovery or disclosure. Exceptions to this paragraph (e.g. for the convenience of VA) shall only be granted with approval of the contracting officer and the VA Assistant Secretary for Office of Information and Technology.

## 5. INFORMATION SYSTEM HOSTING, OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, OR USE

a. For information systems that are hosted, operated, maintained, or used on behalf of VA at non-VA facilities, contractors/subcontractors are fully responsible and accountable for ensuring compliance with all HIPAA, Privacy Act, FISMA, NIST, FIPS, and VA security and privacy directives and handbooks. This includes conducting compliant risk assessments, routine vulnerability scanning, system patching and change management procedures, and the completion of an acceptable contingency plan for each system. The contractor's security control procedures must be equivalent, to those procedures used to secure VA systems. A Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) must also be provided to the COR and approved by VA Privacy Service prior to operational approval. All external Internet connections to VA's network involving VA information must be reviewed and approved by VA prior to implementation.

b. Adequate security controls for collecting, processing, transmitting, and storing of Personally Identifiable Information (PII), as determined by the VA Privacy Service, must be in place, tested, and approved by VA prior to hosting, operation, maintenance, or use of the information system, or systems by or on behalf of VA. These security controls are to be assessed and stated within the PIA and if these controls are determined not to be in place, or inadequate, a Plan of Action and Milestones (POA&M) must be submitted and approved prior to the collection of PII.

c. Outsourcing (contractor facility, contractor equipment or contractor staff) of systems or network operations, telecommunications services, or other managed services requires certification and accreditation (authorization) (C&A) of the contractor's systems in accordance with VA Handbook 6500.3, Certification and Accreditation and/or the VA OCS Certification Program Office. Government- owned (government facility or government equipment) contractor-operated systems, third party or business partner networks require memorandums of understanding and interconnection agreements (MOU-ISA) which detail what data types are shared, who has access, and the appropriate level of security controls for all systems connected to VA networks.

d. The contractor/subcontractor's system must adhere to all FISMA, FIPS, and NIST standards related to the annual FISMA security controls assessment and review and update the PIA. Any deficiencies noted during this assessment must be provided to the VA contracting officer and the ISO for entry into VA's POA&M management process. The contractor/subcontractor must use VA's POA&M process to document planned remedial actions to address any deficiencies in information security policies, procedures, and practices, and the completion of those activities. Security deficiencies must be corrected within the timeframes approved by the government. Contractor/subcontractor procedures are subject to periodic, unannounced assessments by VA officials, including the VA Office of Inspector General. The physical security aspects associated with contractor/ subcontractor activities must also be subject to such assessments. If major changes to the system occur that may affect the privacy or security of the data or the system, the C&A of the system may need to be reviewed, retested and re- authorized per VA Handbook 6500.3. This may require reviewing and updating all of the documentation (PIA, System Security Plan, Contingency Plan). The Certification Program Office can provide guidance on whether a new C&A would be necessary.

e. The contractor/subcontractor must conduct an annual self assessment on all systems and outsourced services as required. Both hard copy and electronic copies of the assessment must be provided to the COR. The government reserves the right to conduct such an assessment using government personnel or another contractor/subcontractor. The contractor/subcontractor

must take appropriate and timely action (this can be specified in the contract) to correct or mitigate any weaknesses discovered during such testing, generally at no additional cost.

f. VA prohibits the installation and use of personally-owned or contractor/ subcontractor-owned equipment or software on VA's network. If non-VA owned equipment must be used to fulfill the requirements of a contract, it must be stated in the service agreement, SOW or contract. All of the security controls required for government furnished equipment (GFE) must be utilized in approved other equipment (OE) and must be funded by the owner of the equipment. All remote systems must be equipped with, and use, a VA-approved antivirus (AV) software and a personal (host-based or enclave based) firewall that is configured with a VA-approved configuration. Software must be kept current, including all critical updates and patches. Owners of approved OE are responsible for providing and maintaining the anti-viral software and the firewall on the non-VA owned OE.

g. All electronic storage media used on non-VA leased or non-VA owned IT equipment that is used to store, process, or access VA information must be handled in adherence with VA Handbook 6500.1, Electronic Media Sanitization upon: (i) completion or termination of the contract or (ii) disposal or return of the IT equipment by the contractor/subcontractor or any person acting on behalf of the contractor/subcontractor, whichever is earlier. Media (hard drives, optical disks, CDs, back-up tapes, etc.) used by the contractors/ subcontractors that contain VA information must be returned to the VA for sanitization or destruction or the contractor/subcontractor must self-certify that the media has been disposed of per 6500.1 requirements. This must be completed within 30 days of termination of the contract.

h. Bio-Medical devices and other equipment or systems containing media (hard drives, optical disks, etc.) with VA sensitive information must not be returned to the vendor at the end of lease, for trade-in, or other purposes. The options are:

- (1) Vendor must accept the system without the drive;
- (2) VA's initial medical device purchase includes a spare drive which must be installed in place of the original drive at time of turn-in; or
- (3) VA must reimburse the company for media at a reasonable open market replacement cost at time of purchase.
- (4) Due to the highly specialized and sometimes proprietary hardware and software associated with medical equipment/systems, if it is not possible for the VA to retain the hard drive, then;
  - (a) The equipment vendor must have an existing BAA if the device being traded in has sensitive information stored on it and hard drive(s) from the system are being returned physically intact; and
  - (b) Any fixed hard drive on the device must be non-destructively sanitized to the greatest extent possible without negatively impacting system operation. Selective clearing down to patient data folder level is recommended using VA approved and validated overwriting technologies/methods/tools. Applicable media sanitization specifications need to be pre-approved and described in the purchase order or contract.

(c) A statement needs to be signed by the Director (System Owner) that states that the drive could not be removed and that (a) and (b) controls above are in place and completed. The ISO needs to maintain the documentation.

## 6. SECURITY INCIDENT INVESTIGATION

a. The term "security incident" means an event that has, or could have, resulted in unauthorized access to, loss or damage to VA assets, or sensitive information, or an action that breaches VA security procedures. The contractor/ subcontractor shall immediately notify the COR and simultaneously, the designated ISO and Privacy Officer for the contract of any known or suspected security/privacy incidents, or any unauthorized disclosure of sensitive information, including that contained in system(s) to which the contractor/ subcontractor has access.

b. To the extent known by the contractor/subcontractor, the contractor/ subcontractor's notice to VA shall identify the information involved, the circumstances surrounding the incident (including to whom, how, when, and where the VA information or assets were placed at risk or compromised), and any other information that the contractor/subcontractor considers relevant.

c. With respect to unsecured protected health information, the business associate is deemed to have discovered a data breach when the business associate knew or should have known of a breach of such information. Upon discovery, the business associate must notify the covered entity of the breach. Notifications need to be made in accordance with the executed business associate agreement.

d. In instances of theft or break-in or other criminal activity, the contractor/subcontractor must concurrently report the incident to the appropriate law enforcement entity (or entities) of jurisdiction, including the VA OIG and Security and Law Enforcement. The contractor, its employees, and its subcontractors and their employees shall cooperate with VA and any law enforcement authority responsible for the investigation and prosecution of any possible criminal law violation(s) associated with any incident. The contractor/subcontractor shall cooperate with VA in any civil litigation to recover VA information, obtain monetary or other compensation from a third party for damages arising from any incident, or obtain injunctive relief against any third party arising from, or related to, the incident.

## 7. LIQUIDATED DAMAGES FOR DATA BREACH

a. Consistent with the requirements of 38 U.S.C. 5725, a contract may require access to sensitive personal information. If so, the contractor is liable to VA for liquidated damages in the event of a data breach or privacy incident involving any SPI the contractor/subcontractor processes or maintains under this contract.

b. The contractor/subcontractor shall provide notice to VA of a "security incident" as set forth in the Security Incident Investigation section above. Upon such notification, VA must secure from a non-Department entity or the VA Office of Inspector General an independent risk analysis of the data breach to determine the level of risk associated with the data breach for the potential misuse of any sensitive personal information involved in the data breach. The term 'data breach' means the loss, theft, or other unauthorized access, or any access other than that incidental to the scope of employment, to data containing sensitive personal information, in electronic or printed form, that results in the potential compromise of the confidentiality or

integrity of the data. Contractor shall fully cooperate with the entity performing the risk analysis. Failure to cooperate may be deemed a material breach and grounds for contract termination.

c. Each risk analysis shall address all relevant information concerning the data breach, including the following:

- (1) Nature of the event (loss, theft, unauthorized access);
- (2) Description of the event, including:
  - (a) date of occurrence;
  - (b) data elements involved, including any PII, such as full name, social security number, date of birth, home address, account number, disability code;
- (3) Number of individuals affected or potentially affected;
- (4) Names of individuals or groups affected or potentially affected;
- (5) Ease of logical data access to the lost, stolen or improperly accessed data in light of the degree of protection for the data, e.g., unencrypted, plain text;
- (6) Amount of time the data has been out of VA control;
- (7) The likelihood that the sensitive personal information will or has been compromised (made accessible to and usable by unauthorized persons);
- (8) Known misuses of data containing sensitive personal information, if any;
- (9) Assessment of the potential harm to the affected individuals;
- (10) Data breach analysis as outlined in 6500.2 Handbook, Management of Security and Privacy Incidents, as appropriate; and
- (11) Whether credit protection services may assist record subjects in avoiding or mitigating the results of identity theft based on the sensitive personal information that may have been compromised.

d. Based on the determinations of the independent risk analysis, the contractor shall be responsible for paying to the VA liquidated damages in the amount of \$37.50 per affected individual to cover the cost of providing credit protection services to affected individuals consisting of the following:

- (1) Notification;
- (2) One year of credit monitoring services consisting of automatic daily monitoring of at least 3 relevant credit bureau reports;
- (3) Data breach analysis;
- (4) Fraud resolution services, including writing dispute letters, initiating fraud alerts and credit freezes, to assist affected individuals to bring matters to resolution;



- (5) One year of identity theft insurance with \$20,000.00 coverage at \$0 deductible; and
- (6) Necessary legal expenses the subjects may incur to repair falsified or damaged credit records, histories, or financial affairs.

#### 8. SECURITY CONTROLS COMPLIANCE TESTING

On a periodic basis, VA, including the Office of Inspector General, reserves the right to evaluate any or all of the security controls and privacy practices implemented by the contractor under the clauses contained within the contract. With 10 working-day's notice, at the request of the government, the contractor must fully cooperate and assist in a government-sponsored security controls assessment at each location wherein VA information is processed or stored, or information systems are developed, operated, maintained, or used on behalf of VA, including those initiated by the Office of Inspector General. The government may conduct a security control assessment on shorter notice (to include unannounced assessments) as determined by VA in the event of a security incident or at any other time.

#### 9. TRAINING

a. All contractor employees and subcontractor employees requiring access to VA information and VA information systems shall complete the following before being granted access to VA information and its systems:

- (1) Sign and acknowledge (either manually or electronically) understanding of and responsibilities for compliance with the Contractor Rules of Behavior, Appendix E relating to access to VA information and information systems;

- (2) Successfully complete the VA Cyber Security Awareness and Rules of Behavior training and annually complete required security training;

- (3) Successfully complete the appropriate VA privacy training and annually complete required privacy training; and

- (4) Successfully complete any additional cyber security or privacy training, as required for VA personnel with equivalent information system access [to be defined by the VA program official and provided to the contracting officer for inclusion in the solicitation document - e.g., any role-based information security training required in accordance with NIST Special Publication 800-16, Information Technology Security Training Requirements.]

b. The contractor shall provide to the contracting officer and/or the COR a copy of the training certificates and certification of signing the Contractor Rules of Behavior for each applicable employee within 1 week of the initiation of the contract and annually thereafter, as required.

c. Failure to complete the mandatory annual training and sign the Rules of Behavior annually, within the timeframe required, is grounds for suspension or termination of all physical or electronic access privileges and removal from work on the contract until such time as the training and documents are complete.

(End of Clause)

(End of Addendum to 52.212-4)

## **C.14 52.212-5 CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT STATUTES OR EXECUTIVE ORDERS—COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES (MAY 2022) (JUL 2020) (DEVIATION)**

(a) The Contractor shall comply with the following Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) clauses, which are incorporated in this contract by reference, to implement provisions of law or Executive orders applicable to acquisitions of commercial products and commercial services:

(1) 52.203-19, Prohibition on Requiring Certain Internal Confidentiality Agreements or Statements (JAN 2017) (section 743 of Division E, Title VII, of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (Pub. L. 113-235) and its successor provisions in subsequent appropriations acts (and as extended in continuing resolutions)).

(2) 52.204–23, Prohibition on Contracting for Hardware, Software, and Services Developed or Provided by Kaspersky Lab and Other Covered Entities (NOV 2021) (Section 1634 of Pub. L. 115–91).

(3) 52.204–25, Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment. (NOV 2021) (Section 889(a)(1)(A) of Pub. L. 115–232).

(4) 52.209-10, Prohibition on Contracting with Inverted Domestic Corporations (NOV 2015).

(5) 52.233-3, Protest After Award (Aug 1996) (31 U.S.C. 3553).

(6) 52.233-4, Applicable Law for Breach of Contract Claim (Oct 2004) (Public Laws 108-77 and 108-78 (19 U.S.C. 3805 note)).

(b) The Contractor shall comply with the FAR clauses in this paragraph (b) that the Contracting Officer has indicated as being incorporated in this contract by reference to implement provisions of law or Executive orders applicable to acquisitions of commercial products and commercial services:

☒ (1) 52.203–6, Restrictions on Subcontractor Sales to the Government (JUN 2020), with Alternate I (NOV 2021) (41 U.S.C. 4704 and 10 U.S.C. 2402).

☐ (2) 52.203–13, Contractor Code of Business Ethics and Conduct (NOV 2021) (41 U.S.C. 3509).

☐ (3) 52.203–15, Whistleblower Protections under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (JUN 2010) (Section 1553 of Pub. L. 111-5). (Applies to contracts funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.)

☒ (4) 52.204–10, Reporting Executive Compensation and First-Tier Subcontract Awards (JUN 2020) (Pub. L. 109–282) (31 U.S.C. 6101 note).

☐ (5) [Reserved]

☐ (6) 52.204–14, Service Contract Reporting Requirements (OCT 2016) (Pub. L. 111–117, section 743 of Div. C).

☐ (7) 52.204–15, Service Contract Reporting Requirements for Indefinite-Delivery Contracts (OCT 2016) (Pub. L. 111–117, section 743 of Div. C).

☒ (8) 52.209–6, Protecting the Government’s Interest When Subcontracting with Contractors Debarred, Suspended, or Proposed for Debarment. (NOV 2021) (31 U.S.C. 6101 note).

☐ (9) 52.209-9, Updates of Publicly Available Information Regarding Responsibility Matters (Oct 2018) (41 U.S.C. 2313).

☐ (10) [Reserved]

☐ (11) 52.219–3, Notice of HUBZone Set-Aside or Sole-Source Award (SEP 2021) (15 U.S.C. 657a).

☐ (12) 52.219–4, Notice of Price Evaluation Preference for HUBZone Small Business Concerns (SEP 2021) (if the offeror elects to waive the preference, it shall so indicate in its offer) (15 U.S.C. 657a).

☐ (13) [Reserved]

☐ (14)(i) 52.219-6, Notice of Total Small Business Set-Aside (NOV 2020) (15 U.S.C. 644).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (MAR 2020) of 52.219-6.

☐ (15)(i) 52.219-7, Notice of Partial Small Business Set-Aside (NOV 2020) (15 U.S.C. 644).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (MAR 2020) of 52.219-7.

☒ (16) 52.219-8, Utilization of Small Business Concerns (Oct 2018) (15 U.S.C. 637(d)(2) and (3)).

☐ (17)(i) 52.219–9, Small Business Subcontracting Plan (NOV 2021) (15 U.S.C. 637(d)(4)).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (NOV 2016) of 52.219-9.

☐ (iii) Alternate II (NOV 2016) of 52.219-9.

☐ (iv) Alternate III (JUN 2020) of 52.219–9.

☐ (v) Alternate IV (SEP 2021) of 52.219–9.

☐ (18)(i) 52.219-13, Notice of Set-Aside of Orders (MAR 2020) (15 U.S.C. 644(r)).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (MAR 2020) of 52.219-13.

☐ (19) 52.219–14, Limitations on Subcontracting (SEP 2021) (15 U.S.C. 657s).

☐ (20) 52.219-16, Liquidated Damages—Subcontracting Plan (SEP 2021) (15 U.S.C. 637(d)(4)(F)(i)).

☒ (21) 52.219–27, Notice of Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business Set-Aside (SEP 2021) (15 U.S.C. 657f).

☒ (22) (i) 52.219–28, Post-Award Small Business Program Rerepresentation (SEP 2021) (15 U.S.C. 632(a)(2)).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (MAR 2020) of 52.219–28.

☐ (23) 52.219–29, Notice of Set-Aside for, or Sole-Source Award to, Economically Disadvantaged Women-Owned Small Business Concerns (SEP 2021) (15 U.S.C. 637(m)).

☐ (24) 52.219–30, Notice of Set-Aside for, or Sole-Source Award to, Women-Owned Small Business Concerns Eligible Under the Women-Owned Small Business Program (SEP 2021) (15 U.S.C. 637(m)).

☐ (25) 52.219-32, Orders Issued Directly Under Small Business Reserves (MAR 2020) (15 U.S.C. 644(r)).

☐ (26) 52.219–33, Nonmanufacturer Rule (SEP 2021) (15 U.S.C. 657s).

☒ (27) 52.222-3, Convict Labor (June 2003) (E.O. 11755).

☐ (28) 52.222–19, Child Labor—Cooperation with Authorities and Remedies (JUL 2020) (DEVIATION) (E.O. 13126).

☒ (29) 52.222-21, Prohibition of Segregated Facilities (APR 2015).

☒ (30)(i) 52.222–26, Equal Opportunity (SEP 2016) (E.O. 11246).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (FEB 1999) of 52.222-26.

☒ (31)(i) 52.222–35, Equal Opportunity for Veterans (JUN 2020) (38 U.S.C. 4212).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (JULY 2014) of 52.222-35.

☒ (32)(i) 52.222–36, Equal Opportunity for Workers with Disabilities (JUN 2020) (29 U.S.C. 793).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (JULY 2014) of 52.222-36.

☒ (33) 52.222–37, Employment Reports on Veterans (JUN 2020) (38 U.S.C. 4212).

☒ (34) 52.222-40, Notification of Employee Rights Under the National Labor Relations Act (DEC 2010) (E.O. 13496).

☒ (35)(i) 52.222-50, Combating Trafficking in Persons (NOV 2021) (22 U.S.C. chapter 78 and E.O. 13627).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (MAR 2015) of 52.222-50 (22 U.S.C. chapter 78 and E.O. 13627).

☒ (36) 52.222-54, Employment Eligibility Verification (MAY 2022). (E. O. 12989). (Not applicable to the acquisition of commercially available off-the-shelf items or certain other types of commercial products or commercial services as prescribed in FAR 22.1803.)

☐ (37)(i) 52.223-9, Estimate of Percentage of Recovered Material Content for EPA-Designated Items (May 2008) (42 U.S.C.6962(c)(3)(A)(ii)). (Not applicable to the acquisition of commercially available off-the-shelf items.)

☐ (ii) Alternate I (MAY 2008) of 52.223-9 (42 U.S.C. 6962(i)(2)(C)). (Not applicable to the acquisition of commercially available off-the-shelf items.)

☐ (38) 52.223-11, Ozone-Depleting Substances and High Global Warming Potential Hydrofluorocarbons (JUN 2016) (E.O. 13693).

☐ (39) 52.223-12, Maintenance, Service, Repair, or Disposal of Refrigeration Equipment and Air Conditioners (JUN 2016) (E.O. 13693).

☐ (40)(i) 52.223-13, Acquisition of EPEAT®-Registered Imaging Equipment (JUN 2014) (E.O.s 13423 and 13514).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (OCT 2015) of 52.223-13.

☐ (41)(i) 52.223-14, Acquisition of EPEAT®-Registered Televisions (JUN 2014) (E.O.s 13423 and 13514).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (JUN 2014) of 52.223-14.

☐ (42) 52.223-15, Energy Efficiency in Energy-Consuming Products (MAY 2020) (42 U.S.C. 8259b).

☐ (43)(i) 52.223-16, Acquisition of EPEAT®-Registered Personal Computer Products (OCT 2015) (E.O.s 13423 and 13514).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (JUN 2014) of 52.223-16.

☒ (44) 52.223-18, Encouraging Contractor Policies to Ban Text Messaging While Driving (JUN 2020) (E.O. 13513).

☐ (45) 52.223-20, Aerosols (JUN 2016) (E.O. 13693).

☐ (46) 52.223-21, Foams (JUN 2016) (E.O. 13693).

☐ (47) (i) 52.224-3, Privacy Training (JAN 2017) (5 U.S.C. 552a).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (JAN 2017) of 52.224-3.

☐ (48) 52.225-1, Buy American—Supplies (NOV 2021) (41 U.S.C. chapter 83).

☐ (49)(i) 52.225-3, Buy American—Free Trade Agreements—Israeli Trade Act (JUL 2020) (DEVIATION) (19 U.S.C. 3301 note, 19 U.S.C. 2112 note, 19 U.S.C. 3805 note, 19 U.S.C. 4001 note, 19 U.S.C chapter 29 (sections 4501-4732), Pub. L. 103-182, 108-77, 108-78, 108-286, 108-302, 109-53, 109-169, 109-283, 110-138, 112-41, 112-42, and 112-43).

☐ (ii) Alternate II (JUL 2020) (DEVIATION) of 52.225-3.

☐ (iii) Alternate III (JUL 2020) (DEVIATION) of 52.225-3.

☐ (50) 52.225–5, Trade Agreements (JUL 2020) (DEVIATION) (19 U.S.C. 2501, et seq., 19 U.S.C. 3301 note).

☒ (51) 52.225-13, Restrictions on Certain Foreign Purchases (FEB 2021) (E.O.'s, proclamations, and statutes administered by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury).

☐ (52) 52.225–26, Contractors Performing Private Security Functions Outside the United States (OCT 2016) (Section 862, as amended, of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008; 10 U.S.C. 2302 Note).

☐ (53) 52.226-4, Notice of Disaster or Emergency Area Set-Aside (Nov 2007) (42 U.S.C. 5150).

☐ (54) 52.226-5, Restrictions on Subcontracting Outside Disaster or Emergency Area (Nov 2007) (42 U.S.C. 5150).

☒ (55) 52.229–12, Tax on Certain Foreign Procurements (FEB 2021).

☐ (56) 52.232-29, Terms for Financing of Purchases of Commercial Products and Commercial Services (NOV 2021) (41 U.S.C. 4505, 10 U.S.C. 2307(f)).

☐ (57) 52.232-30, Installment Payments for Commercial Products and Commercial Services (NOV 2021) (41 U.S.C. 4505, 10 U.S.C. 2307(f)).

☒ (58) 52.232-33, Payment by Electronic Funds Transfer—System for Award Management (Oct 2018) (31 U.S.C. 3332).

☐ (59) 52.232-34, Payment by Electronic Funds Transfer—Other than System for Award Management (Jul 2013) (31 U.S.C. 3332).

☐ (60) 52.232-40, Providing Accelerated Payments to Small Business Subcontractors (DEC 2013) (DEVIATION AUG 2020) (31 U.S.C. 3903 and 10 U.S.C 2307).

☐ (61) 52.239-1, Privacy or Security Safeguards (AUG 1996) (5 U.S.C. 552a).

☐ (62) 52.242-5, Payments to Small Business Subcontractors (JAN 2017)(15 U.S.C. 637(d)(13)).

☐ (63)(i) 52.247-64, Preference for Privately Owned U.S.-Flag Commercial Vessels (NOV 2021) (46 U.S.C. 55305 and 10 U.S.C. 2631).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (Apr 2003) of 52.247-64.

☐ (iii) Alternate II (NOV 2021) of 52.247-64.

(c) The Contractor shall comply with the FAR clauses in this paragraph (c), applicable to commercial services, that the Contracting Officer has indicated as being incorporated in this contract by reference to implement provisions of law or Executive orders applicable to acquisitions of commercial products and commercial services:

☐ (1) 52.222-41, Service Contract Labor Standards (AUG 2018) (41 U.S.C. chapter 67).

□ (2) 52.222-42, Statement of Equivalent Rates for Federal Hires (MAY 2014) (29 U.S.C. 206 and 41 U.S.C. chapter 67).

□ (3) 52.222-43, Fair Labor Standards Act and Service Contract Labor Standards—Price Adjustment (Multiple Year and Option Contracts) (AUG 2018) (29 U.S.C. 206 and 41 U.S.C. chapter 67).

□ (4) 52.222-44, Fair Labor Standards Act and Service Contract Labor Standards—Price Adjustment (MAY 2014) (29 U.S.C. 206 and 41 U.S.C. chapter 67).

□ (5) 52.222-51, Exemption from Application of the Service Contract Labor Standards to Contracts for Maintenance, Calibration, or Repair of Certain Equipment—Requirements (MAY 2014) (41 U.S.C. chapter 67).

□ (6) 52.222-53, Exemption from Application of the Service Contract Labor Standards to Contracts for Certain Services—Requirements (MAY 2014) (41 U.S.C. chapter 67).

□ (7) 52.222-55, Minimum Wages for Contractor Workers Under Executive Order 14026 (JAN 2022).

□ (8) 52.222-62, Paid Sick Leave Under Executive Order 13706 (JAN 2022) (E.O. 13706).

□ (9) 52.226–6, Promoting Excess Food Donation to Nonprofit Organizations (JUN 2020) (42 U.S.C. 1792).

(d) Comptroller General Examination of Record. The Contractor shall comply with the provisions of this paragraph (d) if this contract was awarded using other than sealed bid, is in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold, as defined in FAR 2.101, on the date of award of this contract, and does not contain the clause at 52.215-2, Audit and Records—Negotiation.

(1) The Comptroller General of the United States, or an authorized representative of the Comptroller General, shall have access to and right to examine any of the Contractor's directly pertinent records involving transactions related to this contract.

(2) The Contractor shall make available at its offices at all reasonable times the records, materials, and other evidence for examination, audit, or reproduction, until 3 years after final payment under this contract or for any shorter period specified in FAR Subpart 4.7, Contractor Records Retention, of the other clauses of this contract. If this contract is completely or partially terminated, the records relating to the work terminated shall be made available for 3 years after any resulting final termination settlement. Records relating to appeals under the disputes clause or to litigation or the settlement of claims arising under or relating to this contract shall be made available until such appeals, litigation, or claims are finally resolved.

(3) As used in this clause, records include books, documents, accounting procedures and practices, and other data, regardless of type and regardless of form. This does not require the Contractor to create or maintain any record that the Contractor does not maintain in the ordinary course of business or pursuant to a provision of law.

(e)(1) Notwithstanding the requirements of the clauses in paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d) of this clause, the Contractor is not required to flow down any FAR clause, other than those in this

paragraph (e)(1) in a subcontract for commercial products or commercial services. Unless otherwise indicated below, the extent of the flow down shall be as required by the clause—

(i) 52.203–13, Contractor Code of Business Ethics and Conduct (NOV 2021) (41 U.S.C. 3509).

(ii) 52.203-19, Prohibition on Requiring Certain Internal Confidentiality Agreements or Statements (JAN 2017) (section 743 of Division E, Title VII, of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (Pub. L. 113-235) and its successor provisions in subsequent appropriations acts (and as extended in continuing resolutions)).

(iii) 52.204–23, Prohibition on Contracting for Hardware, Software, and Services Developed or Provided by Kaspersky Lab and Other Covered Entities (NOV 2021) (Section 1634 of Pub. L. 115–91).

(iv) 52.204–25, Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment. (NOV 2021) (Section 889(a)(1)(A) of Pub. L. 115–232).

(v) 52.219–8, Utilization of Small Business Concerns (Oct 2018) (15 U.S.C. 637(d)(2) and (3)), in all subcontracts that offer further subcontracting opportunities. If the subcontract (except subcontracts to small business concerns) exceeds the applicable threshold specified in FAR 19.702(a) on the date of subcontract award, the subcontractor must include 52.219–8 in lower tier subcontracts that offer subcontracting opportunities.

(vi) 52.222-21, Prohibition of Segregated Facilities (APR 2015).

(vii) 52.222–26, Equal Opportunity (SEP 2016) (E.O. 11246).

(viii) 52.222–35, Equal Opportunity for Veterans (JUN 2020) (38 U.S.C. 4212).

(ix) 52.222–36, Equal Opportunity for Workers with Disabilities (JUN 2020) (29 U.S.C. 793).

(x) 52.222–37, Employment Reports on Veterans (JUN 2020) (38 U.S.C. 4212).

(xi) 52.222-40, Notification of Employee Rights Under the National Labor Relations Act (DEC 2010) (E.O. 13496). Flow down required in accordance with paragraph (f) of FAR clause 52.222-40.

(xii) 52.222-41, Service Contract Labor Standards (AUG 2018) (41 U.S.C. chapter 67).

(xiii)(A) 52.222-50, Combating Trafficking in Persons (NOV 2021) (22 U.S.C. chapter 78 and E.O. 13627).

(B) Alternate I (MAR 2015) of 52.222-50 (22 U.S.C. chapter 78 and E.O. 13627).

(xiv) 52.222-51, Exemption from Application of the Service Contract Labor Standards to Contracts for Maintenance, Calibration, or Repair of Certain Equipment—Requirements (MAY 2014) (41 U.S.C. chapter 67).

(xv) 52.222-53, Exemption from Application of the Service Contract Labor Standards to Contracts for Certain Services—Requirements (MAY 2014) (41 U.S.C. chapter 67).



(xvi) 52.222-54, Employment Eligibility Verification (MAY 2022) (E. O. 12989).

(xvii) 52.222-55, Minimum Wages for Contractor Workers Under Executive Order 14026 (JAN 2022).

(xviii) 52.222-62 Paid Sick Leave Under Executive Order 13706 (JAN 2022) (E.O. 13706).

(xix)(A) 52.224-3, Privacy Training (JAN 2017) (5 U.S.C. 552a).

(B) Alternate I (JAN 2017) of 52.224-3.

(xx) 52.225–26, Contractors Performing Private Security Functions Outside the United States (OCT 2016) (Section 862, as amended, of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008; 10 U.S.C. 2302 Note).

(xxi) 52.226–6, Promoting Excess Food Donation to Nonprofit Organizations (JUN 2020) (42 U.S.C. 1792). Flow down required in accordance with paragraph (e) of FAR clause 52.226-6.

(xxii) 52.247-64, Preference for Privately Owned U.S.-Flag Commercial Vessels (NOV 2021) (46 U.S.C. 55305 and 10 U.S.C. 2631). Flow down required in accordance with paragraph (d) of FAR clause 52.247-64.

(2) While not required, the Contractor may include in its subcontracts for commercial products and commercial services a minimal number of additional clauses necessary to satisfy its contractual obligations.

(End of Clause)

## **SECTION D - CONTRACT DOCUMENTS, EXHIBITS, OR ATTACHMENTS**

**ATTACHMENT - ORGANIZATIONAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.**

**ATTACHMENT - CONTRACTOR CERTIFICATION IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT OF 1952.**

**ATTACHMENT - VA NOTICE OF LIMITATIONS ON SUBCONTRACTING-  
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE.**

**ATTACHMENT - RULES OF BEHAVIOR.**

**ATTACHMENT - QASP HOSPITALIST PHYSICIAN SERVICE.**

## SECTION E - SOLICITATION PROVISIONS

### E.1 52.212-1 INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFERORS—COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES (NOV 2021)

(a) *North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code and small business size standard.* The NAICS code(s) and small business size standard(s) for this acquisition appear elsewhere in the solicitation. However, the small business size standard for a concern that submits an offer, other than on a construction or service acquisition, but proposes to furnish an end item that it did not itself manufacture, process, or produce is 500 employees if the acquisition—

- (1) Is set aside for small business and has a value above the simplified acquisition threshold;
- (2) Uses the HUBZone price evaluation preference regardless of dollar value, unless the offeror waives the price evaluation preference; or
- (3) Is an 8(a), HUBZone, service-disabled veteran-owned, economically disadvantaged women-owned, or women-owned small business set-aside or sole-source award regardless of dollar value.

(b) *Submission of offers.* Submit signed and dated offers to the office specified in this solicitation at or before the exact time specified in this solicitation. Offers may be submitted on the SF 1449, letterhead stationery, or as otherwise specified in the solicitation. As a minimum, offers must show—

- (1) The solicitation number;
- (2) The time specified in the solicitation for receipt of offers;
- (3) The name, address, and telephone number of the offeror;
- (4) A technical description of the items being offered in sufficient detail to evaluate compliance with the requirements in the solicitation. This may include product literature, or other documents, if necessary;
- (5) Terms of any express warranty;
- (6) Price and any discount terms;
- (7) "Remit to" address, if different than mailing address;
- (8) A completed copy of the representations and certifications at Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 52.212-3 (see FAR 52.212-3(b) for those representations and certifications that the offeror shall complete electronically);
- (9) Acknowledgment of Solicitation Amendments;

(10) Past performance information, when included as an evaluation factor, to include recent and relevant contracts for the same or similar items and other references (including contract numbers, points of contact with telephone numbers and other relevant information); and

(11) If the offer is not submitted on the SF 1449, include a statement specifying the extent of agreement with all terms, conditions, and provisions included in the solicitation. Offers that fail to furnish required representations or information, or reject the terms and conditions of the solicitation may be excluded from consideration.

(c) *Period for acceptance of offers.* The offeror agrees to hold the prices in its offer firm for 30 calendar days from the date specified for receipt of offers, unless another time period is specified in an addendum to the solicitation.

(d) *Product samples.* When required by the solicitation, product samples shall be submitted at or prior to the time specified for receipt of offers. Unless otherwise specified in this solicitation, these samples shall be submitted at no expense to the Government, and returned at the sender's request and expense, unless they are destroyed during preaward testing.

(e) *Multiple offers.* Offerors are encouraged to submit multiple offers presenting alternative terms and conditions, including alternative line items (provided that the alternative line items are consistent with FAR subpart 4.10), or alternative commercial products or commercial services for satisfying the requirements of this solicitation. Each offer submitted will be evaluated separately.

(f) Late submissions, modifications, revisions, and withdrawals of offers.

(1) Offerors are responsible for submitting offers, and any modifications, revisions, or withdrawals, so as to reach the Government office designated in the solicitation by the time specified in the solicitation. If no time is specified in the solicitation, the time for receipt is 4:30 p.m., local time, for the designated Government office on the date that offers or revisions are due.

(2)(i) Any offer, modification, revision, or withdrawal of an offer received at the Government office designated in the solicitation after the exact time specified for receipt of offers is "late" and will not be considered unless it is received before award is made, the Contracting Officer determines that accepting the late offer would not unduly delay the acquisition; and—

(A) If it was transmitted through an electronic commerce method authorized by the solicitation, it was received at the initial point of entry to the Government infrastructure not later than 5:00 p.m. one working day prior to the date specified for receipt of offers; or

(B) There is acceptable evidence to establish that it was received at the Government installation designated for receipt of offers and was under the Government's control prior to the time set for receipt of offers; or

(C) If this solicitation is a request for proposals, it was the only proposal received.

(ii) However, a late modification of an otherwise successful offer, that makes its terms more favorable to the Government, will be considered at any time it is received and may be accepted.

(3) Acceptable evidence to establish the time of receipt at the Government installation includes the time/date stamp of that installation on the offer wrapper, other documentary evidence of receipt maintained by the installation, or oral testimony or statements of Government personnel.

(4) If an emergency or unanticipated event interrupts normal Government processes so that offers cannot be received at the Government office designated for receipt of offers by the exact time specified in the solicitation, and urgent Government requirements preclude amendment of the solicitation or other notice of an extension of the closing date, the time specified for receipt of offers will be deemed to be extended to the same time of day specified in the solicitation on the first work day on which normal Government processes resume.

(5) Offers may be withdrawn by written notice received at any time before the exact time set for receipt of offers. Oral offers in response to oral solicitations may be withdrawn orally. If the solicitation authorizes facsimile offers, offers may be withdrawn via facsimile received at any time before the exact time set for receipt of offers, subject to the conditions specified in the solicitation concerning facsimile offers. An offer may be withdrawn in person by an offeror or its authorized representative if, before the exact time set for receipt of offers, the identity of the person requesting withdrawal is established and the person signs a receipt for the offer.

(g) *Contract award (not applicable to Invitation for Bids)*. The Government intends to evaluate offers and award a contract without discussions with offerors. Therefore, the offeror's initial offer should contain the offeror's best terms from a price and technical standpoint. However, the Government reserves the right to conduct discussions if later determined by the Contracting Officer to be necessary. The Government may reject any or all offers if such action is in the public interest; accept other than the lowest offer; and waive informalities and minor irregularities in offers received.

(h) *Multiple awards*. The Government may accept any item or group of items of an offer, unless the offeror qualifies the offer by specific limitations. Unless otherwise provided in the Schedule, offers may not be submitted for quantities less than those specified. The Government reserves the right to make an award on any item for a quantity less than the quantity offered, at the unit prices offered, unless the offeror specifies otherwise in the offer.

(i) Availability of requirements documents cited in the solicitation.

(1)(i) The GSA Index of Federal Specifications, Standards and Commercial Item Descriptions, FPMR Part 101-29, and copies of specifications, standards, and commercial item descriptions cited in this solicitation may be obtained for a fee by submitting a request to—

GSA Federal Supply Service Specifications Section

Suite 8100 470 East L'Enfant Plaza, SW

Washington, DC 20407

Telephone (202) 619-8925

Facsimile (202) 619-8978.

(ii) If the General Services Administration, Department of Agriculture, or Department of Veterans Affairs issued this solicitation, a single copy of specifications, standards, and commercial item descriptions cited in this solicitation may be obtained free of charge by submitting a request to the addressee in paragraph (i)(1)(i) of this provision. Additional copies will be issued for a fee.

(2) Most unclassified Defense specifications and standards may be downloaded from the following ASSIST websites:

(i) ASSIST (<https://assist.dla.mil/online/start/>);

(ii) Quick Search (<http://quicksearch.dla.mil/>);

(3) Documents not available from ASSIST may be ordered from the Department of Defense Single Stock Point (DoDSSP) by-

(i) Using the ASSIST Shopping Wizard (<https://assist.dla.mil/wizard/index.cfm>);

(ii) Phoning the DoDSSP Customer Service Desk (215) 697-2179, Mon-Fri, 0730 to 1600 EST; or

(iii) Ordering from DoDSSP, Building 4, Section D, 700 Robbins Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094, Telephone (215) 697-2667/2179, Facsimile (215) 697-1462.

(4) Nongovernment (voluntary) standards must be obtained from the organization responsible for their preparation, publication, or maintenance.

(j) *Unique entity identifier.* (Applies to all offers that exceed the micro-purchase threshold, and offers at or below the micro-purchase threshold if the solicitation requires the Contractor to be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM).) The Offeror shall enter, in the block with its name and address on the cover page of its offer, the annotation "Unique Entity Identifier" followed by the unique entity identifier that identifies the Offeror's name and address. The Offeror also shall enter its Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) indicator, if applicable. The EFT indicator is a four-character suffix to the unique entity identifier. The suffix is assigned at the discretion of the Offeror to establish additional SAM records for identifying alternative EFT accounts (see FAR subpart 32.11) for the same entity. If the Offeror does not have a unique entity identifier, it should contact the entity designated at [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov) for unique entity identifier establishment directly to obtain one. The Offeror should indicate that it is an offeror for a Government contract when contacting the entity designated at [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov) for establishing the unique entity identifier.

(k) [Reserved]

(l) *Debriefing.* If a post-award debriefing is given to requesting offerors, the Government shall disclose the following information, if applicable:

(1) The agency's evaluation of the significant weak or deficient factors in the debriefed offeror's offer.

(2) The overall evaluated cost or price and technical rating of the successful and the debriefed offeror and past performance information on the debriefed offeror.

(3) The overall ranking of all offerors, when any ranking was developed by the agency during source selection.

(4) A summary of the rationale for award;

(5) For acquisitions of commercial products, the make and model of the product to be delivered by the successful offeror.

(6) Reasonable responses to relevant questions posed by the debriefed offeror as to whether source-selection procedures set forth in the solicitation, applicable regulations, and other applicable authorities were followed by the agency.

(End of Provision)

#### ADDENDUM to FAR 52.212-1 INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFERORS—COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES

Provisions that are incorporated by reference (by Citation Number, Title, and Date), have the same force and effect as if they were given in full text. Upon request, the Contracting Officer will make their full text available.

The following provisions are incorporated into 52.212-1 as an addendum to this solicitation:

Offeror shall provide the following in their proposal:

1. Signed Copy of Standard Form 1449 (SF 1449)
2. Completed Price/Cost Schedule for all CLINS.
3. Signed Conflict of Interest Memo from Section D- Contract Documents, Exhibits, or Attachments.
4. Signed Immigration Certification from Section D- Contract Documents, Exhibits, or Attachments.
5. Signed Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan (QASP) from Section D- Contract Documents, Exhibits, or Attachments.
6. Signed VAAR 852.219-77 VA Notice of Notice of Limitations on Subcontracting- Certificate of Compliance for Services
7. Signed Contractor Rules of Behavior from Section D – Contract Documents, Exhibits, or Attachments.
8. Copy of Malpractice and Medical Liability Insurance Certificates.

Upon Contract Award, the contractor shall have ten (10) days to identify and provide key personnel with required qualification information for each submitted candidate.

1. Copy of Curriculum Vitae (CV)
2. Copy of Advance Cardiac Life Support/Basic Life Support (ACLS/BLS) Certification
3. Board Certification (or documentation demonstrating board eligibility)
4. Health Safety Items – Provide proof of Health Record as required by solicitation
5. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Card if required by solicitation.
6. National Provider ID (NPI)

## E.2 52.252-1 SOLICITATION PROVISIONS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE (FEB 1998)

This solicitation incorporates one or more solicitation provisions by reference, with the same force and effect as if they were given in full text. Upon request, the Contracting Officer will make their full text available. The offeror is cautioned that the listed provisions may include blocks that must be completed by the offeror and submitted with its quotation or offer. In lieu of submitting the full text of those provisions, the offeror may identify the provision by paragraph identifier and provide the appropriate information with its quotation or offer. Also, the full text of a solicitation provision may be accessed electronically at this/these address(es):

<http://www.acquisition.gov/far/index.html>

<http://www.va.gov/oal/library/vaar/>

(End of Provision)

<u>FAR Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
52.204-7	SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT	OCT 2018
52.204-16	COMMERCIAL AND GOVERNMENT ENTITY CODE REPORTING	AUG 2020
52.217-5	EVALUATION OF OPTIONS	JUL 1990
52.229-11	TAX ON CERTAIN FOREIGN PROCUREMENTS—NOTICE AND REPRESENTATION	JUN 2020

## E.3 52.204-24 REPRESENTATION REGARDING CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT (NOV 2021)

The Offeror shall not complete the representation at paragraph (d)(1) of this provision if the Offeror has represented that it “does not provide covered telecommunications equipment or services as a part of its offered products or services to the Government in the performance of any contract, subcontract, or other contractual instrument” in paragraph (c)(1) in the provision at 52.204–26, Covered Telecommunications Equipment or Services—Representation, or in paragraph (v)(2)(i) of the provision at 52.212–3, Offeror Representations and Certifications—Commercial Products and Commercial Services. The Offeror shall not complete the representation in paragraph (d)(2) of this provision if the Offeror has represented that it “does not use covered telecommunications equipment or services, or any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services” in paragraph (c)(2) of the provision at 52.204–26, or in paragraph (v)(2)(ii) of the provision at 52.212–3.

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this provision—

*Backhaul, covered telecommunications equipment or services, critical technology, interconnection arrangements, reasonable inquiry, roaming, and substantial or essential component* have the meanings provided in the clause 52.204–25, Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.

(b) *Prohibition.* (1) 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. Nothing in the prohibition shall be construed to—

(i) Prohibit the head of an executive agency from procuring with an entity to provide a service that connects to the facilities of a third-party, such as backhaul, roaming, or interconnection arrangements; or

(ii) Cover telecommunications equipment that cannot route or redirect user data traffic or cannot permit visibility into any user data or packets that such equipment transmits or otherwise handles.

(2) Section 889(a)(1)(B) 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, 2020, from entering into a contract or extending or renewing a contract with an entity that uses 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. This prohibition applies to the use of covered telecommunications equipment or services, regardless of whether that use is in performance of work under a Federal contract. Nothing in the prohibition shall be construed to—

(i) Prohibit the head of an executive agency from procuring with an entity to provide a service that connects to the facilities of a third-party, such as backhaul, roaming, or interconnection arrangements; or

(ii) Cover telecommunications equipment that cannot route or redirect user data traffic or cannot permit visibility into any user data or packets that such equipment transmits or otherwise handles.

(c) *Procedures.* The Offeror shall review the list of excluded parties in the System for Award Management (SAM) (<https://www.sam.gov>) for entities excluded from receiving federal awards for “covered telecommunications equipment or services.”

(d) *Representations.* The Offeror represents that—

(1) 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. The Offeror shall provide the additional disclosure information required at paragraph (e)(1) of this section if the Offeror responds “will” in paragraph (d)(1) of this section; and

(2) After conducting a reasonable inquiry, for purposes of this representation, the Offeror represents that—

It [ ] does, [ ] does not use covered telecommunications equipment or services, or use any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services. The Offeror shall provide the additional disclosure information required at paragraph (e)(2) of this section if the Offeror responds “does” in paragraph (d)(2) of this section.

(e) *Disclosures*. (1) Disclosure for the representation in paragraph (d)(1) of this provision. If the Offeror has responded “will” in the representation in paragraph (d)(1) of this provision, the Offeror shall provide the following information as part of the offer:

(i) For covered equipment—

(A) The entity that produced the covered telecommunications equipment (include entity name, unique entity identifier, CAGE code, and whether the entity was the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) or a distributor, if known);

(B) A description of all covered telecommunications equipment offered (include brand; model number, such as OEM number, manufacturer part number, or wholesaler number; and item description, as applicable); and

(C) Explanation of the proposed use of covered telecommunications equipment and any factors relevant to determining if such use would be permissible under the prohibition in paragraph (b)(1) of this provision.

(ii) For covered services—

(A) If the service is related to item maintenance: A description of all covered telecommunications services offered (include on the item being maintained: Brand; model number, such as OEM number, manufacturer part number, or wholesaler number; and item description, as applicable); or

(B) If not associated with maintenance, the Product Service Code (PSC) of the service being provided; and explanation of the proposed use of covered telecommunications services and any factors relevant to determining if such use would be permissible under the prohibition in paragraph (b)(1) of this provision.

(2) Disclosure for the representation in paragraph (d)(2) of this provision. If the Offeror has responded “does” in the representation in paragraph (d)(2) of this provision, the Offeror shall provide the following information as part of the offer:

(i) For covered equipment—

(A) 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);

(B) A description of all covered telecommunications equipment offered (include brand; model number, such as OEM number, manufacturer part number, or wholesaler number; and item description, as applicable); and

(C) Explanation of the proposed use of covered telecommunications equipment and any factors relevant to determining if such use would be permissible under the prohibition in paragraph (b)(2) of this provision.

(ii) For covered services—

(A) If the service is related to item maintenance: A description of all covered telecommunications services offered (include on the item being maintained: Brand; model number, such as OEM number, manufacturer part number, or wholesaler number; and item description, as applicable); or

(B) If not associated with maintenance, the PSC of the service being provided; and explanation of the proposed use of covered telecommunications services and any factors relevant to determining if such use would be permissible under the prohibition in paragraph (b)(2) of this provision.

(End of Provision)

#### **E.4 52.216-1 TYPE OF CONTRACT (APR 1984)**

The Government contemplates award of a Firm-Fixed-Price contract resulting from this solicitation.

(End of Provision)

#### **E.5 52.233-2 SERVICE OF PROTEST (SEP 2006)**

Protests, as defined in section 33.101 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation, that are filed directly with an agency, and copies of any protests that are filed with the Government Accountability Office (GAO), shall be served on the Contracting Officer (addressed as follows) by obtaining written and dated acknowledgment of receipt from:

Pradeepkumar Elayath

Contract Specialist  
Hand-Carried Address:

Department of Veterans Affairs

NETWORK 23 CONTRACTING OFFICE

316 Robert Street N. STE. 506  
St. Paul MN 55101  
Mailing Address:

Department of Veterans Affairs

NETWORK 23 CONTRACTING OFFICE

316 Robert Street N. STE. 506  
St. Paul MN 55101

(b) The copy of any protest shall be received in the office designated above within one day of filing a protest with the GAO.

(End of Provision)

(End of Addendum to 52.212-1)

## **E.6 52.212-2 EVALUATION—COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES (NOV 2021)**

(a) The Government will award a contract resulting from this solicitation to the responsible offeror whose offer conforming to the solicitation will be most advantageous to the Government, price and other factors considered. The following factors shall be used to evaluate offers:

### **LOWEST PRICE TECHNICALLY ACCEPTABLE**

Award will be made using the Lowest Price Technically Acceptable (LPTA) evaluation process, where the non-price factors are evaluated on an acceptable/unacceptable basis. Best value is expected to result from selection of the technically acceptable quote with the lowest evaluated price. Award will be made on the basis of the lowest evaluated price of quotes meeting or exceeding the acceptability standards for non-price factors.

The offeror must submit detailed information for each evaluation criteria below. The information must demonstrate that the offered service meets the minimum specifications found in the Statement of Work to be evaluated as acceptable. VA will evaluate the quotes on the basis of information furnished by the offeror in response to this solicitation.

The following technical factors shall be used to evaluate offers to determine technical acceptability.

### **Technical Factor 1**

**Offeror shall provide a Management/Administrative Capabilities and Responsibility Statement that demonstrates that their company provides medical staffing services.** The information shall reflect understanding of the required qualifications and experience for the requested service being solicited. The offeror shall clearly demonstrate that they can provide the required medical service. Information shall include and corroborate that the firm has adequate personnel to provide required clinical services and the capability to maintain continuity of patient care in a timely manner. The statement must show how staffing will be recruited and include a plan for providing staffing, back-up, and retention. Furthermore, the contractor shall provide a plan reflecting how employees will be replaced should they leave the contractor's employment.

### **Technical Factor 2**

**The offeror shall have three (3) years of recent experience providing healthcare staffing service.** The offeror shall list contracts that reflect a minimum of three (3) years of recent healthcare staffing experience. List the contract, identify the service, list the value, identify a point of contact, email, and phone number.

### **Technical Factor 3**

**The offeror shall provide past performance information.** The offeror shall list three separate and recent references. Identify other Federal, State, or local government contracts, along with private sector contracts, that are of a similar scope, size, and complexity that are ongoing, or that your company has had within the past three years. For each reference, provide the following information:

- Contact person's name, address, email, and phone.
- Description of the requirement, contract number, value of contract, award and completion date
- Any problems associated with the contract and how you worked to resolve them.
- Provide documentation of any past or pending malpractice/tort claims (if any).

### **Technical Factor 4**

**Offeror shall provide the following documentation:**

1. Signed Copy of Standard Form 1449 (SF 1449)
2. Completed Price/Cost Schedule for all CLINS.
3. Signed Conflict of Interest Memo from Section D- Contract Documents, Exhibits, or Attachments.
4. Signed Immigration Certification from Section D- Contract Documents, Exhibits, or Attachments.
5. Signed Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan (QASP) from Section D- Contract Documents, Exhibits, or Attachments.
6. Signe VAAR 852.219-77 VA Notice of Notice of Limitations on Subcontracting-Certificate of Compliance for Services
7. Signed Contractor Rules of Behavior from Section D – Contract Documents, Exhibits, or Attachments.
8. Copy of Malpractice and Medical Liability Insurance Certificates.

**Price:** The VA Contracting Officer must determine the price to be fair and reasonable prior to award. The evaluation of Price shall be inclusive of all line items found within the price/cost schedule of the solicitation. The Grand Total amount shall be used to determine the lowest priced offer.

(b) *Options.* The Government will evaluate offers for award purposes by adding the total price for all options to the total price for the basic requirement. The Government may determine that an offer is unacceptable if the option prices are significantly unbalanced. Evaluation of options shall not obligate the Government to exercise the option(s).

Evaluation of Option to Extend Services under 52.217-8. For the purposes of the award of the resulting contract, the Government intends to evaluate the option to extend services, provided under FAR 52.217-8, as follows: The evaluation will consider the possibility that the option can be exercised at any time, and can be exercised in increments of one to six months, but for no more than a total of six months during the life of the contract. The evaluation will assume that the prices for any option exercised under FAR 52.217-8 will be at the same rates as those in effect under the contract at time of award. The evaluation will therefore assume that the addition of the price or prices of any possible extension or extensions under FAR 52.217-8 to the total price for the basic requirement and the total price for the priced options has the same effect on the total price of all offers relative to each other, and will not affect the ranking of offers based on price, unless, after reviewing the offers, the Government determines that there is a basis for finding otherwise. This evaluation will not obligate the Government to exercise any option under FAR 52.217-8.

(c) A written notice of award or acceptance of an offer, mailed or otherwise furnished to the successful offeror within the time for acceptance specified in the offer, shall result in a binding contract without further action by either party. Before the offer's specified expiration time, the Government may accept an offer (or part of an offer), whether or not there are negotiations after its receipt, unless a written notice of withdrawal is received before award.

(End of Provision)

## **E.7 52.212-3 OFFEROR REPRESENTATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS— COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES (MAY 2022) (JUL 2020) (DEVIATION)**

The Offeror shall complete only paragraph (b) of this provision if the Offeror has completed the annual representations and certification electronically in the System for Award Management (SAM) accessed through <https://www.sam.gov>. If the Offeror has not completed the annual representations and certifications electronically, the Offeror shall complete only paragraphs (c) through (v) of this provision.

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this provision—

*Covered telecommunications equipment or services* has the meaning provided in the clause 52.204-25, Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.

*Economically disadvantaged women-owned small business (EDWOSB) concern* means a small business concern that is at least 51 percent directly and unconditionally owned by, and the management and daily business operations of which are controlled by, one or more women who are citizens of the United States and who are economically disadvantaged in accordance with 13 CFR part 127. It automatically qualifies as a women-owned small business eligible under the WOSB Program.

*Forced or indentured child labor* means all work or service—

(1) Exacted from any person under the age of 18 under the menace of any penalty for its nonperformance and for which the worker does not offer himself voluntarily; or

(2) Performed by any person under the age of 18 pursuant to a contract the enforcement of which can be accomplished by process or penalties.

*Highest-level owner* means the entity that owns or controls an immediate owner of the offeror, or that owns or controls one or more entities that control an immediate owner of the offeror. No entity owns or exercises control of the highest level owner.

*Immediate owner* means an entity, other than the offeror, that has direct control of the offeror. Indicators of control include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following: Ownership or interlocking management, identity of interests among family members, shared facilities and equipment, and the common use of employees.

*Inverted domestic corporation* means a foreign incorporated entity that meets the definition of an inverted domestic corporation under 6 U.S.C. 395(b), applied in accordance with the rules and definitions of 6 U.S.C. 395(c).

*Manufactured end product* means any end product in product and service codes (PSCs) 1000-9999, except—

(1) PSC 5510, Lumber and Related Basic Wood Materials;

(2) Product or Service Group (PSG) 87, Agricultural Supplies;

- (3) PSG 88, Live Animals;
- (4) PSG 89, Subsistence;
- (5) PSC 9410, Crude Grades of Plant Materials;
- (6) PSC 9430, Miscellaneous Crude Animal Products, Inedible;
- (7) PSC 9440, Miscellaneous Crude Agricultural and Forestry Products;
- (8) PSC 9610, Ores;
- (9) PSC 9620, Minerals, Natural and Synthetic; and
- (10) PSC 9630, Additive Metal Materials.

*Place of manufacture* means the place where an end product is assembled out of components, or otherwise made or processed from raw materials into the finished product that is to be provided to the Government. If a product is disassembled and reassembled, the place of reassembly is not the place of manufacture.

*Predecessor* means an entity that is replaced by a successor and includes any predecessors of the predecessor.

*Reasonable inquiry* has the meaning provided in the clause 52.204–25, Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.

*Restricted business operations* means business operations in Sudan that include power production activities, mineral extraction activities, oil-related activities, or the production of military equipment, as those terms are defined in the Sudan Accountability and Divestment Act of 2007 (Pub. L. 110-174). Restricted business operations do not include business operations that the person (as that term is defined in Section 2 of the Sudan Accountability and Divestment Act of 2007) conducting the business can demonstrate—

- (1) Are conducted under contract directly and exclusively with the regional government of southern Sudan;
- (2) Are conducted pursuant to specific authorization from the Office of Foreign Assets Control in the Department of the Treasury, or are expressly exempted under Federal law from the requirement to be conducted under such authorization;
- (3) Consist of providing goods or services to marginalized populations of Sudan;
- (4) Consist of providing goods or services to an internationally recognized peacekeeping force or humanitarian organization;
- (5) Consist of providing goods or services that are used only to promote health or education;  
or
- (6) Have been voluntarily suspended.

*Sensitive technology*—

(1) Means hardware, software, telecommunications equipment, or any other technology that is to be used specifically—

(i) To restrict the free flow of unbiased information in Iran; or

(ii) To disrupt, monitor, or otherwise restrict speech of the people of Iran; and

(2) Does not include information or informational materials the export of which the President does not have the authority to regulate or prohibit pursuant to section 203(b)(3) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702(b)(3)).

*Service-disabled veteran-owned small business concern—*

(1) Means a small business concern—

(i) Not less than 51 percent of which is owned by one or more service-disabled veterans or, in the case of any publicly owned business, not less than 51 percent of the stock of which is owned by one or more service-disabled veterans; and

(ii) The management and daily business operations of which are controlled by one or more service-disabled veterans or, in the case of a service-disabled veteran with permanent and severe disability, the spouse or permanent caregiver of such veteran.

(2) Service-disabled veteran means a veteran, as defined in 38 U.S.C. 101(2), with a disability that is service-connected, as defined in 38 U.S.C. 101(16).

*Small business concern—*

(1) Means a concern, including its affiliates, that is independently owned and operated, not dominant in the field of operation in which it is bidding on Government contracts, and qualified as a small business under the criteria in 13 CFR part 121 and size standards in this solicitation.

(2) *Affiliates*, as used in this definition, means business concerns, one of whom directly or indirectly controls or has the power to control the others, or a third party or parties control or have the power to control the others. In determining whether affiliation exists, consideration is given to all appropriate factors including common ownership, common management, and contractual relationships. SBA determines affiliation based on the factors set forth at 13 CFR 121.103.

*Small disadvantaged business concern*, consistent with 13 CFR 124.1002, means a small business concern under the size standard applicable to the acquisition, that—

(1) Is at least 51 percent unconditionally and directly owned (as defined at 13 CFR 124.105) by—

(i) One or more socially disadvantaged (as defined at 13 CFR 124.103) and economically disadvantaged (as defined at 13 CFR 124.104) individuals who are citizens of the United States; and



(ii) Each individual claiming economic disadvantage has a net worth not exceeding \$750,000 after taking into account the applicable exclusions set forth at 13 CFR 124.104(c)(2); and

(2) The management and daily business operations of which are controlled (as defined at 13.CFR 124.106) by individuals, who meet the criteria in paragraphs (1)(i) and (ii) of this definition.

*Subsidiary* means an entity in which more than 50 percent of the entity is owned—

(1) Directly by a parent corporation; or

(2) Through another subsidiary of a parent corporation.

*Successor* means an entity that has replaced a predecessor by acquiring the assets and carrying out the affairs of the predecessor under a new name (often through acquisition or merger). The term “successor” does not include new offices/divisions of the same company or a company that only changes its name. The extent of the responsibility of the successor for the liabilities of the predecessor may vary, depending on State law and specific circumstances.

*Veteran-owned small business concern* means a small business concern—

(1) Not less than 51 percent of which is owned by one or more veterans (as defined at 38 U.S.C. 101(2)) or, in the case of any publicly owned business, not less than 51 percent of the stock of which is owned by one or more veterans; and

(2) The management and daily business operations of which are controlled by one or more veterans.

*Women-owned business concern* means a concern which is at least 51 percent owned by one or more women; or in the case of any publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of its stock is owned by one or more women; and whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more women.

*Women-owned small business concern* means a small business concern—

(1) That is at least 51 percent owned by one or more women; or, in the case of any publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of the stock of which is owned by one or more women; and

(2) Whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more women.

*Women-owned small business (WOSB) concern eligible under the WOSB Program* (in accordance with 13 CFR part 127), means a small business concern that is at least 51 percent directly and unconditionally owned by, and the management and daily business operations of which are controlled by, one or more women who are citizens of the United States.

(b)(1) Annual Representations and Certifications. Any changes provided by the Offeror in paragraph (b)(2) of this provision do not automatically change the representations and certifications in SAM.

(2) The offeror has completed the annual representations and certifications electronically in SAM accessed through <http://www.sam.gov>. After reviewing SAM information, the Offeror verifies by submission of this offer that the representations and certifications currently posted electronically at FAR 52.212–3, Offeror Representations and Certifications—Commercial Products and Commercial Services, have been entered or updated in the last 12 months, are current, accurate, complete, and applicable to this solicitation (including the business size standard(s) applicable to the NAICS code(s) referenced for this solicitation), at the time this offer is submitted and are incorporated in this offer by reference (see FAR 4.1201), except for paragraphs .

(c) Offerors must complete the following representations when the resulting contract is for supplies to be delivered or services to be performed in the United States or its outlying areas, or when the contracting officer has applied part 19 in accordance with 19.000(b)(1)(ii). Check all that apply.

(1) *Small business concern.* The offeror represents as part of its offer that it ☐ is, ☐ is not a small business concern.

(2) *Veteran-owned small business concern.* [Complete only if the offeror represented itself as a small business concern in paragraph (c)(1) of this provision.] The offeror represents as part of its offer that it ☐ is, ☐ is not a veteran-owned small business concern.

(3) *Service-disabled veteran-owned small business concern.* [Complete only if the offeror represented itself as a veteran-owned small business concern in paragraph (c)(2) of this provision.] The offeror represents as part of its offer that it ☐ is, ☐ is not a service-disabled veteran-owned small business concern.

(4) *Small disadvantaged business concern.* [Complete only if the offeror represented itself as a small business concern in paragraph (c)(1) of this provision.] The offeror represents that it ☐ is, ☐ is not a small disadvantaged business concern as defined in 13 CFR 124.1002.

(5) *Women-owned small business concern.* [Complete only if the offeror represented itself as a small business concern in paragraph (c)(1) of this provision.] The offeror represents that it ☐ is, ☐ is not a women-owned small business concern.

(6) WOSB concern eligible under the WOSB Program. [Complete only if the offeror represented itself as a women-owned small business concern in paragraph (c)(5) of this provision.] The offeror represents that—

(i) It ☐ is, ☐ is not a WOSB concern eligible under the WOSB Program, has provided all the required documents to the WOSB Repository, and no change in circumstances or adverse decisions have been issued that affects its eligibility; and

(ii) It ☐ is, ☐ is not a joint venture that complies with the requirements of 13 CFR part 127, and the representation in paragraph (c)(6)(i) of this provision is accurate for each WOSB concern eligible under the WOSB Program participating in the joint venture. [The offeror shall enter the name or names of the WOSB concern eligible under the WOSB Program and other small businesses that are participating in the joint venture: \_\_\_\_\_.] Each WOSB

concern eligible under the WOSB Program participating in the joint venture shall submit a separate signed copy of the WOSB representation.

(7) Economically disadvantaged women-owned small business (EDWOSB) concern. *[Complete only if the offeror represented itself as a WOSB concern eligible under the WOSB Program in (c)(6) of this provision.]* The offeror represents that—

(i) It [ ] is, [ ] is not an EDWOSB concern, has provided all the required documents to the WOSB Repository, and no change in circumstances or adverse decisions have been issued that affects its eligibility; and

(ii) It [ ] is, [ ] is not a joint venture that complies with the requirements of 13 CFR part 127, and the representation in paragraph (c)(7)(i) of this provision is accurate for each EDWOSB concern participating in the joint venture. *[The offeror shall enter the name or names of the EDWOSB concern and other small businesses that are participating in the joint venture: \_\_\_\_\_.]* Each EDWOSB concern participating in the joint venture shall submit a separate signed copy of the EDWOSB representation.

**Note:** Complete paragraphs (c)(8) and (c)(9) only if this solicitation is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.

(8) *Women-owned business concern (other than small business concern).* *[Complete only if the offeror is a women-owned business concern and did not represent itself as a small business concern in paragraph (c)(1) of this provision.]* The offeror represents that it [ ] is a women-owned business concern.

(9) *Tie bid priority for labor surplus area concerns.* If this is an invitation for bid, small business offerors may identify the labor surplus areas in which costs to be incurred on account of manufacturing or production (by offeror or first-tier subcontractors) amount to more than 50 percent of the contract price:

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(10) *HUBZone small business concern.* *[Complete only if the offeror represented itself as a small business concern in paragraph (c)(1) of this provision.]* The offeror represents, as part of its offer, that—

(i) It [ ] is, [ ] is not a HUBZone small business concern listed, on the date of this representation, on the List of Qualified HUBZone Small Business Concerns maintained by the Small Business Administration, and no material change in ownership and control, principal office, or HUBZone employee percentage has occurred since it was certified by the Small Business Administration in accordance with 13 CFR Part 126; and

(ii) It [ ] is, [ ] is not a joint venture that complies with the requirements of 13 CFR Part 126, and the representation in paragraph (c)(10)(i) of this provision is accurate for the HUBZone small business concern or concerns that are participating in the joint venture. *[The offeror shall enter the name or names of the HUBZone small business concern or concerns that are participating in the joint venture: \_\_\_\_\_.]* Each HUBZone small business concern participating in the joint venture shall submit a separate signed copy of the HUBZone representation.

(d) Representations required to implement provisions of Executive Order 11246—

(1) *Previous contracts and compliance.* The offeror represents that—

(i) It ☐ has, ☐ has not participated in a previous contract or subcontract subject to the Equal Opportunity clause of this solicitation; and

(ii) It ☐ has, ☐ has not filed all required compliance reports.

(2) *Affirmative Action Compliance.* The offeror represents that—

(i) It ☐ has developed and has on file, ☐ has not developed and does not have on file, at each establishment, affirmative action programs required by rules and regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR parts 60-1 and 60-2), or

(ii) It ☐ has not previously had contracts subject to the written affirmative action programs requirement of the rules and regulations of the Secretary of Labor.

(e) *Certification Regarding Payments to Influence Federal Transactions* (31 U.S.C. 1352). (Applies only if the contract is expected to exceed \$150,000.) By submission of its offer, the offeror certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief that no Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress or an employee of a Member of Congress on his or her behalf in connection with the award of any resultant contract. If any registrants under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 have made a lobbying contact on behalf of the offeror with respect to this contract, the offeror shall complete and submit, with its offer, OMB Standard Form LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities, to provide the name of the registrants. The offeror need not report regularly employed officers or employees of the offeror to whom payments of reasonable compensation were made.

(f) *Buy American Certificate.* (Applies only if the clause at Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 52.225-1, Buy American—Supplies, is included in this solicitation.)

(1)(i) The Offeror certifies that each end product, except those listed in paragraph (f)(2) of this provision, is a domestic end product.

(ii) The Offeror shall list as foreign end products those end products manufactured in the United States that do not qualify as domestic end products.

(iii) The terms “domestic end product,” “end product,” “foreign end product,” and “United States” are defined in the clause of this solicitation entitled “Buy American—Supplies.”

(2) Foreign End Products:

Line item No.	Country of origin

*[List as necessary]*

(3) The Government will evaluate offers in accordance with the policies and procedures of FAR Part 25.

(g)(1) *Buy American—Free Trade Agreements—Israeli Trade Act Certificate*. (Applies only if the clause at FAR 52.225-3, Buy American—Free Trade Agreements—Israeli Trade Act (JUL 2020) (DEVIATION), is included in this solicitation.)

(i)(A) The Offeror certifies that each end product, except those listed in paragraph (g)(1)(ii) or (iii) of this provision, is a domestic end product.

(B) The terms “Bahrainian, Moroccan, Omani, Panamanian, or Peruvian end product,” “domestic end product,” “end product,” “foreign end product,” “Free Trade Agreement country,” “Free Trade Agreement country end product,” “Israeli end product,” and “United States” are defined in the clause of this solicitation entitled “Buy American—Free Trade Agreements—Israeli Trade Act.”

(ii) The Offeror certifies that the following supplies are Free Trade Agreement country end products (other than Bahrainian, Moroccan, Omani, Panamanian, or Peruvian end products) or Israeli end products as defined in the clause of this solicitation entitled “Buy American—Free Trade Agreements—Israeli Trade Act.”

Free Trade Agreement Country End Products (Other than Bahrainian, Moroccan, Omani, Panamanian, or Peruvian End Products) or Israeli End Products:

Line item No.	Country of origin

*[List as necessary]*

(iii) The Offeror shall list those supplies that are foreign end products (other than those listed in paragraph (g)(1)(ii) of this provision) as defined in the clause of this solicitation entitled “Buy American—Free Trade Agreements—Israeli Trade Act.” The Offeror shall list as other foreign end products those end products manufactured in the United States that do not qualify as domestic end products.

Other Foreign End Products:

Line item No.	Country of origin

*[List as necessary]*

(iv) The Government will evaluate offers in accordance with the policies and procedures of FAR Part 25.

(2) *Buy American—Free Trade Agreements—Israeli Trade Act Certificate, Alternate II. (JUL 2020) (DEVIATION)* If *Alternate II* to the clause at FAR 52.225-3 is included in this solicitation, substitute the following paragraph (g)(1)(ii) for paragraph (g)(1)(ii) of the basic provision:

(g)(1)(ii) The offeror certifies that the following supplies are Israeli end products as defined in the clause of this solicitation entitled “Buy American—Free Trade Agreements—Israeli Trade Act”:

Israeli End Products:

Line item No.

[List as necessary]

(3) *Buy American—Free Trade Agreements—Israeli Trade Act Certificate, Alternate III (JUL 2020) (DEVIATION)*. If *Alternate III* to the clause at FAR 52.225-3 is included in this solicitation, substitute the following paragraph (g)(1)(ii) for paragraph (g)(1)(ii) of the basic provision:

(g)(1)(ii) The offeror certifies that the following supplies are Free Trade Agreement country end products (other than Bahrainian, Korean, Moroccan, Omani, Panamanian, or Peruvian end products) or Israeli end products as defined in the clause of this solicitation entitled “Buy American—Free Trade Agreements—Israeli Trade Act”:

Free Trade Agreement Country End Products (Other than Bahrainian, Korean, Moroccan, Omani, Panamanian, or Peruvian End Products) or Israeli End Products:

Line item No.	Country of origin

[List as necessary]

(4) *Trade Agreements Certificate*. (Applies only if the clause at FAR 52.225-5, Trade Agreements (JUL 2020) (DEVIATION), is included in this solicitation.)

(i) The offeror certifies that each end product, except those listed in paragraph (g)(5)(ii) of this provision, is a U.S.-made or designated country end product, as defined in the clause of this solicitation entitled “Trade Agreements”.

(ii) The offeror shall list as other end products those end products that are not U.S.-made or designated country end products.

Other End Products:

Line item No.	Country of origin

[List as necessary]

(iii) The Government will evaluate offers in accordance with the policies and procedures of FAR Part 25. For line items covered by the WTO GPA, the Government will evaluate offers of U.S.-made or designated country end products without regard to the restrictions of the Buy American statute. The Government will consider for award only offers of U.S.-made or designated country end products unless the Contracting Officer determines that there are no offers for such products or that the offers for such products are insufficient to fulfill the requirements of the solicitation.

(h) *Certification Regarding Responsibility Matters* (Executive Order 12689). (Applies only if the contract value is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.) The offeror certifies, to the best of its knowledge and belief, that the offeror and/or any of its principals—

(1) ☐ Are, ☐ are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or declared ineligible for the award of contracts by any Federal agency;

(2) ☐ Have, ☐ have not, within a three-year period preceding this offer, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for: commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a Federal, state or local government contract or subcontract; violation of Federal or state antitrust statutes relating to the submission of offers; or Commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, tax evasion, violating Federal criminal tax laws, or receiving stolen property;

(3) ☐ Are, ☐ are not presently indicted for, or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a Government entity with, commission of any of these offenses enumerated in paragraph (h)(2) of this clause; and

(4) ☐ Have, ☐ have not, within a three-year period preceding this offer, been notified of any delinquent Federal taxes in an amount that exceeds the threshold at 9.104–5(a)(2) for which the liability remains unsatisfied.

(i) Taxes are considered delinquent if both of the following criteria apply:

(A) *The tax liability is finally determined.* The liability is finally determined if it has been assessed. A liability is not finally determined if there is a pending administrative or judicial

challenge. In the case of a judicial challenge to the liability, the liability is not finally determined until all judicial appeal rights have been exhausted.

(B) *The taxpayer is delinquent in making payment.* A taxpayer is delinquent if the taxpayer has failed to pay the tax liability when full payment was due and required. A taxpayer is not delinquent in cases where enforced collection action is precluded.

(ii) *Examples.*

(A) The taxpayer has received a statutory notice of deficiency, under I.R.C. Sec. 6212, which entitles the taxpayer to seek Tax Court review of a proposed tax deficiency. This is not a delinquent tax because it is not a final tax liability. Should the taxpayer seek Tax Court review, this will not be a final tax liability until the taxpayer has exercised all judicial appeal rights.

(B) The IRS has filed a notice of Federal tax lien with respect to an assessed tax liability, and the taxpayer has been issued a notice under I.R.C. Sec. 6320 entitling the taxpayer to request a hearing with the IRS Office of Appeals contesting the lien filing, and to further appeal to the Tax Court if the IRS determines to sustain the lien filing. In the course of the hearing, the taxpayer is entitled to contest the underlying tax liability because the taxpayer has had no prior opportunity to contest the liability. This is not a delinquent tax because it is not a final tax liability. Should the taxpayer seek tax court review, this will not be a final tax liability until the taxpayer has exercised all judicial appeal rights.

(C) The taxpayer has entered into an installment agreement pursuant to I.R.C. Sec. 6159. The taxpayer is making timely payments and is in full compliance with the agreement terms. The taxpayer is not delinquent because the taxpayer is not currently required to make full payment.

(D) The taxpayer has filed for bankruptcy protection. The taxpayer is not delinquent because enforced collection action is stayed under 11 U.S.C. 362 (the Bankruptcy Code).

(i) *Certification Regarding Knowledge of Child Labor for Listed End Products (Executive Order 13126).*

(1) *Listed end products.*

Listed end product	Listed countries of origin

(2) *Certification. [If the Contracting Officer has identified end products and countries of origin in paragraph (i)(1) of this provision, then the offeror must certify to either (i)(2)(i) or (i)(2)(ii) by checking the appropriate block.]*



☐ (i) The offeror will not supply any end product listed in paragraph (i)(1) of this provision that was mined, produced, or manufactured in the corresponding country as listed for that product.

☐ (ii) The offeror may supply an end product listed in paragraph (i)(1) of this provision that was mined, produced, or manufactured in the corresponding country as listed for that product. The offeror certifies that it has made a good faith effort to determine whether forced or indentured child labor was used to mine, produce, or manufacture any such end product furnished under this contract. On the basis of those efforts, the offeror certifies that it is not aware of any such use of child labor.

(j) *Place of manufacture.* (Does not apply unless the solicitation is predominantly for the acquisition of manufactured end products.) For statistical purposes only, the offeror shall indicate whether the place of manufacture of the end products it expects to provide in response to this solicitation is predominantly—

(1) ☐ In the United States (Check this box if the total anticipated price of offered end products manufactured in the United States exceeds the total anticipated price of offered end products manufactured outside the United States); or

(2) ☐ Outside the United States.

(k) *Certificates regarding exemptions from the application of the Service Contract Labor Standards.* (Certification by the offeror as to its compliance with respect to the contract also constitutes its certification as to compliance by its subcontractor if it subcontracts out the exempt services.) [*The contracting officer is to check a box to indicate if paragraph (k)(1) or (k)(2) applies.*]

☐ (1) Maintenance, calibration, or repair of certain equipment as described in FAR 22.1003-4(c)(1). The offeror ☐ does ☐ does not certify that—

(i) The items of equipment to be serviced under this contract are used regularly for other than Governmental purposes and are sold or traded by the offeror (or subcontractor in the case of an exempt subcontract) in substantial quantities to the general public in the course of normal business operations;

(ii) The services will be furnished at prices which are, or are based on, established catalog or market prices (see FAR 22.1003-4(c)(2)(ii)) for the maintenance, calibration, or repair of such equipment; and

(iii) The compensation (wage and fringe benefits) plan for all service employees performing work under the contract will be the same as that used for these employees and equivalent employees servicing the same equipment of commercial customers.

☐ (2) Certain services as described in FAR 22.1003-4(d)(1). The offeror ☐ does ☐ does not certify that—

(i) The services under the contract are offered and sold regularly to non-Governmental customers, and are provided by the offeror (or subcontractor in the case of an exempt subcontract) to the general public in substantial quantities in the course of normal business operations;

(ii) The contract services will be furnished at prices that are, or are based on, established catalog or market prices (see FAR 22.1003-4(d)(2)(iii));

(iii) Each service employee who will perform the services under the contract will spend only a small portion of his or her time (a monthly average of less than 20 percent of the available hours on an annualized basis, or less than 20 percent of available hours during the contract period if the contract period is less than a month) servicing the Government contract; and

(iv) The compensation (wage and fringe benefits) plan for all service employees performing work under the contract is the same as that used for these employees and equivalent employees servicing commercial customers.

(3) If paragraph (k)(1) or (k)(2) of this clause applies—

(i) If the offeror does not certify to the conditions in paragraph (k)(1) or (k)(2) and the Contracting Officer did not attach a Service Contract Labor Standards wage determination to the solicitation, the offeror shall notify the Contracting Officer as soon as possible; and

(ii) The Contracting Officer may not make an award to the offeror if the offeror fails to execute the certification in paragraph (k)(1) or (k)(2) of this clause or to contact the Contracting Officer as required in paragraph (k)(3)(i) of this clause.

(l) *Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)* (26 U.S.C. 6109, 31 U.S.C. 7701). (Not applicable if the offeror is required to provide this information to SAM to be eligible for award.)

(1) All offerors must submit the information required in paragraphs (l)(3) through (l)(5) of this provision to comply with debt collection requirements of 31 U.S.C. 7701(c) and 3325(d), reporting requirements of 26 U.S.C. 6041, 6041A, and 6050M, and implementing regulations issued by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

(2) The TIN may be used by the Government to collect and report on any delinquent amounts arising out of the offeror's relationship with the Government (31 U.S.C. 7701(c)(3)). If the resulting contract is subject to the payment reporting requirements described in FAR 4.904, the TIN provided hereunder may be matched with IRS records to verify the accuracy of the offeror's TIN.

(3) *Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)*.

☐ TIN: \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ TIN has been applied for.

☐ TIN is not required because:

☐ Offeror is a nonresident alien, foreign corporation, or foreign partnership that does not have income effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States and does not have an office or place of business or a fiscal paying agent in the United States;

☐ Offeror is an agency or instrumentality of a foreign government;

☐ Offeror is an agency or instrumentality of the Federal Government.

(4) *Type of organization.*

- ☐ Sole proprietorship;
- ☐ Partnership;
- ☐ Corporate entity (not tax-exempt);
- ☐ Corporate entity (tax-exempt);
- ☐ Government entity (Federal, State, or local);
- ☐ Foreign government;
- ☐ International organization per 26 CFR 1.6049-4;
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

(5) *Common parent.*

- ☐ Offeror is not owned or controlled by a common parent;
- ☐ Name and TIN of common parent:

Name \_\_\_\_\_.

TIN \_\_\_\_\_.

(m) *Restricted business operations in Sudan.* By submission of its offer, the offeror certifies that the offeror does not conduct any restricted business operations in Sudan.

(n) *Prohibition on Contracting with Inverted Domestic Corporations.*

(1) Government agencies are not permitted to use appropriated (or otherwise made available) funds for contracts with either an inverted domestic corporation, or a subsidiary of an inverted domestic corporation, unless the exception at 9.108-2(b) applies or the requirement is waived in accordance with the procedures at 9.108-4.

(2) *Representation.* The Offeror represents that—

- (i) It ☐ is, ☐ is not an inverted domestic corporation; and
- (ii) It ☐ is, ☐ is not a subsidiary of an inverted domestic corporation.

(o) *Prohibition on contracting with entities engaging in certain activities or transactions relating to Iran.*

(1) The offeror shall email questions concerning sensitive technology to the Department of State at [CISADA106@state.gov](mailto:CISADA106@state.gov).

(2) *Representation and certifications.* Unless a waiver is granted or an exception applies as provided in paragraph (o)(3) of this provision, by submission of its offer, the offeror—

(i) Represents, to the best of its knowledge and belief, that the offeror does not export any sensitive technology to the government of Iran or any entities or individuals owned or controlled by, or acting on behalf or at the direction of, the government of Iran;

(ii) Certifies that the offeror, or any person owned or controlled by the offeror, does not engage in any activities for which sanctions may be imposed under section 5 of the Iran Sanctions Act; and

(iii) Certifies that the offeror, and any person owned or controlled by the offeror, does not knowingly engage in any transaction that exceeds the threshold at FAR 25.703–2(a)(2) with Iran’s Revolutionary Guard Corps or any of its officials, agents, or affiliates, the property and interests in property of which are blocked pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*) (see OFAC’s Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List at <https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/SDN-List/Pages/default.aspx>).

(3) The representation and certification requirements of paragraph (o)(2) of this provision do not apply if—

(i) This solicitation includes a trade agreements certification (*e.g.*, 52.212–3(g) or a comparable agency provision); and

(ii) The offeror has certified that all the offered products to be supplied are designated country end products.

(p) *Ownership or Control of Offeror.* (Applies in all solicitations when there is a requirement to be registered in SAM or a requirement to have a unique entity identifier in the solicitation).

(1) The Offeror represents that it ☐ has or ☐ does not have an immediate owner. If the Offeror has more than one immediate owner (such as a joint venture), then the Offeror shall respond to paragraph (2) and if applicable, paragraph (3) of this provision for each participant in the joint venture.

(2) If the Offeror indicates “has” in paragraph (p)(1) of this provision, enter the following information:

Immediate owner CAGE code: \_\_\_\_.

Immediate owner legal name: \_\_\_\_.

*(Do not use a “doing business as” name)*

Is the immediate owner owned or controlled by another entity: ☐ Yes or ☐ No.

(3) If the Offeror indicates “yes” in paragraph (p)(2) of this provision, indicating that the immediate owner is owned or controlled by another entity, then enter the following information:

Highest-level owner CAGE code: \_\_\_\_.

Highest-level owner legal name: \_\_\_\_.

*(Do not use a “doing business as” name)*

*(q) Representation by Corporations Regarding Delinquent Tax Liability or a Felony Conviction under any Federal Law.*

(1) As required by sections 744 and 745 of Division E of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (Pub. L. 113-235), and similar provisions, if contained in subsequent appropriations acts, The Government will not enter into a contract with any corporation that—

(i) Has any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability, where the awarding agency is aware of the unpaid tax liability, unless an agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and made a determination that suspension or debarment is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government; or

(ii) Was convicted of a felony criminal violation under any Federal law within the preceding 24 months, where the awarding agency is aware of the conviction, unless an agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and made a determination that this action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

(2) The Offeror represents that—

(i) It is ☐ is not ☐ a corporation that has any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability; and

(ii) It is ☐ is not ☐ a corporation that was convicted of a felony criminal violation under a Federal law within the preceding 24 months.

*(r) Predecessor of Offeror.* (Applies in all solicitations that include the provision at 52.204-16, Commercial and Government Entity Code Reporting.)

(1) The Offeror represents that it ☐ is or ☐ is not a successor to a predecessor that held a Federal contract or grant within the last three years.

(2) If the Offeror has indicated “is” in paragraph (r)(1) of this provision, enter the following information for all predecessors that held a Federal contract or grant within the last three years (if more than one predecessor, list in reverse chronological order):

Predecessor CAGE code: \_\_\_\_ (or mark “Unknown”).

Predecessor legal name: \_\_\_\_.

*(Do not use a “doing business as” name).*

(s) [Reserved]

*(t) Public Disclosure of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Reduction Goals.* Applies in all solicitations that require offerors to register in SAM (12.301(d)(1)).

(1) This representation shall be completed if the Offeror received \$7.5 million or more in contract awards in the prior Federal fiscal year. The representation is optional if the Offeror received less than \$7.5 million in Federal contract awards in the prior Federal fiscal year.

(2) Representation. [Offeror to check applicable block(s) in paragraph (t)(2)(i) and (ii)]. (i) The Offeror (itself or through its immediate owner or highest-level owner) [ ] does, [ ] does not publicly disclose greenhouse gas emissions, i.e., makes available on a publicly accessible Web site the results of a greenhouse gas inventory, performed in accordance with an accounting standard with publicly available and consistently applied criteria, such as the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Standard.

(ii) The Offeror (itself or through its immediate owner or highest-level owner) [ ] does, [ ] does not publicly disclose a quantitative greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal, i.e., make available on a publicly accessible Web site a target to reduce absolute emissions or emissions intensity by a specific quantity or percentage.

(iii) A publicly accessible Web site includes the Offeror's own Web site or a recognized, third-party greenhouse gas emissions reporting program.

(3) If the Offeror checked "does" in paragraphs (t)(2)(i) or (t)(2)(ii) of this provision, respectively, the Offeror shall provide the publicly accessible Web site(s) where greenhouse gas emissions and/or reduction goals are reported:\_\_\_\_\_.

(u)(1) In accordance with section 743 of Division E, Title VII, of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (Pub. L. 113-235) and its successor provisions in subsequent appropriations acts (and as extended in continuing resolutions), Government agencies are not permitted to use appropriated (or otherwise made available) funds for contracts with an entity that requires employees or subcontractors of such entity seeking to report waste, fraud, or abuse to sign internal confidentiality agreements or statements prohibiting or otherwise restricting such employees or subcontractors from lawfully reporting such waste, fraud, or abuse to a designated investigative or law enforcement representative of a Federal department or agency authorized to receive such information.

(2) The prohibition in paragraph (u)(1) of this provision does not contravene requirements applicable to Standard Form 312 (Classified Information Nondisclosure Agreement), Form 4414 (Sensitive Compartmented Information Nondisclosure Agreement), or any other form issued by a Federal department or agency governing the nondisclosure of classified information.

(3) Representation. By submission of its offer, the Offeror represents that it will not require its employees or subcontractors to sign or comply with internal confidentiality agreements or statements prohibiting or otherwise restricting such employees or subcontractors from lawfully reporting waste, fraud, or abuse related to the performance of a Government contract to a designated investigative or law enforcement representative of a Federal department or agency authorized to receive such information (e.g., agency Office of the Inspector General).

(v) *Covered Telecommunications Equipment or Services—Representation.* Section 889(a)(1)(A) and section 889(a)(1)(B) of [Public Law 115-232](#).

(1) The Offeror shall review the list of excluded parties in the System for Award Management (SAM) (<https://www.sam.gov>) for entities excluded from receiving federal awards for “covered telecommunications equipment or services”.

(2) The Offeror represents that—

(i) It ☐ does, ☐ does not provide covered telecommunications equipment or services as a part of its offered products or services to the Government in the performance of any contract, subcontract, or other contractual instrument.

(ii) After conducting a reasonable inquiry for purposes of this representation, that it ☐ does, ☐ does not use covered telecommunications equipment or services, or any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services.

(End of Provision)