

SOURCES SOUGHT NOTICE: Cancer Surveillance Trend Estimates from Multiple Data Sets *for the National Cancer Institute (NCI), Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences (DCCPS), Surveillance Research Program (SRP)*

Notice Number:

SS-NCI-130127-HN

Issued By:

National Cancer Institute (NCI),

Office of Acquisitions (OA)

<http://www.nci.nih.gov> or <http://rcb.cancer.gov/rcb-internet/>

Key Dates:

Capability Statement Due Date: August 20, 2013 by 11 AM EST

This Small Business Sources Sought Notice (SBSS) is for information and planning purposes only and shall not be construed as a solicitation or as an obligation on the part of the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

The purpose of this Sources Sought Notice is to identify qualified **small business concerns** including 8(a), HUBZone or Service-Disabled Veteran-owned business concerns that are interested in and capable of performing the work described herein. The NCI does not intend to award a contract on the basis of responses received nor otherwise pay for the preparation of any information submitted. Your responses to the information requested will assist the Government in determining the appropriate acquisition method, including whether a set-aside is possible. An organization that is not considered a small business under the applicable NAICS code should not submit a response to this notice. This requirement is assigned North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 541990 with a size standard of \$14 million is being considered.

As a result of this Sources Sought Notice, the NCI may issue a Request for Quotation (RFQ) **through FedBizOpps**. THERE IS NO SOLICITATION AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME. However, should such a requirement materialize, no basis for claims against NCI shall arise as a result of a response to this Sources Sought Notice or the NCI's use of such information as either part of our evaluation process or in developing specifications for any subsequent requirement.

The Statistical Methodology and Applications Branch (SMAB) of the Surveillance Research Program (SRP) conducts and supports statistical research, modeling, and collaboration related to the cancer surveillance and cancer control missions of the NCI. Essential corollaries to the development of cancer surveillance databases and cancer control interventions are the statistical analyses and mathematical modeling that contribute insight into the interpretation of these data. Research within SMAB is targeted at improving and developing statistical methods and models for use in the analysis and presentation of population-based cancer statistics, as well as in the broader areas of cancer surveillance and cancer control research. SMAB promotes and facilitates the use of these methods and models at the NCI, in other federal agencies, as well as throughout the extramural research community.

Cancer surveillance research requires estimates of the prevalence of cancer risk factors and screening behaviors for small geographical areas such as counties. Small area estimates require the use of statistical models. Small area estimates using a model-based approach have been previously developed (Raghunathan *et al.*, 2007). These estimates and supporting documentation have been placed on a website (<http://sae.cancer.gov>) which was launched in May, 2010.

The most recent estimates are also posted in the State Cancer Profiles website (<http://statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov/>) in order to optimize the usage. Those estimates are obtained using the responses from two surveys: the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS); and the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS).

More up-to-date estimates and additional outcomes are required by data users. The purpose of this project is to provide the necessary support to keep the small area estimates up to date including updating covariates, updating the current outcomes, developing new outcomes, and evaluating the validity of the small area estimates.

The contractor shall provide a Ph.D. level Statistician with expertise in small area estimation and a master level Statistician in programming.

The contractor shall perform the following tasks:

Task 1: Evaluate the validity of the small area estimates.

The contractor shall perform various analyses and statistical tests to evaluate the validity of the small area estimates for the two most recent data periods. This could involve analyses such as aggregating the small area estimates up to larger levels of geography and then comparing the modeled estimates against direct estimates, checking the convergence of the MCMC algorithm, etc.

Task 2: Plan for the future of this combining survey project

Starting from survey year 2011, the BRFSS public use file includes cell phone only samples in order to improve the household coverage. The methodology developed so far for this combining NHIS/BRFSS may not apply to BRFSS data any more for survey year 2011 and after. In addition, the BRFSS staff is producing small area estimates using BRFSS only for year 2011 and after. The contractor shall recommend options on how to produce the estimates of survey year 2011 and after.

The Period of Performance is twelve months from the contract award date.

How to Submit a Response:

1. Page Limitations:

Interested qualified small business organizations should submit a tailored capability statement for this requirement not to exceed 10 single sided pages including all attachments, resumes, charts, etc. (single spaced, 12 point font minimum) that clearly details the ability to perform the requirements of the notice described above. All proprietary information should be marked as such. Responses should include a minimum of a two pages demonstrating experience over the past two years meeting the requirements of this notice. Statements should also include an indication of current certified small business status; this indication should be clearly marked on the first page of your capability statement (preferable placed under the eligible small business concern's name and address). Responses will be reviewed only by NIH personnel and will be held in a confidential manner.

2. Due Date:

Capability statements are due no later than 11:00 a.m. EST on August 20, 2013.

3. Delivery Point:

All information furnished must be in writing and must contain sufficient detail to allow the NCI to determine if it can meet the unique specifications described herein. Written responses can be emailed to Huy Nguyen, Contract Specialist at anh-huy.nguyen@nih.gov or mailed to the address located under Point of Contact. All questions must be in writing and can be faxed to (240) 276-5401 or emailed. A determination by the Government not to compete this requirement based upon responses to this notice is solely within the discretion of the Government. Information received will be considered solely for the purpose of determining

whether to conduct a competitive procurement. In order to receive an award, contractors must have valid registration and certification in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) www.ccr.gov and the Online Representations and Certifications Applications (ORCA), <http://orca.bpn.gov>. No collect calls will be accepted. Please reference number SS-NCI-130127-HN on all correspondence.

4. Disclaimer and Important Notes:

This notice does not obligate the Government to award a contract or otherwise pay for the information provided in response. The Government reserves the right to use information provided by respondents for any purpose deemed necessary and legally appropriate. Any organization responding to this notice should ensure that its response is complete and sufficiently detailed to allow the Government to determine the organization's qualifications to perform the work. Respondents are advised that the Government is under no obligation to acknowledge receipt of the information received or provide feedback to respondents with respect to any information submitted. After a review of the responses received, an RFQ may be published on FedBizOpps. However, responses to this notice will not be considered adequate responses to a solicitation(s).

Point of Contact:

Inquiries concerning this Notice may be direct to:

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