

Universal Service Administrative Co. (USAC) AAD-23-143 – High Cost Broadband Network Engineering Audit Services Questions & Answers

Q #	Question	Answer
1	Is there an incumbent on this contract? If so, please provide the incumbent name, current contract number, Period of performance, value of the contract.	USAC does not provide information regarding incumbent contractors.
2	If new then please provide the estimated level of effort?	Offerors should determine the estimated level of effort and submit a proposal based on the requirements stated in the RFP.
3	Do we have to register to any system (example : sam.gov) to be considered for this opportunity?	Offerors must be registered with sam.gov and must provide their Unique Entity ID number with their proposal response.
4	Is it acceptable for SACs in which the testing will be performed in the stationary position on wireline infrastructure, include just one team member? Whereas when the testing is performed on mobile wireless (i.e., Alaska Plan) the team includes two members as covered in Section 9.A.2.iii.e (page 10).	Yes, AAD initially noted that the testing should be performed by two people for security reasons, but if the contractor would like to have the wireline structures tested by one team member, USAC is okay with this approach.
5	Can the locations and/or carriers be provided to support the development of pricing estimates?	The locations and carriers will vary for each task order and cannot be specified for this RFP. Only the fixed labor hour prices are required to be specified in the Offeror's proposal response to the RFP. The fixed labor-hour prices should be fully loaded and must include wages, overhead, general and administrative expenses, taxes and profit for each labor category. The labor rates established in this RFP will be used for base and all option years.
6	The RFP does not reference that the carrier would be present for the wireline testing at the selected locations of "carrier testing". For the testing to occur on the network, the network must be active. How will this be accomplished without the carrier's involvement? Is there an expectation that the contractor will coordinate directly with the carrier to obtain access?	The carrier will make sure the tested location has a provision link/connection. Testing announcement and coordination will occur prior to testing.



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7	Real-time tracking requires a mobile internet connection, which some of these areas will not have. In instances where there is no internet connection available, insufficient mobile wireless and/or testing landline connection, the testing results may not be sent to the storing server until connectivity returns. This may cause a delay in the results being available on the dashboard provided. The delay would typically be less than a few hours and the software would automatically update the dashboard once connectivity returns. Is this acceptable?	Yes, USAC will accept the delay in terms of the circumstances stated.