

**United States Department of Agriculture**  
**1400 Independence Avenue,**  
S.W. # Room 3522  
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Room 3522-S, STOP 0239  
Washington, DC 20036

## Information

Description: **12-3J14-17-S-0144**  
Bid invitation number: **2000004583**  
Purchasing Group: **AMS-Fruit and Veg**

## SOLICITATION Domestic Commodity Invitation

### Bid invitation Overview

Bid Timezone: Central Time  
Start Date: 02/27/2017 13:30:00  
Offer Due Date : 03/09/2017 13:00:00  
  
Opening date: 03/09/2017 13:00:00  
  
Invitation Type : Definite Delivery

### Additional requested information:

#### Tendering text - Header :

Fresh Fruit, SOLICITATION NO: 2000004583

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) invites offers to sell fresh fruit pursuant to the AMS Master Solicitation for use in the National School Lunch Program and other Federal Food and Nutrition Assistance Programs. Acceptances will be announced by midnight, March 23, 2017. Deliveries are to be made between July 01, 2017 and September 13, 2017.

One hundred percent (100%) of the Apples Red Delicious Fresh CTN-40 LB (100514), Apples Empire Fresh CTN-40 LB (100517), Apples Fresh PKG-12/3 LB (110561) and Apples Fuji Fresh CTN-40 LB (100522) will be set aside for Small Business (SB). NAICS Code 311991 with a size standard of 500 employees or less applies to this requirement.

Offerors who intend to use more than one processing plant and shipping point for contracts awarded under this solicitation, other than the processing plant and shipping point entered in their bids, may submit a list of their approved processing plants and shipping points on a separate sheet of paper to be uploaded in WBSCM, and to be submitted with their bids.

Vendors or subcontractors who are supplying fresh fruit are required to undergo and pass the USDA AMS SCP Specialty Crop Inspection Division (SCID) Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Good Handling Practices (GHP) verification audits, and must score at least 80% on each of the following scopes for each product being offered:

GAP - Farm Review; Field Harvesting & Field Packing Activities  
GHP - House Packing Facility; and Storage & Transportation.

All these requirements shall be met PRIOR to the bid opening date.

Brokers are exempt from the GAP/GHP requirements themselves, however its suppliers/subcontractors performing under the contract shall have the applicable USDA GAP/GHP certification(s).

Verification audits shall be performed by the USDA, AMS, SCP-SCID representatives only.

In order to verify that the contractor and/or its subcontractors/suppliers are in compliance with GAP/GHP certification, offerors are required to submit GAP/GHP certificates for all scopes of the contract being performed and for all commodities being offered. Certificates must be uploaded in WBSCM as part of their bids. Bids received without copies of GAP/GHP certificates, or missing one of the scopes specified above for GAP/GHP will be deemed nonresponsive.

Offerors who do not intend to perform the contracts awarded under this solicitation must submit a list of their approved subcontractors/suppliers on separate sheet of paper to be uploaded into WBSCM with their GAP/GHP certificates, and to be submitted with their bids.

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Offerors may contact USDA/AMS after contract award to submit a waiver request for additional suppliers to be added to the approved list on the contract and include copies of their GAP/GHP certificates to the waiver request.

The Fresh Produce Audit Verification Program can be accessed at the following website:  
<https://www.ams.usda.gov/gapghp.htm>

If USDA/AMS finds that suppliers used by the contractor are not in compliance with AMS GAP/GHP certification requirements after the product is delivered, the following courses of action will apply:

1. The first time non compliance occurs AMS will deduct a 50% discount from the invoice for all noncompliant deliveries.
2. The second time non compliance occurs:
  - a. USDA/AMS will deduct a 50% discount from the invoice for all noncompliant deliveries;
  - b. The contract will be terminated for default; and
  - c. The contractor will be suspended from participating in all future USDA/AMS fresh fruit and vegetable solicitations for a period of one (1) year from the date of contract termination.

This Solicitation may show multiple stops on some line items; however, the number of stops will be limited to a maximum of three. To determine the number of destinations, review the "Tendering Text" for the lot, which will indicate the City and State for each stop. Bidders may submit different prices for each stop. However, a price is required on all line items within the lot.

For offshore destinations (Puerto Rico, Hawaii, etc.), offerors have the option to choose to enter their bids direct to the offshore destination or to the port.

Purchases will be made on an f.o.b. destination basis to cities on this Solicitation. Destination quantities listed are estimates and subject to adjustment based on offerings, changes in recipient needs, market conditions, and program operations.

All prime vendors are reminded that they are prohibited from subcontracting with companies or individuals that have been suspended or debarred.

Offers must be submitted electronically via the Web-Based Supply Chain Management System (WBSCM). Offers submitted by any means other than WBSCM will be deemed nonresponsive. Offerors must be active in WBSCM and have the required bidder roles in order to submit offers under this Solicitation. Once connected, follow the online procedures. A "HELP" button provides detailed instructions or call (202) 720-4517 for assistance.

Offerors are cautioned to bid only quantities they can reasonably expect to produce and deliver. Once awarded substitutions for variety changes will not be permitted. Inquiries about the Master Solicitation dated January 01, 2017; the Commodity Specification for Fresh Fruit dated August 2014, as amended; or this Solicitation should be directed to the Contracting Officer; USDA, AMS, Room 3522-South; 1400 Independence Avenue,

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S.W.; Washington, D.C. 20250-0239. Telephone: (202) 720-4517.FAX:(202) 720-2782.

The USDA prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.) To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voiceusers)

**See attached documents:**

- 1 . Commodity Spec for Fresh Fruit Amendment 1 dated March 2015
- 2 . Commodity Specification for Fresh Fruit dated August 2014
- 3 . AMS Master Solicitation dated January 1 2017

**Attributes :**

OFFEROR CERTIFIES THAT THE OFFER IS MADE SUBJECT TO THE MASTER SOLICITATION; COMMODITY SUPPLEMENT AND/OR SPECIFICATION(S); THIS SOLICITATION; THE AGRICULTURE ACQUISITION REGULATIONS (AGAR) AND THE FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATIONS (FAR).

Timely performance: Offeror and any subcontractor have completed required performance of any USDA contract prior to this bid opening.

- Permitted values:
- Have been delivered
  - Have not been delivered
  - Have not been delivered, but the Offeror has notified the Contracting Officer
  - There are no existing contracts/purchase orders

OFFEROR REQUESTS HUBZONE SMALL BUSINESS PRICE EVALUATION PREFERENCE. APPLIES ONLY TO FIRMS CERTIFIED IN THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S HUBZONE PROGRAM (FAR SUBPART 19.13).MUST BE THE MANUFACTURER/PRODUCER OF THE PRODUCT TO RECEIVE A PRICE PREFERENCE

Furnish name, title, phone number, fax number, and e-mail address of person submitting this bid (must be an officer of the company or a person authorized to execute contracts/purchase orders on behalf of the bidder).

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IS THE OFFEROR AN ENTITY THAT HAS FILED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION IN ONE OF THE FIFTY STATES, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, OR THE VARIOUS TERRITORIES OF THE UNITED STATES? YOU MUST ANSWER THE NEXT 3 QUESTIONS IF THE ANSWER FOR THIS QUESTION IS YES.

HAS THE OFFEROR BEEN CONVICTED OF A FELONY CRIMINAL VIOLATION UNDER FEDERAL OR STATE LAW IN THE 24 MONTHS PRECEDING THE DATE OF OFFER?

HAS THE OFFEROR HAD ANY OFFICER OR AGENT OF OFFEROR CONVICTED OF A FELONY CRIMINAL VIOLATION FOR ACTIONS TAKEN ON BEHALF OF OFFEROR UNDER FEDERAL OR STATE LAW IN THE 24 MONTHS PRECEDING THE DATE OF OFFER?

DOES THE OFFEROR HAVE ANY UNPAID FEDERAL TAX LIABILITY ASSESSED, WHICH ALL JUDICIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED/LAPSED, THAT IS NOT BEING PAID IN A TIMELY MANNER PURSUANT TO AGREEMENT WITH THE AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE FOR COLLECTING IT?

Offeror acknowledges receipt of the amendment(s) to the solicitation. Select N/A if no amendment was issued to the solicitation.

Permitted values:       - Yes  
                                   - No  
                                   - N/A

**Bid invitation Item details**

	Item Material	Description	Required by	ZipCode	Quantity	
<b>10</b>		<b>FRUIT, FRESH</b>				
<b>20</b>		<b>APPLES EMPIRE FRESH CTN-40 LB</b>				
<b>30</b>		<b>JACKSON MS</b>				
40	100517	APPLES EMPIRE FRESH CTN-40 LB	07/17/2017-07/19/2017	39201	924	CS
50	100517	APPLES EMPIRE FRESH CTN-40 LB	09/11/2017-09/13/2017	39201	924	CS
		<b>Total Quantity for APPLES EMPIRE FRESH CTN-40 LB</b>			<b>1,848</b>	<b>CS</b>
<b>60</b>		<b>APPLES FUJI FRESH F CARTON-40 LB</b>				
<b>70</b>		<b>LOT: 476026320 LAS VEGAS NV / RENO NV /</b>				
80	100522	APPLES FUJI FRESH F CARTON-40 LB	07/10/2017-07/12/2017	89101	462	CS
90	100522	APPLES FUJI FRESH F CARTON-40 LB	07/10/2017-07/12/2017	89512	462	CS
		<b>Total Quantity for APPLES FUJI FRESH F CARTON-40 LB</b>			<b>924</b>	<b>CS</b>
<b>100</b>		<b>APPLES GRANNY SMITH FRESH CTN-40 LB</b>				
<b>110</b>		<b>BUFFALO NY</b>				
120	110543	APPLES GRANNY SMITH FRESH CTN-40 LB	09/04/2017-09/06/2017	14206	924	CS
		<b>Total Quantity for APPLES GRANNY SMITH FRESH CTN-40 LB</b>			<b>924</b>	<b>CS</b>
<b>130</b>		<b>APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB</b>				

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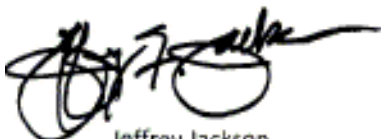
Item	Material	Description	Required by	ZipCode	Quantity	
<b>140 MESA AZ</b>						
150	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	07/03/2017-07/05/2017	85210	924	CS
160	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	07/31/2017-08/02/2017	85210	924	CS
170	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	09/11/2017-09/13/2017	85210	924	CS
<b>180 ATLANTA GA</b>						
190	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	08/07/2017-08/09/2017	30318	924	CS
200	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	09/11/2017-09/13/2017	30318	924	CS
<b>210 HILLSIDE NJ</b>						
220	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	07/10/2017-07/12/2017	07205	924	CS
230	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	09/11/2017-09/13/2017	07205	924	CS
<b>240 NEPTUNE NJ</b>						
250	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	07/10/2017-07/12/2017	07753	924	CS
260	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	09/11/2017-09/13/2017	07753	924	CS
<b>270 PENNSAUKEN NJ</b>						
280	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	07/10/2017-07/12/2017	08110	924	CS
290	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	09/11/2017-09/13/2017	08110	924	CS
<b>300 HOUSTON TX</b>						
310	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	07/10/2017-07/12/2017	77029	924	CS
320	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	08/28/2017-08/30/2017	77029	924	CS
<b>330 SAN ANTONIO TX</b>						
340	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	07/10/2017-07/12/2017	78227	924	CS
<b>350 LOT: 344417443 EWING NJ / PHILLIPSBUR...</b>						
Tendering text - Item : LOT: 344417443 EWING NJ / PHILLIPSBURG NJ / VINELAND NJ /						
360	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	09/11/2017-09/13/2017	08628	231	CS
370	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	09/11/2017-09/13/2017	08865	231	CS
380	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	09/11/2017-09/13/2017	08360	462	CS
<b>390 LOT: 437864481 EWING NJ / PHILLIPSBUR...</b>						
Tendering text - Item : LOT: 437864481 EWING NJ / PHILLIPSBURG NJ / VINELAND NJ /						
400	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	07/10/2017-07/12/2017	08628	231	CS
410	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	07/10/2017-07/12/2017	08865	231	CS
420	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	07/10/2017-07/12/2017	08360	462	CS
Total Quantity for APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB					14,784	CS
<b>430 APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB</b>						
<b>440 FORT PIERCE FL</b>						
450	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	07/03/2017-07/05/2017	34947	980	CS

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Item	Material	Description	Required by	ZipCode	Quantity	
<b>460 ATLANTA GA</b>						
470	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	07/03/2017-07/05/2017	30318	980	CS
480	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	07/31/2017-08/02/2017	30318	980	CS
490	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	09/04/2017-09/06/2017	30318	980	CS
<b>500 HOUSTON TX</b>						
510	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	07/10/2017-07/12/2017	77029	980	CS
520	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	08/07/2017-08/09/2017	77029	980	CS
530	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	09/04/2017-09/06/2017	77029	980	CS
<b>Total Quantity for APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB</b>					<b>6,860</b>	<b>CS</b>
<b>Total Quantity for Invitation</b>					<b>25,340</b>	<b>CS</b>



Jeffrey Jackson  
 Contracting Officer  
 United States Department of Agriculture