

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: 12-3J14-24-B-0386-0002
Bid invitation number: 2000010068
Purchasing Group: AMS-Fruit and Veg

SOLICITATION Master/Shortfall Invitation

Bid invitation Overview

Bid Timezone: Central Time
Start Date: 04/29/2024 09:45:00
Offer Due Date : 05/10/2024 13:00:00

Opening date: 05/10/2024 13:00:00

Invitation Type : Master

Additional requested information:

Tendering text - Header :

Section 32-Dried Fruit Products, SOLICITATION NO: 2000010068

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) invites offers to sell Dried 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, May 17, 2024. Deliveries are to be made between July 31, 2024 and December 31, 2024.

The specialist for this solicitation is Kim Mason, kimberly.mason2@usda.gov. The contracting officer for this solicitation is Samantha Klagenberg, samantha.klagenberg@usda.gov . Please contact the specialist first, with questions regarding the requirements of this solicitation. Do not discuss your bid prices with the specialist or contracting officer before award.

Offerors should take into account their processing capacity when bidding to ensure they are able to meet the delivery deadlines.

Set asides include:

111530,,DATE PIECES DRIED PKG-24/1 LB ,,100% Small Business Set-aside
100290,,PLUMS PITTED DRIED PKG-24/1 LB,, 100% Small Business Set-aside

Crop Year:

2023 will be acceptable for this solicitation for all products.

Whole Figs-Must meet U.S. FDA tolerances for #Defect Action Levels# for figs, U.S. Grade A as defined in the U.S. Standards for Dried Figs. White Figs (or white type figs): Adriatic, and Adriatic types (Condria, Diredo, Tena, Adam, Sierra, etc.), Calimyrna, or Kadota. Black Figs (or black type figs): are black or dark purple in color as in the Mission varieties. Whole, loose, figs. Choice or larger, No. 5 size. a. White Figs: 14/16 inch to, but not including, 1-1/16 inches in width. b. Black Figs: 12/16 inch to, but not including, 15/16 inches in width. Group II - 30 percent, maximum (DFA Moisture Method). 7. Not less than 400 ppm and not more than 1200 ppm potassium sorbate.

Whole Pitted Plums Grade- U.S. Grade B or Better. Pits may not have an average of 2% or more as outlined in the FDA Defect Action Level. The plums must be plunger pitted. The plums, before pitting, must range in size from 40 to 85 per pound. The moisture content of pitted plums must not be more than 33 percent by weight when tested with the CDFA or Safe Food Alliance moisture meter. Second fumigation after packaging is not required. The whole plums may be lightly coated with sunflower or other suitable vegetable oils not to exceed .02%, by weight.

Date Pieces Dried- Deglet Noor, or Zahidi. Must be U.S. Grade C (Dry) or better. The purchase order

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requirements for date products must be certified under continual on-line grading by a USDA Inspector. Style: Diced or chopped/extruded dates. Must be 11 to 15 percent by weight, when tested with the CDFA or Safe Food Alliance moisture meter and not greater than 3/8 inch in width and not to exceed 3/4 inch in length. May be lightly coated with white rice flour; or corn flour, corn syrup solids, or dextrose. The product is to be screened to eliminate excess coating material and small pieces. Calyxes must be removed before dates are chopped/extruded or diced with a tolerance of no more than 14 pieces of calyx per 25 ounce sample unit in any single sample, and an average of not more than 8 pieces of calyx per 25 ounces for all samples drawn from a specified lot.

** For a new-to-USDA contractor and existing contractors who are bidding on new products, a probationary period may be implemented in which awards are limited to 10 truckloads per product. Contractor must demonstrate successful delivery of at least five (5) truckloads of product in order to be removed from probationary status on future solicitations. For the purposes of this rule, successful delivery is defined as product delivered on-time and in acceptable condition according to the terms and conditions of the contract. Any delivery problems directly attributable to the Government will not be held against the contractor.**

Per FDA regulations, the following minimum mandatory labeling requirements for all foods, whether sold or donated, must appear on the label: Name of the food, Manufacturer's name and location, Net weight of the product, Ingredients list, and Allergen declaration. These requirements are codified in 21 CFR 101.2, 101.3, 101.4 and 101.5. See the following link for a guidance manual:

<http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/GuidanceDocumentsRegulatoryInformation/LabelingNutrition/ucm064894.htm>

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.

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.

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.

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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. Inquiries about the Master Solicitation dated February 2024; the Commodity Specification for Dried Fruit dated January 2021; or this Solicitation should be directed to the Contracting Officer; USDA, AMS, Room 3522-South; 1400 Independence Avenue, 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) 344-8642 (Relay Voice users).

See attached documents:

- 1 . Create Domestic IDIQ Bid (1)
- 2 . Commodity Specification for Dried Fruit
- 3 . AMS Master Solicitation Domestic FEB_13_2024
- 4 . PART B - Schedule July 16, 2024-December 31, 2024
- 5 . Dried Fruit Invitation for Bids (IFB)1449
- 6 . Exhibit 2 Dried Fruit Estimated Orders corrected

Attributes :

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

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- 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).

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 AMENEMENT P-0001 DATED 8/22/2014

Bid invitation Item details

	Item Material	Description	Quantity	
10	FRUIT, DRIED			
20	100290	PLUMS PITTED DRIED PKG-24/1 LB		CS
			246,000.000	
		Total Quantity for PLUMS PITTED DRIED PKG-24/1 LB		CS
			246,000.000	
30	100288	FIG DRIED PKG-24/1 LB		CS
			69,000.000	
		Total Quantity for FIG DRIED PKG-24/1 LB		CS
			69,000.000	
40	111530	DATE PIECES DRIED PKG-24/1 LB		CS
			226,512.000	
		Total Quantity for DATE PIECES DRIED PKG-24/1 LB		CS
			226,512.000	
		Total Quantity for Invitation		CS
			541,512.000	

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Item	Material	Description	Quantity
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Amendment Details

Amendment : 12-3J14-24-B-0386-0002 Date : 04/29/2024

Action	Item	Material	Description	Type
		Field	Old Value	New Value

See comments in the amendment header text for specific details.

Amendment : 12-3J14-24-B-0386-0001 Date : 04/29/2024

Action	Item	Material	Description	Type
		Field	Old Value	New Value

See comments in the amendment header text for specific details.

Samantha Klagenberg

Contracting Officer
 Commodity Procurement Division
 United States Department of Agriculture