

Ireland-Dublin: Educational software development services

OJ S 195/2019 09/10/2019

Contract notice**Services****Legal Basis:**

Directive 2014/24/EU

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1. Name and addresses

Official name: Educational Research Centre

Postal address: DCU St Patrick's College Campus, Drumcondra

Town: Dublin 9

NUTS code: IE0 Ireland

Postal code: D09 AN2F

Country: Ireland

Contact person: Anne Comey

E-mail: anne.comey@erc.ie

Telephone: +353 18373789

Internet address(es):Main address: <http://www.erc.ie>Address of the buyer profile: <https://irl.eu-supply.com/ctm/Company/CompanyInformation/Index/1014>**I.3. Communication**The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at: <https://irl.eu-supply.com>

Additional information can be obtained from the abovementioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via: <https://irl.eu-supply.com>

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the abovementioned address

I.4. Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5. Main activity

Education

Section II: Object

II.1. Scope of the procurement**II.1.1. Title**

Procurement of an Integrated Online Assessment System for Schools in Ireland

II.1.2. Main CPV code

72212190 Educational software development services

II.1.3. Type of contract

Services

II.1.4. Short description

The Educational Research Centre (ERC) has a statutory mandate to provide and support standardised testing in schools. The ERC is aiming to provide schools and test-takers (who have access to appropriate devices and internet connection) with an easy to use online assessment system that is reliable, secure, engaging for test-takers, and meaningful in terms of the reports that it provides. The ERC wishes to procure an integrated end-to-end testing system that supports the ERC's aims of providing a range of high-quality standardised tests and reports to schools, enabling schools to manage the purchase and administration of tests, and facilitating the ERC's development of innovative assessment solutions. The integrated online assessment system will cover test development, item banking, assignment of test credits, test session set-up and implementation, test-taker and test item level reporting, hosting and technical support.

II.1.5. Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: 900 000,00 EUR

II.1.6. Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: no

II.2. Description

II.2.2. Additional CPV code(s)

72000000 IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support, 72220000 Systems and technical consultancy services

II.2.3. Place of performance

NUTS code: IE0 Ireland

Main site or place of performance: Dublin.

II.2.4. Description of the procurement

The ERC has a statutory mandate to provide and support standardised testing in schools. The ERC is aiming to provide schools and test-takers (who have access to appropriate devices and internet connection) with an easy to use online assessment system that is reliable, secure, engaging for test-takers, and meaningful in terms of the reports that it provides. The ERC does not view the online assessment system as a static entity — quite the opposite. To respond to changes in education policies and curricula, digital technologies and assessment and measurement technologies, the ERC needs a flexible and responsive assessment system that also fits with its strategic priorities of internal capacity building and research and development. This procurement sets out to achieve this.

The dual mission of the ERC is:

(i) to develop high quality assessments and provide strong assessment support services to schools and centres of education; and

(ii) to conduct and disseminate commissioned and independently-initiated national and international research, assessment and evaluation studies.

The ERC's strategic plan (2019-2021) has as one of its 10 goals to produce a regularly updated suite of high-quality and relevant assessments that reflects best international practice and serves the needs of the educational system, as well as those of schools, teachers, parents and learners.

A key element of this goal is the procurement of a new online assessment system.

The ERC wishes to procure an integrated end-to-end testing system that supports the ERC's aims of providing a range of high-quality standardised tests and reports to schools, enabling schools to manage the purchase and administration of tests, and facilitating the ERC's development of innovative assessment solutions.

The integrated online assessment system will cover test development, item banking, assignment of test credits, test session set-up and implementation, test-taker and test item level reporting, hosting and technical support.

II.2.5. Award criteria

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

II.2.6. Estimated value

II.2.7. Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system

Duration in months: 60

This contract is subject to renewal: yes

Description of renewals:

It is envisaged that the term of the contract will be 5 years (60 months) with the option to extend for up to a further 3 years. The maximum term shall not exceed 8 years in total.

II.2.9. Information about the limits on the number of candidates to be invited

Envisaged number of candidates: 4
Objective criteria for choosing the limited number of candidates:

As set out in the information memorandum and pre-qualification questionnaire. It is envisaged that the 4 top-scoring candidates will be invited to participate in the dialogue, subject to that number qualifying.

II.2.10. Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: no

II.2.11. Information about options

Options: yes

Description of options:

It is envisaged that the term of the contract will be 5 years (60 months) with the option to extend for up to a further 3 years. The maximum term shall not exceed 8 years in total.

II.2.13. Information about European Union funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds:
no

II.2.14. Additional information

Section III: Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1. Conditions for participation

III.1.1. Suitability to pursue the professional activity, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers

List and brief description of conditions:

As stated in the information memorandum and pre-qualification questionnaire.

III.1.2. Economic and financial standing

List and brief description of selection criteria:
As stated in the information memorandum and pre-qualification questionnaire.

III.1.3. Technical and professional ability

List and brief description of selection criteria:
As stated in the information memorandum and pre-qualification questionnaire.

III.2. Conditions related to the contract

III.2.2. Contract performance conditions

As may be specified in the invitation to participate in dialogue.

Section IV: Procedure

IV.1. Description

IV.1.1. Type of procedure

Competitive dialogue

IV.1.3. Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system

IV.1.8. Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: yes

IV.2. Administrative information

IV.2.1. Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number in the OJ S: [2019/S 174-424224](#)

IV.2.2. Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate

Date: 08/11/2019

IV.2.3. Estimated date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates

Date: 25/11/2019

IV.2.4. Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted

English

Section VI: Complementary information

VI.1. Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: no

VI.3. Additional information

1) The ERC will use the Irish Government Procurement portal (www.etenders.gov.ie) for this competition. Access to this portal is free of charge. Interested parties must formally register their expression of interest for this competition on eTenders before they can gain access to the PQQ documentation. All information relating to and including the pre-qualification documents, any clarifications and changes will be issued/published via this portal. The ERC will not accept responsibility for information relayed (or not relayed) via third parties;

2) The ERC will not be responsible for any costs, charges or expenses incurred by candidates or tenderers;

3) Contract award will be subject to the approval of the competent authorities;

- 4) It will be a condition of award that candidates are tax compliant;
- 5) At its absolute discretion, the ERC may elect to terminate this procurement process at any time;
- 6) Please note in relation to all documents, where reference is made to a particular standard, make, source, process, trademark, type or patent, this is not to be regarded as a de facto requirement. In all such cases it should be understood that such indications are to be treated strictly and solely for reference purposes only, to which the words 'or equivalent' will always be appended;
- 7) Without prejudice to the principle of equal treatment, the ERC is not obliged to engage in a clarification process in respect of PQQ Submissions with missing or incomplete information. Therefore, candidates are advised to ensure that they return fully completed questionnaires in order to avoid the risk of elimination from the competition;
- 8) The estimated value set out at II.1.5) is the estimated value over the potential 8-year term of the contract. The ERC estimates that the value of the contract over the potential 8-year term is between 800 000 to 900 000 EUR. The estimated value of the contract over the initial 5 years is in the region of 500 000 to 600 000 EUR.

VI.4. Procedures for review

VI.4.1. Review body

Official name: The High Court of Ireland
Postal address: Four Courts, Inns Quay
Town: Dublin 7
Country: Ireland
Internet address: <http://www.courts.ie>

VI.4.3. Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures:
Please refer to Statutory Instrument 130 of 2010, the European Communities (Public Authorities' Contracts) (Review Procedures) Regulations 2010, and in particular Regulation 7.

VI.5. Date of dispatch of this notice

07/10/2019