



The Power
of International
Education

Solicitation Amendment / Modification

1.	Solicitation No.	06262026/ET
2.	Solicitation Name	IT Consulting Services RFP
3.	Issue Date	June 26, 2026
4.	Closing Date	July 27, 2026
5.	Solicitation Amendment No.	1
6.	Solicitation Amendment Date	July 20, 2026

7. The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in Item 9 below.

8. The hour and dates specified for receipt of proposals/quotations: ☒ is not extended; ☐ is extended as described in Item 9 below.

9. Description of Amendment/Modification:

The purpose of this solicitation amendment is to inform prospective offerors/bidders that the above numbered solicitation is hereby amended to provide responses to questions as follows.

See attached full list of Questions and Answers.

END OF AMENDMENT

ID #	Topic	Question	Answer
Q #001	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	How many preferred vendors, preferred partners, contracts, or awardees does IIE expect to select under this RFP?	IIE anticipates selecting approximately three to five Preferred Partners for inclusion in the vendor pool.
Q #002	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	Once the preferred vendor pool is established, how will IIE assign, distribute, compete, rotate, directly award, or otherwise route task orders, SOWs, resource requests, projects, or future work among selected vendors, including the factors used when multiple vendors have the required capabilities?	Future engagements will be assigned at IIE's discretion based on organizational needs, project requirements, and other relevant considerations.
Q #003	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	Will selected vendors be ranked, tiered, segmented by service track, size, or specialization, or listed in a single undifferentiated preferred vendor pool?	Selected firms will be listed in Preferred vendor pool
Q #004	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	Will IIE categorize Preferred Partners by specialization for future engagements, or will all selected vendors be eligible to compete for all opportunities?	Future engagements will be assigned at IIE's discretion
Q #005	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	Is this RFP connected to a current or near-term project, purely for building a pre-qualified vendor pool, and must vendors with existing IIE agreements, MSAs, or preferred-vendor status submit a new proposal or are existing arrangements carried forward?	This solicitation is intended to establish a Preferred Partner pool and is not tied to a specific current or near-term project . All vendors, including existing partners and incumbent providers, must submit a proposal to be considered.
Q #006	Service Scope & Consulting Capabilities	Can IIE provide examples of planned IT initiatives or first-year projects that may require vendor support?	No specific initiatives have been identified at this time. Future requirements will be determined based on evolving organizational priorities.
Q #007	Service Scope & Consulting Capabilities	Does IIE anticipate future engagements involving legacy modernization, greenfield development, cloud migration, data engineering, AI, Generative AI, Machine Learning, Intelligent Automation, Microsoft Copilot, Azure OpenAI, or enterprise AI platforms, and would experience in these areas be advantageous for future task orders?	IIE expects significant focus over the next several years on Microsoft Copilot, Azure OpenAI .
Q #008	Service Scope & Consulting Capabilities	Are Offerors required to cover the full Statement of Work or may they propose for selected IT consulting service areas, technical disciplines, labor categories, or areas of expertise such as application development, project management, data and analytics, cloud services, cybersecurity, QA/testing, infrastructure support, resource augmentation, advisory services, or flexible staffing?	Vendors may propose services that align with their core competencies and areas of expertise .
Q #009	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	May preferred partners decline individual resource requests without affecting preferred-partner status, or are they expected to respond to every request?	Yes. Preferred Partners may decline individual opportunities, this is why we carry multiple partners.

ID #	Topic	Question	Answer
Q #010	Resource Management & Service Delivery	Are resumes, named candidates, individual resumes, sample resumes, representative resource profiles, skills matrices, role descriptions, proposed key personnel resumes, or resumes for all proposed labor categories/role levels/onshore/offshore resources required with the proposal, or will they be requested later at the task-order or engagement level after award?	Unless specifically requested in the RFP, resumes, candidate profiles, and resource details are not required at this stage .
Q #011	Resource Management & Service Delivery	What service levels, KPIs, acknowledgement timelines, response times, candidate submission timelines, interview scheduling timelines, deployment timelines, fulfillment timelines, replacement timeframes, reporting frequency, multiple-candidate requirements, resource performance measures, and substitution process apply to staffing requests and assigned/proposed resources?	Resource sourcing is generally expected within 2–3 weeks , while onboarding or replacement of approved resources is typically expected within approximately one month of request.
Q #012	Resource Management & Service Delivery	What are the expected work location requirements, including fully remote, onsite, hybrid, preferred onsite versus remote model, approximate onsite/hybrid/remote mix, IIE offices or locations requiring onsite support, NYC HQ requirements, and whether certain roles require office presence?	Work location requirements will vary by business need. Vendors should be flexible to support remote, hybrid, or onsite engagements as required across IIE locations.
Q #013	Resource Management & Service Delivery	Is offshore, outside-U.S., or hybrid onshore/offshore delivery permitted, including for all functional areas, New York-based operations, India or other non-U.S. locations, and are there services, programs, data residency requirements, U.S.-only staffing restrictions, security requirements, or federal-program relationships that limit offshore use?	Offshore and nearshore resources may be utilized when appropriate and aligned with business needs. Currently, no restrictions apply.
Q #014	Security, Compliance & Governance	Given IIE's global operations, should Offerors assume engagements may involve GDPR-scoped personal data even for U.S.-based work, or is GDPR/data-scope assessed case by case per task order?	Given IIE's global operations, GDPR should always be in consideration .
Q #015	Security, Compliance & Governance	What background-check, security-clearance, suitability-review, security-screening, or onboarding requirements apply to consultants or assigned resources, including resources supporting Fulbright, U.S. government-funded programs, or resources accessing IIE systems, network, or data?	Security, onboarding, and access requirements will be determined based on the specific project, program, systems, and data involved. Additional requirements may apply for sensitive or regulated environments.

ID #	Topic	Question	Answer
Q #016	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	Can IIE provide non-binding historical or anticipated program demand information, including expected usage volume, staffing request volume, requisitions per year, number of projects, task-order/SOW cadence, task-order/SOW size ranges, simultaneous resources, average assignment duration, full-time/part-time/shared-resource mix, annual demand across business units, and estimated resource utilization by role or skillset?	IIE is unable to provide historical usage data or future demand projections at this time.
Q #017	Service Scope & Consulting Capabilities	What job categories, labor classifications, IT roles, job titles, skill sets, technologies, functional areas, and most frequently requested skill categories does IIE expect to include or request most often under this contract?	Required skills, technologies, and labor categories will vary depending on business needs and project requirements.
Q #018	Service Scope & Consulting Capabilities	Can IIE provide role-level details such as position titles, minimum years of experience, educational qualifications, mandatory or preferred certifications, minimum qualifications, required skill sets, and whether detailed job descriptions will be provided in future task orders or SOWs?	Yes. Detailed role descriptions, qualifications, and skill requirements will be provided when specific resource requests are issued.
Q #019	Resource Management & Service Delivery	What resource types, levels, and experience tiers, such as Junior, Mid-Level, Senior, and Expert, is IIE looking for, and should the rate card include multiple experience levels for each applicable role or may vendors define levels by industry practice?	Vendors should propose senior-level resources for rate card purposes. Specific experience requirements will be defined in future resource requests.
Q #020	Commercial & Contract Terms	Should proposed rates remain fixed for the full five-year term, or may vendors propose annual adjustments, renewals, CPI or other escalation methodology, rate-card updates, and if permitted, will increases be subject to a cap, index, notice period, or approval process?	Reasonable annual rate adjustments are expected.
Q #021	Commercial & Contract Terms	Should proposed hourly rates be fully burdened/all-inclusive of administrative expenses, recruiting, payroll, benefits, taxes, insurance, overhead, account management, onboarding, equipment, software, and related costs, or should applicable taxes or other costs be identified separately?	Yes. Proposed rates should be all-inclusive .
Q #022	Commercial & Contract Terms	For onsite or engagement-specific work, should travel, lodging, per diem, mileage, parking, certifications, equipment, and other reimbursable expenses be included in hourly rates or reimbursed/billed separately if pre-approved?	Travel expenses may be billed separately only when travel is requested and approved by IIE. Routine commuting to a resource's normal work location is not reimbursable.

ID #	Topic	Question	Answer
Q #023	Resource Management & Service Delivery	Should Offerors provide separate rates or pricing assumptions for overtime, after-hours support, weekends, holidays, emergency support, or on-call availability, and should these be included in the rate card or addressed separately when required?	IIE does not reimburse overtime premiums. With prior approval, compensatory time may be provided when standard working hours are exceeded.
Q #024	Commercial & Contract Terms	Will IIE provide assigned consultants with laptops, software licenses, system access, required software licenses, or other equipment, or should vendors include these costs in proposed rates?	IIE will provide required hardware, software, licenses, and system access necessary for project execution.
Q #025	Commercial & Contract Terms	How should the Attachment B rate card and pricing be structured, including role-by-role rates, a single blended rate, experience-level definitions, role-based level of detail rather than project quantities, volume or tenure discounts, discounted pricing, and pricing assumptions?	Offerors may use Attachment B or another format of their choice, provided the required pricing information is included (role rates, experience levels, discounts, blended rates, pricing assumptions, etc.).
Q #026	Commercial & Contract Terms	Will the submitted rate card be the primary basis for future task-order pricing, will pricing be evaluated independently for each future task order, or may awarded vendors submit project-specific pricing for individual engagements?	The submitted rate card will serve as a baseline for future engagements. Pricing adjustments may be considered for new or specialized roles not represented in the original submission where pricing may be altered.
Q #027	Commercial & Contract Terms	Will cost evaluation be based primarily on submitted rate-card competitiveness, or will discounts, pricing methodology, pricing assumptions, or other pricing factors also be considered?	Pricing evaluation will consider all factors.
Q #028	Commercial & Contract Terms	Does IIE expect pricing for all potential IT consulting roles or only representative roles in the Statement of Work, and will vendors be evaluated based on the breadth of roles in the proposed rate card or only roles anticipated for initial engagements?	No. Vendors are not expected to include every possible role. The rate card should reflect the firm's core competencies and primary service capabilities.
Q #029	Commercial & Contract Terms	Will engagements be awarded only on a Time and Materials basis, or may Offerors propose fixed-price, deliverable-based, milestone-based, role-based, or other project-specific pricing where scope is defined at the SOW/task-order level?	No. IIE is open to flexible pricing approaches.
Q #030	Commercial & Contract Terms	For Time and Materials or hourly resource-augmentation engagements, how will invoicing, approved timesheets, monthly billing, and payment-after-deliverable/milestone language apply?	Timesheets will generally be reviewed and approved on a weekly basis, with invoicing submitted monthly.

ID #	Topic	Question	Answer
Q #031	Resource Management & Service Delivery	Does IIE use, require integration with, or expect vendors to use a specific timekeeping, procurement, vendor-management, invoicing, or department system/platform?	Vendors must utilize IIE's designated vendor-management portal for invoicing. Internal time-tracking systems may be selected at the vendor's discretion.
Q #032	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	If interviews, demonstrations, presentations, virtual/onsite sessions, or negotiation meetings occur, what are the format, duration, expected participants, shortlisted/all-responsive offeror scope, expected preparation, August 3 demonstration/presentation expectations, and whether virtual/remote participation is acceptable?	Interviews will follow a conversational Q&A format focused on organizational capabilities. Company presentations are welcome but not required. Formal demonstrations are not anticipated.
Q #033	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	Will IIE conduct a Best and Final Offer (BAFO) process, or does IIE intend to award based on initial proposals?	IIE intends to evaluate and make award decisions based on initial proposal submissions.
Q #034	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	What is the expected timeline for award notification, contract execution, anticipated contract start date, and would IIE consider extending the proposal submission deadline by one week after question responses are issued?	Award timing and contract execution information will be communicated through the procurement process and RFP timelines. Proposal deadline extensions are not anticipated.
Q #035	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	Please confirm the evaluation criteria and weighting, including technical versus cost.	Offerors should refer to the evaluation criteria and weighting structure outlined in the RFP.
Q #036	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	How should Offerors address Section 3 Proposal Preparation Instructions and Section 4 Technical Proposal Instructions, including whether Section 4 is a distinct technical document, integrated response, detailed breakdown of Section 3 Item 5, or evaluated under Depth of Skills and Relevant Experience (30) or a separate weighting?	Offerors should structure responses in accordance with the RFP instructions. Technical capabilities, experience, and approach will be evaluated as part of the overall proposal assessment.
Q #037	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	In the Evaluation of Proposals table, what is scored under the References criterion separately from the Presentation and Interview criterion, given the apparent duplicated wording?	Offerors should refer to the RFP evaluation framework for how references and interview/presentation – please Refer Q#032
Q #038	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	Does IIE prescribe a preferred proposal format, outline, order, font, margin, organization, or page limits beyond the RFP requirements, including technical proposal and cost proposal page limitations?	No additional formatting requirements apply beyond those specified in the RFP.
Q #039	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	Should the technical proposal and cost proposal, including Attachment B, be submitted as one combined PDF or separate files, and how does the 6 MB limit apply to the total email, combined attachments, each attachment, a single PDF, certifications/attestations, security artifacts, multiple emails, file-transfer links, and file-naming conventions?	Proposal submissions should follow the instructions provided in the RFP regarding file structure, attachment requirements, and submission limits.

ID #	Topic	Question	Answer
Q #040	Commercial & Contract Terms	Are electronic signatures or e-signatures acceptable on the Letter of Transmittal and any other signed forms that must be signed by an authorized officer?	Electronic signatures will not be required during the RFP process
Q #041	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	May Offerors include appendices, and will appendix content be considered during evaluation?	Yes. Supporting appendices may be included and will be considered as part of the overall proposal review.
Q #042	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	Besides the items listed in the RFP, are there additional documents, forms, certifications, or supporting documents that should be included with the proposal submission?	No additional documents are required beyond those specifically requested in the RFP.
Q #043	Service Scope & Consulting Capabilities	How many past-performance projects and client references are required or permitted, including whether exactly three are required based on the RFP table, whether three is a minimum or maximum, whether more entries may be added, and whether there is a preferred minimum or maximum number of client references?	Offerors should refer requirements stated in the RFP. More may be added
Q #044	Service Scope & Consulting Capabilities	May Offerors include active, ongoing, recently started, or older-than-three-years projects as past-performance examples, including projects performed within the past three years, completed within the past six years, or submitted as supplemental examples?	Yes to all Active, recently completed, and older projects may be submitted when relevant to demonstrating qualifications and experience.
Q #045	Service Scope & Consulting Capabilities	What types of client references are acceptable, including IT Staff Augmentation, broader IT consulting, advisory services, managed projects, nonprofit organizations, international organizations, commercial organizations, government/public-sector clients, and subcontractor-performed work if subcontracting is permitted?	References from nonprofit organizations are preferred; however, commercial, government, international, and all other relevant client references are acceptable.
Q #046	Service Scope & Consulting Capabilities	For the past-performance requirement to provide the "cost for the activity," may Offerors state "confidential," provide an approximate range, or use another measure of engagement scale where confidentiality obligations prohibit disclosure of actual value?	Yes. Vendors should not disclose confidential information. can provide approximates and other scales.
Q #047	Service Scope & Consulting Capabilities	Are recommendation/appreciation letters and certificates optional or preferred, may they be included as appendices without reducing required contactable references, is the Section 3 Item 4 Past Performance table mandatory, and would absence of recommendation/appreciation letters or certificates negatively affect evaluation scoring?	Please refer to RFP. Offerors should follow the RFP requirements. Recommendation letters and certificates may be submitted where available but are not substitutes for required references.

ID #	Topic	Question	Answer
Q #048	Service Scope & Consulting Capabilities	Are Section A.ii “Prior experience” and Section A.v “References” satisfied by the Section 3 Item 4 Past Performance table, or are they separate submittals?	Offerors should follow the structure defined within the RFP for experience and reference documentation.
Q #049	Commercial & Contract Terms	What financial viability, organizational stability, and financial stability/reputation documentation should Offerors submit, such as audited or reviewed financial statements, annual reports, bank references, credit reports, Dun & Bradstreet reports, financial references, insurance certificates, certificates of good standing, business registrations, or a narrative response?	Vendors should provide documentation demonstrating financial viability and organizational stability as requested in the RFP.
Q #050	Commercial & Contract Terms	Are specific certifications or partner designations weighed in the evaluation under Company’s Financial Stability & Reputation?	Yes all are taken under Consideration as part of the evaluation process.
Q #051	Commercial & Contract Terms	Should Offerors include copies of minority-owned, women-owned, veteran-owned, or other diversity certifications, and should formal certification documentation such as an NMSDC MBE certificate be attached directly or is a written representation sufficient?	A written representation is sufficient during proposal submission. Supporting documentation may be requested later and all representations will be subject to verification and fact checked.
Q #052	Commercial & Contract Terms	Does women-owned, minority-owned, veteran-owned, or other diverse-business status carry a scoring preference or additional weighting, or is it collected for informational purposes only?	All are taken under consideration for evaluation ; but nothing specific.
Q #053	Commercial & Contract Terms	What insurance coverages, minimum limits, and certificates will selected preferred partners be required to maintain, including commercial general liability, professional/errors and omissions, cyber liability, workers’ compensation, automobile, umbrella liability, whether coverage is a condition of award, and whether Certificates of Insurance are required with proposal submission, before MSA execution, or before task order issuance?	Insurance requirements, minimum coverage limits, and certificate requirements will be addressed during the contract negotiation and award phase.
Q #054	Commercial & Contract Terms	Will the agreement be structured as a Master Services Agreement with individual task orders or Statements of Work, and can IIE provide the anticipated MSA, task-order template, SOW template, draft/sample MSA, standard terms, or current terms for Offeror review?	IIE intends to utilize a Master Services Agreement (MSA) framework for all parties to work from. task orders and Statements of Work (SOWs) will be individual.

ID #	Topic	Question	Answer
Q #055	Commercial & Contract Terms	May Offerors submit requested exceptions to IIE's standard terms and conditions with the proposal or only after selection, and will proposed exceptions affect the technical evaluation or preferred-partner selection?	Redlined comments and proposed contractual exceptions are acceptable for review and discussion.
Q #056	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	Can a Joint Venture partnership submit a response to this RFP?	Joint Venture submissions are acceptable; however, they are not the preferred.
Q #057	Commercial & Contract Terms	Are there any mandatory subcontracting requirements?	Offerors should refer to the RFP for subcontracting requirements and limitations.
Q #058	Resource Management & Service Delivery	Is there an employee conversion policy allowing the department to directly hire contractor staff after a defined period?	IIE does not maintain a formal conversion policy and, as a general practice, direct conversion of contractor resources is not permitted.
Q #059	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	After award, may vendors directly engage with individual departments/agencies for staffing requests, or will all requirements be routed through a centralized system?	No. All staffing requests and engagement opportunities will be managed through a centralized process.
Q #060	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	Will selected vendors be assigned a dedicated point of contact for future staffing requests and contract management?	Yes. Selected vendors will be assigned an appropriate point of contact for engagement coordination and contract management activities.
Q #061	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	Has IIE awarded similar contracts previously or are incumbent/current service providers performing this work or similar work, and if so, can IIE provide incumbent names, previous responses, associated pricing, average spend, active resources, current contract number, duration, historical level of effort, contract value, and other incumbent details?	IIE has utilized similar sourcing models previously; however, incumbent information, historical pricing, contract values, and related details will not be disclosed.
Q #062	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	Are incumbent vendors eligible or required to compete under this RFP along with new bidders?	Yes. Existing vendors are eligible to participate and compete through this solicitation process.
Q #063	Vendor Program & Engagement Model	Are there current limitations, challenges, pain points, or areas of concern with existing vendors or the current environment?	Information regarding existing vendor will not be disclosed during the procurement process.
Q #064	Commercial & Contract Terms	Can IIE provide the estimated or approved budget, annual budget, anticipated annual spend, estimated annual contract value, NTE amount, contract value, or anticipated volume of work for this RFP or Preferred Vendor Program?	No budget, contract value, not-to-exceed amount, or anticipated spending information is being provided for this solicitation.
Q #065	Commercial & Contract Terms	Can IIE provide historical annual spend, current/historical rates, previous annual budgets, prior spend levels, or annual spending details for similar contracts or the past three years?	Historical spending, rate information, and prior budget data will not be disclosed.

ID #	Topic	Question	Answer
Q #066	Service Scope & Consulting Capabilities	What are IIE's current principal enterprise technologies, platforms, applications, programming languages, frameworks, databases, middleware, cloud environments, development frameworks, data tools, cybersecurity technologies, and primary enterprise applications/vendors may be expected to support?	IIE primarily operates within the Microsoft ecosystem
Q #067	Service Scope & Consulting Capabilities	Can IIE provide details on the current data management and analytics ecosystem, including data warehouses, data lakes, ETL tools, reporting platforms, BI technologies, Power BI, Tableau, or similar analytics platforms?	Detailed information regarding IIE's current data management and analytics environment will not be provided at this stage.
Q #068	Service Scope & Consulting Capabilities	What project management, collaboration, Agile, source code repository, CI/CD, DevOps, development framework, or platform tools are currently used or preferred, including Azure DevOps, Jira, Confluence, ServiceNow, Microsoft Teams, repositories, development frameworks, DevOps tools, or CI/CD platforms?	IIE primarily operates within the Microsoft ecosystem and utilizes multiple project-delivery methodologies depending on business need.
Q #069	Service Scope & Consulting Capabilities	What are IIE's primary cloud platforms and current technology environment, including Microsoft Azure, AWS, Google Cloud, on-premises, hybrid, whether IIE has a cloud-first or cloud-preference policy, and which cloud platforms are primarily used today?	IIE primarily leverages Microsoft technologies and maintains a cloud-first strategy.
Q #070	Security, Compliance & Governance	Which security certifications, standards, and evidence are required or requested, including ISO 27001, SOC 2 Type 2, SOC 2 Type II, NIST CSF, OneTrust, internal security policies, and other security compliance materials?	Offerors should refer to the RFP for detailed security, certification, and compliance requirements.
Q #071	Security, Compliance & Governance	When are security documentation, TPRM, IT Security Questionnaire, ISO/SOC evidence, NIST/OneTrust materials, or security artifacts required: with the proposal, after selection, prior to contract signature, before MSA execution, before task orders involving data access, or only for specific future engagements?	Security documentation requirements and submission timing are defined within the RFP and associated security review processes.
Q #072	Security, Compliance & Governance	Do ISO 27001, SOC 2, NIST CSF, TPRM, and IT Security Questionnaire requirements apply to all Offerors/awarded vendors/engagement types, or only to vendors or engagements where personnel access IIE systems, process IIE data, connect to IIE's network, or where vendor systems store/process IIE data?	Yes. Security, compliance, and risk-management requirements apply to all Offerors and awarded vendors regardless of engagement type.

ID #	Topic	Question	Answer
Q #073	Security, Compliance & Governance	If an Offeror lacks ISO 27001, SOC 2 Type 2, or SOC Type 2, will it remain eligible through a NIST Cybersecurity Framework-mapped assessment, OneTrust/offline Excel process, internal controls, documented policies, SOC Type 1, or a qualified subcontractor, and if a vendor has ISO 27001 and SOC 2 Type II, is NIST assessment still required?	Alternative security assessment approaches may be considered; however, the absence of preferred certifications may impact evaluation scoring.
Q #074	Security, Compliance & Governance	Will IIE accept ISO 27001 certification or SOC 2 Type 2 attestation held by a parent/group entity covering the contracting subsidiary, and do subcontractors or individual contractor resources need to independently complete security questionnaires or can the prime Offeror's certification cover them?	Subcontractors required to produce
Q #075	Security, Compliance & Governance	Where can Offerors access the required security assessment, SOC 2 attestation instructions, OneTrust process, or offline Excel process?	Offerors should follow the guidance and instructions provided within the RFP regarding security assessments, questionnaires, and compliance documentation.