

Answers to questions raised by potential contractors Contract Notice ENTR/2009/016
Call for Tenders : High level training in economic and legal areas
Open procedure: 2009/S 84 – 120262

Question 1:

Question concerning Section III.3.1) of 2009/S 84 – 120262:

According to this clause, execution of the contract is reserved to academics.

Would it be possible to clarify the meaning of this clause?

To be more precise:

- Is execution reserved to full time professors of accredited universities or institution of higher education, or would you also accept candidates with equivalent qualifications (PhD) from non-academic institutions?
- Would you accept a tender where the main contractor is an academic institution but where subcontractors are practitioners with equivalent qualifications (PhD)?

Question 2:

Does the tender cover the costs of travelling to Brussels by the trainers to deliver any training should they be awarded the contract?

Answer 1:

The contract notice 2009/S 84-120262 stipulates under point III.3.1): “Execution of the service is reserved to a particular profession: Yes. Academics”. However, this category is illustrative only, and is not meant to derogate from the selection criteria set out in section 3.2.1 of the tender specifications, which alone define the minimum standards required of the tenderer.

The tender specifications provide at section 3.2.1 that tenderers must demonstrate “a mix of experience in both, academic and policy context” (selection criteria 2.2).

Paragraph 3.2.3 of the same document stipulates that “The ability of service providers to perform services will be assessed in particular with regard to their academic experience, know-how, efficiency, experience and reliability.”

In view of the above, the execution of the contract is open to candidates displaying the mixture of professional experience required above. It follows that the Commission will indeed examine also tenders submitted by a non-academic institution.

Tenders proposing a collaboration between an academic institution and a practitioner with academic qualifications will be accepted, provided that the subcontracting conditions outlined in paragraph 1.11 of the tender specifications are respected.

Answer 2:

The contract notice 2009/S 84-120262 stipulates under point 2.3.3): The global price proposed for each training course (lot) must include time for preparation, preparatory pre-course planning meeting with the Commission, delivery days, and costs for facilities, course material, coffee break and lunch. Prices and invoices shall be for the total accepted amount as per the financial proposal. **No separate reimbursement of travel expenses etc. shall be foreseen or accepted.**