

Economic Analysis Study of the Appalachian Development Highway System

RFP Related Questions and Answers, as of 7/13/2015

Question 1: The RFP states that a university overhead rate to be charged to ARC should not exceed the rate charged to the university's home state. If no such home state rate has been established, can the university apply its established federally negotiated overhead rate?

Answer: Assuming that no university home state overhead rate exists, it may apply a federally negotiated overhead rate.

Question 2: Can the proposal to the RFP contain Technical, Management, and Cost Proposals as one consolidated document, or as three distinct documents?

Answer: A consolidation of the three is acceptable. Either approach can be applied.

Question 3: What is the availability of data related to highway infrastructure? How much relevant data will ARC provide to the contractor?

Answer: ARC does maintain information focused on the status of ADHS highway completion, plans to complete corridors by state, and cost estimates of each segment. For example, this includes information on the number of lanes and access control for each segment. Data directly available from ARC is primarily located online at <http://www.arc.gov/adhs>. It is expected that the contractor will need to obtain and analyze highway data from other sources to model a networked system of highways in (and surrounding) Appalachia. One example is the National Highway Planning Network from the Federal Highway Administration: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/processes/tools/nhpn/>. The contractor is encouraged to include experts in highway data sources and modeling as part of their team.

Question 4: Does ARC have an economic model that could/should be used for the analysis or will the contractor be responsible for the model?

Answer: ARC does not have a preferred economic model for use in the analysis of the ADHS. ARC is open to the contractor's selection and use of what it considers the most appropriate model.

Question 5: Section VII, page 12 references qualifications, relevant prior experience and command of existing research in telecommunications and technology issues as an evaluation factor. Is this the correct language or should it reference economics, as well as highway and transportation?

Answer: This RFP should have specified economics, and highway and transportation experience and not telecommunications and technology.