

# FAQs – Decarbonized Bio-Infrastructure Materials

Last updated January 16, 2024

**Are universities and institutions allowed to participate? If so, is a partnership with commercial manufacturers seen as positive? Can they co-fund the project through in-kind contributions?**

There is no limitation on what types of organizations may participate. A SAM.gov registration is required, and the organization will need to be agreeable to Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 12 terms and conditions to receive an award.

Business viability is one of the evaluation factors, so a university partnership with a commercial manufacturer could be seen as positive in that regard. Detail as to how the proposed teaming relationship gives merit to that factor is recommended.

Note that all resultant contracts will be firm-fixed price, so in-kind contributions are not applicable.

**For the submission that closes on January 19, 2024, can you please expand on what is needed for the "Price Upload?" Is it a burdened estimate for Phase I, Phase II, and/or Phase III? We would like to know what detail is being requested at this stage and for which phase.**

A Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM) is requested in Phase I submissions. A funding profile and the level of pricing detail required will be specified to those organizations that receive a Phase II full proposal request.

**Will funding be available for universities, or is it limited to private entities? If it is possible, is there a preference for private over non-profit entities?**

**If the project is funded, who will hold the patent for the resulting innovations?**

**Lastly, can I speak with a program manager about its viability before pursuing it further?**

There is no restriction on university involvement or preference given to for-profit vs. non-profit organizations. Cost is part of the evaluation factors, and price reasonableness will be considered for any award let, but that should not necessarily be seen as a limitation on who can propose.

Patenting is subject to negotiations with those vendors that are invited to submit a full proposal, with the proposers being asked to submit the assertion at 252.227-7017 as the basis for those negotiations as necessary.

This phase of the procurement structure does not allow dialogue with the PM. The technical team will review all solution briefs received based on the publicized evaluation criteria.

**Is there a template for the solution brief? If so, where can I download the template?**

This individual program requirement solicitation points back to the Construction and Engineering Research Laboratory (CERL) Commercial Solution Opening (CSO). The template is within the CERL CSO Solicitation Document under Section B.