

AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION/MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT		1. CONTRACT ID CODE	PAGE E 1	OF PAGES 6
2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO. Three (03)	3. EFFECTIVE DATE 07/17/03	4. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQ. NO.	5. PROJECT NO. (if applicable)	
6. ISSUED BY CODE National Institutes of Health Division of Research Acquisition, OLAO/OA/OD 6100 Executive Boulevard, MSC 7540 Room 6E01 Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7540		7. ADMINISTERED BY (If other than Item 5) CODE SAME AS ITEM 6.		
8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (No., street, city, county, State and ZIP Code) TO PROSPECTIVE OFFERORS "REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLING FOR THE HEALTHY AGING IN NEIGHBORHOODS OF DIVERSITY ACROSS THE LIFE SPAN (HANDLS) STUDY"		(√)	9A. AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NO. 260-03-15	
		x	9B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11) 06/11/03	
			10A. MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT/ORDER NO.	
CODE	FACILITY CODE		10B. DATED (SEE ITEM 13)	
11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS				

x The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers is extended, x is not extended.

Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by one of the following methods:

(a) By completing Items 8 and 15, and returning 1 copies of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by telegram or letter, provided each telegram or letter makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and date specified.

12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (if required)

13. THIS ITEM APPLIES ONLY TO MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACTS/ORDERS, IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.

(√)	A. THIS CHANGE ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify authority) THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 ARE MADE IN THE CONTRACT ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.
	B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in paying office, appropriation date, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF FAR 43.103(b).
	C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY OF:
	D. OTHER (Specify type of modification and authority)

E. IMPORTANT: Contractor _____ is not, _____ is required to sign this document and return _____ copies to the issuing office.

14. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible.)

PURPOSE: To respond to offerors' questions.

The due date for submission of the proposal is unchanged (2:00 p.m. on August 13, 2003).

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in item 9A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.

15A. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (Type or print)		16A. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER Teresa A. Baughman Contracting Officer	
15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR BY _____ (Signature of person authorized to sign)	15C. DATE SIGNED	16B. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY _____ (Signature of Contracting Officer)	16C. DATE SIGNED

Question #1

Could you describe why the Blaise computer-assisting interview system (CAIS) is the preferred system for the dietary recall procedure?

Response #1

The survey (dietary recall) was written and validated by the Food Surveys Research Group at the Beltsville Human Nutrition Research Center using the Blaise system.

Question #2

Does the Contractor need to have a license for the Blaise CAIS prior to contract award?

Response #2

No. The Contractor shall need one after award though.

Question #3

In addition to using 125% of the poverty index as screening criteria, what are the other eligibility criteria for this study (e.g. physical and/or mental health related)?

Response #3

Eligibility criteria include: Age 30-64; must have valid government issued ID (e.g., driver's license or state issued ID); must live at the address in question; no diagnoses of AIDS; no active treatment for cancer (>6 months since last chemotherapy, radiation therapy, or other therapy); no active illicit drug use (but may be on methadone maintenance treatment); sufficient physical capacity to participate in the majority of tests; and sufficient mental capacity to give informed consent.

Question #4

Please clarify the duration of the time period to be covered by the 85,576 labor hours projected for the study.

Response #4

As stated in Section L.1.d. of the solicitation, the anticipated period of performance for this project is three years, six months.

Question #5

Once participants are enrolled, what is the expected frequency of the interviews/assessments over the 20 years of follow-up?

Response #5

Expected frequency of assessments during the follow-up years is every three (3) years.

Question #6

Will blood specimens be collected at each visit?

Response #6

Yes, blood specimens will be collected at each visit.

Question #7

What other assessments are to be completed at follow-up visits?

Response #7

It is anticipated that all of the same assessments which were conducted at baseline will be conducted at the follow-up visits.

Question #8

Do you anticipate the collection of other tissue specimens.

Response #8

No, the NIA does not anticipate the collection of other tissue specimens.

Question #9

Are the assessment tests to collect psychophysiological data (health behavior, smoking history, severe symptoms of depression, loneliness, and peripheral resistance)?

Response #9

Yes, the assessment tests are to collect this type of data.

Question #10

What is the expected duration and sample size of the dress rehearsal (or is this to be determined by the Contractor)?

Response #10

As discussed in item A. of the Statement of Work in the RFP, the sample size of the dress rehearsal will be approximately 333 individuals, which is the same size for each of the other 12 census tracts.

Question #11

What is the expected accrual rate and duration of accrual for the full study?

Response #11

As stated in response #10 above, the expected accrual is 333 individuals per census tract. It is estimated that there would be 4 census tracts completed for each of the 3 years (total n = 3,000).

Question #12

Please confirm the total number of surveys (Screening, Household, and Exam instrument)?

Response #12

The surveys conducted by the Contractor shall be the doorstep screening, household interview, and nutrition (dietary recall) in the household. Other survey instruments will be administered by the Government during the exam in the mobile medical research vehicle.

Question #13

If the Screening and Household Survey are different, please describe the Household Survey. Where might we find the instruments? (Attachment 18)

Response #13

Refer to the Statement of Work in the solicitation, section G.3) for a discussion of these two instruments. As stated in response #15 in Amendment 01 of the solicitation, these instruments are not yet finalized and cannot be provided.

Question #14

Is the development of the questionnaires for the exam and the household survey (and screening survey) finalized or would the Contractor have any input? If finalized can we get copies of them?

Response #14

The Contractor may have some input as a result of the dress rehearsal tract. Also, see response #13 above.

Question #15

The SOW states "The government will supply the content of the household interview in the format of a web site that operates on a portable computer." This could mean several different things. Can NIA provide us with the technical architecture of this system so we can evaluate what it will take to execute this approach, which would involve offloading the web code to portable computers? If possible, we would like to know: 1) what web server is the system designed to run under (e.g., MS IIS)? 2) What back-end relational database does the web site write the responses to (e.g., Oracle, Access)? 3) What language is the web site developed in (e.g., MS Active Server Pages, Java Server Pages)? 4) Does the web site contain any 'plug-ins' which would have to be configured (e.g., Flash, Windows Media Player)?

Response #15

The NIA configured a Windows 2000 Professional (client) laptop with Apache Webserver (available free at <http://www.apache.org/dist/httpd/binaries/win32/>). The Apache webserver is a Windows service that starts automatically when the system starts. The questionnaire web page is accessed on the laptop using the standard windows browser (Microsoft Internet Explorer) with no additional plug-ins or additional services. The data are output by the web pages to a tab separated file that the contractor will send to NIA for processing. NIA will assist the contractor in configuring their laptops to operate in this fashion if the contractor chooses this method of administering the questionnaire.

Note that this configuration is entirely self-contained and does not require any external connection to a network. We do not use MS IIS or a backend relational database. The language is HTML with some JavaScript (plain vanilla, no additional requirements beyond the standard browser). We used no user-fancy features because the questionnaire is designed to be read by the interviewer and the interviewer will enter the responses.