

**BROAD AGENCY ANNOUCEMENT – LCCIO20D0112
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

#	Question	Answer
1	Can you speak to the situation of scholars who belong to an organization? How can they supply though their schools?	Services must be provided by an individual not an organization/institution (school), however, the individual can ask for payments to be made to their institution. The individual will have to sign a Designated Payee form that will be provided after contract award. The contract will be between the Library and the individual and the individual is responsible for providing all services required under the contract.
2	What will the due date be for the full proposal, if we're fortunate enough to be invited to submit one?	The proposal due date will be provided to the offerors invited to submit proposals. Offerors will be provided as much time as possible to craft full proposals. . To help with planning, please note that section 1.2 of the Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) states that the plan is for the contracted period of performance to extend from May 1, 2021 to January 31, 2022.
3	Is this position open to US citizens only? Are non-U.S. students and recent graduates eligible to apply?	This opportunity is open to United States Citizens and Permanent Residents as stated in the BAA.
4	If/When permanent residents are eligible, will there be an announcement?	This opportunity is open to United States Citizens and Permanent Residents as stated in the BAA.
5	Are researchers employed at government laboratories eligible?	Yes, provided you get permission from your agency. Please coordinate with your agency before submitting your concept paper, provide the information with your Concept Paper submission and if you are selected the Library will determine the appropriate contracting vehicle.
6	Further to the question about the full proposal, I think that a lot of folks in academic institutions would find it helpful to know when the full is due so they can effectively plan their months ahead.	The proposal due date will be provided to the offerors invited to submit proposals. Offerors will be provided as much time as possible to craft full proposals. To help with planning, please note that section 1.2 of the BAA states that the plan is for the contracted period of performance to extend from May 1, 2021 to January 31, 2022.
7	What sorts of computing resources are available in the Labs? For example, might accepted proposals be able to use Lab-supported cloud infrastructure or an existing	The BAA has been amended to clarify, see Section 1.1 of the BAA.

	high-performance computing system supported by the LOC?	
8	What sorts of activities might happen during a residency? Research Goals and Research grants. Information and Knowledge exchange. Documenting project through different types of facilitated exercises. Research project within a research project. Connectivity to existing practices and culture heritage spaces. Liaise with other colleagues around the Library.	The BAA has been amended to clarify see Section 1.2 of the BAA.
9	Could you say a bit more about what you're looking for in 'diverse use cases' in the concept paper? For example, is this diverse use cases within or beyond the Library of Congress?	The BAA has been amended to clarify see Section 2 of the BAA.
10	Could you expand on what you envision when you say you're looking for projects that can only be explored 'at scale?' How big are we talking? Need to have representative sloth of researchers to test the model. Welcome proposals that might not be possible at present. Library has medium big data. Can find in on library's website. Documentation for API available on LABs website. At scale – select research projects that we are working on that we can traditional serve – e.g. email transfer. Scale larger than what we currently provide.	The BAA has been amended to clarify see Section 1.2.
11	Would it be appropriate to include funds for faster Internet and cameras for a better Remote experience during the contract?	Yes.
12	"A subset of applicants who submitted concept papers may be invited to create full proposals." - Is there a timeline yet set for this process?	The Concept Papers will be evaluated as stated in the BAA, this is an internal Library process, the timeline will not be provided. For the proposal submission timeline, please see the answer to #2 above. .
13	A faculty member at our institution is interested in applying to BAA – LCCIO20D0112. As the opportunity is	See the answer to #1 above.

	only open to individuals, if awarded will it be made solely to the individual, would payments be made to the University who would administer the award, or would it be made exclusively to the Research Expert?	
14	Are researchers employed at US Government Laboratories, particularly the Los Alamos National Laboratory, eligible for this program?	Yes, provided you get permission from your agency. Please coordinate with your agency before submitting your concept paper, provide the information with your concept paper submission and if you are selected the Library will determine the appropriate contracting vehicle.
15	I am very interested in submitting a concept paper for BAA LCCIO19D0052, and have a question about it. I lead a research team doing a data-mining and visualization project with Time magazine, and would like to propose to apply our techniques to your digital collections. I noticed that your instructions explicitly say that you only accept applications from individuals. I understand this excludes organizations, but does this mean that if I were to apply, I cannot have co-investigators on the proposal?	The contract will be issued to an individual, however the individual can engage other experts (a sub-contracting arrangement), to provide the services, at the individual's expense. The Library will not have a contractual arrangement with the other experts.
16	Can you clarify what counts as a cloud technology? Are you looking for fully automated approaches, or are human-AI collaborations (i.e., requiring human interaction from LC staff, the public, and/or crowds) also of interest? For example, an interactive tool that leverages cloud-based AI technologies like NLP or computer vision to help a user search the LC collections.	The purpose of this project is for the Library to learn more about cloud technology as an interface point between researchers and collections in a wide variety of technical use cases. There is no requirement of any methodological approach or complexity, as long as the work relies on cloud computing and Library of Congress collections. The Concept Papers and Proposals will be evaluated as outlined in the BAA.
17	For a project of type C (advance technical research), should we design a project that is intended to live on LC's existing hardware/cloud infrastructure, or a project that uses our own hardware but ingests LC data? If the former, can we get more insight into what hardware/infrastructure currently exist at LC?	The purpose of this project is for the Library to learn more about cloud technology as an interface point between researchers and collections in a wide variety of technical use cases. There is no requirement that projects are hosted on the Library's existing hardware or cloud infrastructure during (or beyond) the length of the project. The Concept Papers and Proposals received will be evaluated as outlined in the BAA.

18	Should the SAM.gov confirmation of registration be provided by me or my institution or the staff who submit the proposal?	The individual is responsible for providing sam.gov registrations for the individual and the institution. Concept papers and subsequent proposals (if requested) must be provided by the individual not the institution.
19	Virginia Tech "A University" will be the recipient and I am a permanent resident, not a U.S. citizen. Am I or my University eligible to apply for this grant? I saw in the faq "This BAA is limited to individuals who are citizens or permanent residents of the United States" I just want to make sure of it	Yes the BAA is limited to individuals that are US Citizens or Permanent Residents as stated in the BAA. A contract will be awarded not a grant. The contract will not be awarded to an institution.
20	Can you tell me more details about Cloud computing mentioned in this grant. Is the cloud is e.g. AWS, Google Cloud, Microsoft Azure, or a cloud environment built by the Library of Congress?	The BAA has been amended to clarify see Section 1.1.
21	My research proposal will involve a visual interface, and I would like to include a few visual figures (sketches, diagrams, etc.) to illustrate the concept paper. Would it be acceptable to include such figures on a separate page or pages (in addition to the two-page concept paper)?	You are welcome to submit any information, including images, you think would be helpful for the evaluators to understand your proposal within the two-page limit (excluding cover page). Each proposal will be evaluated according to the factors for evaluation outlined in the BAA.