



USAID | INDIA

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USAID/India is accepting applications for the following Foreign Service National (FSN) Personal Services Contract position.

- Advertisement No.** : USAID/16-20
- Position Title** : Acquisition and Assistance Specialist
- Opening Date** : August 31, 2016
- Closing Date** : September 21, 2016
- Number of positions** : Multiple positions
- Office** : Regional Office of Acquisition & Assistance (ROAA)
- Grade** : FSN-9
(This position is a part of an established career ladder, which provides for the potential to progress to the FSN-10 and, subsequently, to the FSN-11 grade level.)
- Location** : The position is based at New Delhi

Education:

Possession of a Bachelor's degree or equivalent in accounting, law, business, finance, contracts, purchasing, economics, industrial management, marketing, quantitative methods, and/or organization and management is required.

Experience:

A minimum of three years of progressively responsible experience in acquisition and assistance, development assistance, or a closely related field is required. One year of this experience must have been gained working in a position equivalent to no less than the next lower level of FSN responsibility in this or a related occupation, within a USG organization, the Host Government, the private sector, or within an international or donor organization, in an English-language work environment.

Duties:

The Acquisition and Assistance Specialist (Trainee) is located in the Office/Regional Office of Acquisition and Assistance, USAID/India. The function of the Office is to provide Acquisition and Assistance (procurement) support to Mission Technical Offices and Development Objective (DO) and Assistance Objective (AO) Teams in the Mission, and in any Regional Offices that may be supported by the Mission. The primary purpose of this position is to perform a variety of acquisition and assistance duties including writing grants, cooperative agreements, contracts, and other procurement instruments and preparing amendments in support of the Mission. The Specialist (Trainee) reviews and recommends approval or revision of requisitions in the Global Acquisition and Assistance System (GLAAS); reviews and recommends approval or revision of scopes of work (SOW); drafts requests for proposal or quote; performs cost and price analysis; analyzes proposals or quotes received; drafts contracts and contract modifications; analyzes

contractor-proposed budgets; recommends revisions to various contract provisions; writes Memoranda of Negotiation; and, prepares other required documentation. The Specialist (Trainee) maintains contract files and records up to date, prepares Contractor Performance Reports (CPRs), and supports award closeouts. The Specialist (Trainee) provides guidance related to administrative award modifications. The Specialist (Trainee) is responsible for carrying out day-to-day activities under the mentorship of more senior office employees.

This position is a part of an established career ladder, which provides for the potential to progress to the FSN-10 and, subsequently, to the FSN-11 grade level. Promotion to the FSN-10 and to the target FSN-11 grade levels is expected, and failure to achieve that higher level of performance may be the basis for reassignment, change to lower grade, or dismissal.

Broadly the incumbent's responsibilities will include:

a. The Specialist (Trainee) is responsible for providing basic project acquisition and assistance support to USAID/India Technical Offices, DO and AO Teams, and any designated Regional clients. USAID programs are diverse and multi-sectoral. The Specialist (Trainee) is required to provide basic and limited acquisition assistance to designated Technical Offices, DO, and/or AO Teams, and to support a variety of programs/projects/activities. These programs/projects/activities are implemented through complex Government contracting and grant mechanisms, including but not limited to purchase orders, competitively negotiated technical assistance agreements, contracts, cooperative agreements, Participating Agency Service Agreements (PASA), and sole source contracts, requiring the Specialist (Trainee) to become familiar with the full range of USAID procurement instruments.

b. The Specialist (Trainee) is assigned work in such a manner as to provide training and the basis for independent selection of appropriate procurement instrument types for the situation at hand, and to accurately apply USG procurement laws, regulations, policies, and procedures governing each type of instrument. The developmental nature of the assignment provides exposure to the acquisition of goods and various types of services. The Specialist (Trainee) will become equally familiar with the procedures for acquisition of goods, and for managing personal service and non-personal service contracting actions.

c. The Specialist (Trainee) is expected to work with higher-level Specialists/Officers, and with technical specialists/activity managers in DO and AO Teams throughout the Mission and/or the Region, assisting in the preparation of annual procurement plans, clear and concise statements of work, and supporting documentation. The Specialist (Trainee) will develop the ability to provide authoritative technical guidance to technical specialists/activity managers pertaining to their procurement-related responsibilities and procedures. Specific developmental duties include:

Pre-Award Duties – the Specialist (Trainee) participates in meetings on procurement planning; collates data, and prepares and updates tracking tools in order to monitor pending procurements; works with clients to assist in the preparation of justifications, waivers, and other necessary approvals, as needed; and, reviews GLAAS Requisitions (REQs) for completeness and clarity before endorsing them to higher-level Specialists/Officers. Prepares solicitation documents in GLAAS, and the electronically posts Simplified Acquisitions and Personal Services Contracts; and, works with higher-level Specialists/Officers to ensure compliance with FAR and AIDAR

advertisement requirements, including publication of synopses and solicitations, as prescribed. The Specialist (Trainee) works with higher-level Specialists/Officers to prepare Requests for Proposal and Requests for Application. The Specialist (Trainee) assists higher-level Specialists/Officers in pre-award activities for competitive solicitations, and with pre-award assessment surveys of potential contractors or recipients, in order to ensure eligibility prior to an award being made.

Post-Award Duties – the Specialist (Trainee) assists higher-level Specialists/Officers in monitoring performance as required by the terms and conditions of the award, through reviews of performance and reviews of financial reports. The Specialist (Trainee) manages the assigned developmental portfolio, assuring that funding is available when required; and, under the guidance of higher-level Specialists/Officers works with AO Teams/CORs/AORs to assure targets/milestones are set and being met (or that remedial action is taken), and that the overall goals of the program/project/activity are met. As assigned, the Specialist (Trainee) conducts site visits and attends meetings. The Specialist (Trainee) provides guidance to technical personnel, and assists in programmatic duties as required to avoid contractual/legal improprieties, seeking guidance from higher-level Specialists/Officers as required. The Specialist (Trainee) assists in researching and resolving issues that may arise during contract performance, including changes, work stoppages, disputes, implementation problems, defaults, cost overruns, unacceptable performance, and payment problems.

d. The Specialist (Trainee) assists in the conduct of closeouts of contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements after completion. These include ensuring contract audits are conducted in a timely manner, preparing performance documentation, and resolving outstanding issues noted in audits.

Performs other duties as assigned or required.

Language:

Fluency (Level IV) in English and Hindi is required.

Knowledge:

Knowledge of public and/or private-sector business processes, or the ability to quickly gain such knowledge, is required. An understanding of US Federal and USAID Acquisition Regulations, and/or knowledge and understanding of how to execute and administer a complex acquisition portfolio, and/or the ability to quickly gain such understanding, is required, particularly as it relates to acquisition through methods of negotiation, sealed bidding, small purchase procedures, and that result in standard and established contract types. A basic understanding of markets pertaining to program/project/activity requirements for services and commodities, and a good knowledge and understanding of US market and pricing methods is desirable.

Ability & Skills:

The potential to acquire the ability to plan and administer acquisition activities, and provide acquisition assistance and support for Agency programs and projects in a timely manner, is required. The potential to gain the ability to apply contracting regulations, procedures, and policies to individual acquisition and assistance programs is required. The ability to deal effectively with high-level representatives of the US and Regional business community, and with

colleagues in USAID Missions and/or host governments throughout the Region is required. Skill in the use of most elements of the Microsoft Business suite is desired.

Good analytical, negotiating, and time management skills, along with strong proofreading skills and attention to detail, are required. The ability to work calmly, tactfully, and effectively under pressure is essential, as well as the ability to maintain strict confidentiality, and to meet all standards of conduct/ethics standards in accordance with US law throughout all phases of acquisition and assistance procurement processes.

To Apply:

1. Interested applicants must apply on Application for Employment as a Locally Employed Staff or Family Member Form (DS-174) (attached). Please note: Must answer all the questions in DS-174 application form.

You may also click the link below to access the DS-174 form:

http://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1861/Application%20for%20Employment%20-%20Form%20DS-174_0.doc

Applications not submitted in the specified form will not be accepted.

2. Submit **electronic copies** of applications to: indiaper@usaid.gov

Or

Print copies of applications to:

Human Resources
United States Agency for International Development
U.S. Embassy
Shantipath, Chanakyapuri
New Delhi – 110 021

3. **Applicants must specify the position title in Box No. 1 and vacancy announcement number in Box No. 3 of the Application Form.** Applications without reference to a specific advertisement number will not be accepted.

4. Please also indicate in Box No. 3 of Application Form (DS-174) as to where you heard about this vacancy announcement. Please choose one of the options:

- USAID/India website
- Internal Circulation
- Other (Please specify)

Notes:

Probationary Period: FSN employees currently serving their probationary period or with less than one year of USG service are not eligible to apply. Employees who have moved to a new position (anytime after completing their initial probationary period) are required to be in their present position for not less than 120 days before applying for another USG position.

Compensation: The selected individual will be compensated in accordance with the Local Compensation Plan for Foreign Service National employees.

Applicants living outside New Delhi/NCR should note that if selected for the position, no resettlement travel or housing is associated with the position. It would be the candidate's responsibility to travel to New Delhi in a timely manner for the pre-employment clearances.

Age Requirement: Consistent with local law, customs, and practices, the separation/retirement age for Foreign Service National employees is 60 years.

Equal Employment Opportunity: It is the policy of the United States Government to ensure equal employment to all persons without regard to race, color, religion, caste, sex, national origin, age, disability, or sexual orientation.

Due to a high volume of anticipated applications, only short-listed candidates will be notified.