

ADVANCE CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE (ACAN)

1. Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN)

An ACAN is a public notice indicating to the supplier community that a department or agency intends to award a contract for goods, services or construction to a pre-identified supplier, thereby allowing other suppliers to signal their interest in bidding, by submitting a statement of capabilities. If no supplier submits a statement of capabilities that meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, on or before the closing date stated in the ACAN, the contracting officer may then proceed with the award to the pre-identified supplier.

2. Definition of the requirement

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) has a requirement to implement an external data solution(s) that provides a wide breadth of readily available, reliable impact and performance measurement data to improve the monitoring of the Canadian and international health research funding landscape.

3. Criteria for assessment of the Statement of Requirement: (Minimum Essential Requirements)

Any interested supplier must demonstrate by way of a statement of capabilities that it meets the following requirements:

- Must allow access to the following data:
 - Retracted articles
 - Citations scores
 - Citation metadata
 - Open access databases
 - Mentions of CIHR research and funding in media and social media (YouTube videos, TED talks, interviews, blogs, etc., by CIHR researchers)
 - Canadian and/or international patents
 - Canadian policy and other government documents (e.g., Federal, Provincial, Territorial, Municipal)
 - Publications in language beyond English and French (e.g., Spanish)
 - Grant investment metadata
 - International collaborations (e.g., on grants and/or patents)
 - International policy documents
 - Conference attendance, organization, presentations, accepted abstracts, etc.
 - High coverage of CIHR funded publications.

- Interface must meet the following criteria:
 - Searchable by research funder
 - Users must be able to identify open access articles and datasets.
 - Data are readily accessible, in a downloadable format, that can be easily integrated into CIHR's existing systems.
 - Have advanced search functionality (e.g., Boolean search, narrowing/broadening searches, proximity, truncation and wild cards)
 - Have Application Programming Interface (API) access to ensure users can easily perform and replicate any complexity of query.
 - Support multiple licences (multi-login)

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Offers advanced analytics tools (e.g. trends over time, network analysis, geographical maps) based on).

4. Applicability of the trade agreement(s) to the procurement

This procurement is subject to the following trade agreement(s):

- Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA)
- Revised World Trade Organization - Agreement on Government Procurement (WTO-AGP)
- Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)
- Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)
- Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement (CCFTA)
- Canada-Colombia Free Trade Agreement
- Canada-Honduras Free Trade Agreement
- Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement
- Canada-Panama Free Trade Agreement
- Canada-Peru Free Trade Agreement (CPFTA)
- Canada-United Kingdom Trade Continuity Agreement (Canada-UK TCA)
- Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement (CUFTA)

5. Justification for the Pre-Identified Supplier

The supplier mentioned in section 11 below is the only known supplier that meets the mandatory criteria set out in section 3 above.

Should Canada receive a statement of capabilities from a supplier that contains sufficient information to indicate that it meets the requirements set forth in this ACAN, a competitive process will be triggered with a technical and financial evaluation methodology of the bids proposed by the potential bidders.

Digital Science products, Altmetric and Dimensions, were identified as the only viable option as they met the greatest number of business needs, compared to similar databases, by a significant margin.

The above business requirements were collected, and 19 potential databases were identified for assessment.

The alternative sources of supply for similar services are not viable for a variety of reasons including size of the platform, quality of data, unreliable data sources, lack of linkages between data, and limited data on research outputs (see Business case for more details). Specifically, with respect to data offerings, similar sources of supply are limited in that they only index a subset of academic journals and/or do not include other key performance and impact data that can be found in the Digital Science products such as grant funding metadata, Canadian clinical trials, Canadian patents, federal health documents, references in policy documents and mentions of CIHR research and funding in media and social media. To our best knowledge, Digital Science is the only company able to provide the required services.

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6. Government Contracts Regulations Exception(s)

The following exception(s) to the *Government Contracts Regulations* is (are) invoked for this procurement under subsection 6(d) - "only one person is capable of performing the work".

7. Exclusions and/or Limited Tendering Reasons

The following exclusion(s) and/or limited tendering reasons are invoked under the:

- Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) – Article: 513.1(b) (iii);
- Revised World Trade Organization - Agreement on Government Procurement (WTO-AGP) – Under the Revised GPA - Article XIII, 1 (b) (iii);
- Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) – Article(s) Article 19.12 (b) (iii)
- Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) – Article(s): 15.10 , 2 (b) (iii) (s)
- Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement (CCFTA) – Article(s) Kbis-09 (b),Article Kbis-09 (c)
- Canada-Colombia Free Trade Agreement – Article(s): 1409 (b) (iii);
- Canada-Honduras Free Trade Agreement – Article(s): 17.11 2 (b) (iii)
- Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement – Article 14.3, Under the Revised GPA - Article XIII, 1 (b) (iii);
- Canada-Panama Free Trade Agreement – Article(s) 16.10 (b) (iii)
- Canada-Peru Free Trade Agreement (CPFTA) – Article(s)1409 (b) (iii)
- Canada-United Kingdom Trade Continuity Agreement (Canada-UK TCA) – Article I.1
- Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement (CUFTA) – Article(s) Article 10.13 (b) (iii);

8. Ownership of Intellectual Property

Ownership of any Foreground Intellectual Property arising out of the proposed contract will vest in the Contractor.

9. Period of the proposed contract or delivery date

- Initial Period: The proposed contract is for a period of 1 years, April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025.
- Option Year 1: April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026
- Option Year 2: April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027
- Option Year 3: April 1, 2027 to March 31, 2028
- Option Year 4: April 1, 2028 to March 31, 2029

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10. Cost estimate of the proposed contract

The estimated value of the contract, including option(s), is \$1,018,453.23 (GST/HST extra)

11. Name and address of the pre-identified supplier

Digital Science
625 Massachusetts Ave,
Cambridge, MA, 02139

12. Suppliers' right to submit a statement of capabilities

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the goods, services or construction services described in the ACAN may submit a statement of capabilities in writing to the contact person identified in this notice on or before the closing date of this notice. The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements.

13. Closing date for a submission of a statement of capabilities

The closing date and time for accepting statements of capabilities is February 22, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. EST.

14. Inquiries and submission of statements of capabilities

Inquiries and statements of capabilities are to be directed to:

Name: Zoe Barr
Title: Procurement and Contracting Specialist
Address: 160 Elgin St., Ottawa, ON, K2P 2P7
E-mail: zoe.barr@cihr-irsc.gc.ca