Please contact Donna Augustine (donna.augustine@vt.edu) with further questions.

**General**

1. How many students have competed in the eCYBERMISSION program over the last three years?

   2010: 13,218 registered; 8,327 completed submission  
   2011: 12,251 registered; 7,963 completed submission  
   2012: 15,406 registered; 8,205 completed submission

2. What is the contract type for the award?

   The eCYBERMISSION award will be a sub-award under US Army’s Youth Science Cooperative Outreach Agreement (YSCOA). YSCOA is a funding instrument covered by the Defense Grant and Agreement Regulatory System (DGARS). Please refer to the YSCOA Scope of the Agreement, Section 1.1. Upon selection, the awardee must become part of the YSCOA. The awardee will submit two signature pages (Cooperative Agreement Signature Page and Articles of Collaboration Acknowledgement Coversheet) which are provided in the appendix of the eCYBERMISSION RFP.

   The primary award is made to Virginia Tech as lead organization in the YSCOA. Funding will flow to the awardee as a sub-award through Virginia Tech.

3. Is there any information that you would be willing to share about any current challenges that you hope a new partner will address?

   Current challenges, new program initiatives, and Army priorities are stated in the RFP.

4. Will there be public recognition of the awardee for its management of eCYBERMISSION? (For example, there is no public indication on the eCYBERMISSION website of the current contractor.)

   The awardee will manage the eCYBERMISSION on behalf of the U.S. Army and as a member of the YSCOA. While limited acknowledgement of the awardees involvement is permissible (per approval by Government PM/Technical Representative), it must be clear to all who interact with eCYBERMISSION that it is an Army program. Guidance on public recognition of the awardee will be provided by the Cooperative Agreement Manager.

   It will be publicized that the awardee has become a member of the YSCOA, the collaborative of institutions/organizations working together to carry out the Army’s vision for STEM outreach.

**Budget**

5. In looking at the expected ranges in each of the main categories in the suggested budget, the total the first 15 month period is $3.2M and following years are budgeted at $2.9M. Does this include indirect costs? Are there any limits to the charges that can be made for indirect costs?
Indirect and overhead costs should be included in the total $3.2M/$2.9M budget. Awardees will be expected to provide documentation of their federally negotiated rates for both fringe and overhead to Virginia Tech upon receipt of the award. Additionally, proposers are expected to provide a budget narrative on indirect and overhead costs.

6. Will you be providing the incumbent’s budget to help us get a sense for how they were structured financially?

No. The budget guidelines (ceilings) set forth in the RFP with respect to the 5 major tasks is similar in format with current budget guidelines. The idea is to have each proposer review the requirements of the RFP and formulate their own budget in executing those requirements and meeting the government’s objectives.

7. Are there cost estimates for the expenses of running the National Conference (NJ&EE) for the past three years?

The average cost estimate for the eCYBERMISSION NJ&EE over the past three years was roughly $400K. However, due to strict government guidelines on conferences like NJ&EE, further reduction in costs of NJ&EE is expected.

8. Are prices and teacher stipends paid out of the contract award base fee?

All costs related to eCYBERMISSION should be included in the $3.2M/$2.9M budget. Any existing program initiatives which will carry over to the new provider are included in the $3.2M/$2.9M budget.

Database and Website

9. In the meeting, a request was made to get more information about the current database and website management structures. When do you anticipate this information being made available?

The release of information on current database and website management structures is still under legal review. We’ll provide information once approved.

10. Can you provide us with a database screenshot/information on what fields are for public view versus private view?

You are more than welcome to visit the website at https://www.ecybermission.com. This should provide you information on public information. Private information would include students’ usernames, team advisors, online mentors, virtual judges and students’ projects.

11. It appears from the RFP that the new manager of the project will expected to host, manage, update and improve all aspect of eCybermission’s online operation. Where is it currently hosted and what is the expectation and timing of the transition?

The website is currently being hosted at the current’s provider subcontracted vendor. Once a new provider is identified, transition of the website and database to the new provider’s web and database server will be one of the primary executables during the transition phase.
12. During the meeting someone asked for the number of FTEs required to manage all aspects of the project as currently designed. I believe that the answer was 12-17. First, I wanted to confirm this. Second, I wondered whether this included employees of subcontractors.

As mentioned during industry day, the current contract’s manpower is not measured in man-years (FTEs) but rather, it is in man-hours. Based on the labor costs provided, the equivalent man-years or FTEs of the current contract is in between 11-12. Subcontractors in the current contract are listed under other direct costs.

13. Will you be clarifying what the 12-17 FTEs currently do?

No. The current FTEs function meets the current requirements on the contract. We expect the prospective providers to understand the requirements listed on the solicitation and formulate the number of FTEs required to execute the requirements and meet the government’s objectives.