



Request for Firms' Capabilities Statements on Evaluation Research, Data Analysis and Evidence-Building

New Blanket Purchase Agreement in 2023

The Department of Labor's [Chief Evaluation Office](#) (CEO) is currently preparing to compete a new Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA), to be awarded by July 2023. In accordance with the department's [Evaluation Policy](#) principles of rigor, relevance, transparency, independence and ethics, CEO procures most of our evaluation research projects, as well as data analysis, evaluation and evidence technical support services for the office itself, through independent contractors. In the current document, you can find more information about CEO's needs for research services, and how your firm can compete to be a part of our next BPA. **CEO is especially looking to expand BPA contractor coverage relevant to worker protection and enforcement agencies and topics.** CEO is [requesting submission of capabilities statements](#) from interested firms on the GSA MAS Professional Services SIN 541611 schedule.

Example CEO Projects and Activities

CEO works with [DOL agencies](#) and other federal agency partners – on a wide variety of and [topics](#) – to generate rigorous research in support of the department's mission. You can learn more [about CEO](#) and about our typical [research development process](#) on our website. CEO needs firms with a range of capabilities that span many technical skills and areas of subject matter expertise. For examples of current projects, you can view our [current studies webpage](#), and for planned projects for fiscal year 2023, please review [DOL's Evaluation Plan](#).

Example contracts, activities and projects could include:

- Conducting large-scale evaluation projects on topics related to any DOL agency: from initial literature reviews or knowledge scans, to feasibility assessments, to evaluation design, to implementation of large-scale data collection efforts that may include merging and analysis of existing administrative data, to developing clear and engaging research products; all while meeting federal standards related to Section 508 compliance and accessibility, the Paperwork Reduction Act, DOL's Evaluation Policy, and the protection of human subjects (HHS Common Rule).
- Ongoing, ad-hoc statistical, computational, and econometric analyses of administrative and big data, and related analysis support activities, to help DOL agencies understand specific labor-related questions. Activities could include data quality assessments, data reanalysis, web scraping, dataset building and data merging/wrangling, statistical estimations and simulations, hypothesis testing, data visualizations, and AI and machine learning, as well as administrative and technical support for a Restricted Use Data Access Program.



- Design, testing, fielding, and analysis of electronic surveys, including questionnaire design, cognitive testing, survey programming, data processing and analysis, and developing reports and presentations to disseminate results.
- Support CEO's efforts in translation of evidence to action through the design and implementation of a comprehensive communications and dissemination strategy that produces clear, accessible, and engaging email and web-based communication materials, graphics, and outreach on other platforms such as social media with the goal of effectively sharing technical findings to a wide-range of audiences, including non-technical audiences and meets Section 508 compliance standards.
- Collaborative development of trials for DOL agencies to improve their communications, outreach and user experiences, through the application of behavioral economics and behavioral science research principles.
- Evaluation technical assistance, supporting independent reviews of evaluation plans, reports, datasets, and other deliverables, and providing evaluation development technical support to state- and local-level grantees of DOL programs.
- Other evaluation and econometric research, for example, conducting academic-quality literature reviews, syntheses and data analyses on labor-related topics or sourcing subject matter experts (SMEs) to do specialized work.
- Development of technical skills trainings for DOL staff on topics including evaluation, social science research methods, data analytics, clear communication and translation of research findings and more.
- Support for DOL's Clearinghouse for Labor Evaluation Research, or [CLEAR](#), including scanning, reviewing, synthesizing research, developing new standards for reviews, and improving and maintaining the department's website.
- Design, development and logistical support for virtual, in-person, and hybrid research-related events (such as roundtables, panels, forums, conferences, presentations and discussions) including identifying and recruiting experts.
- Development, administration and management of research contracts and grants competitions or programs for academic scholars and other experts (see [past programs here](#).)

Example skills CEO seeks:

- Expertise in rigorous social science research methodologies and evaluation designs, such as sampling methods, power calculations, randomized control trials and quasi-experimental methods, such as propensity score matching, regression discontinuity, and difference in difference designs.
- Expertise in a wide range of statistical and analytical areas including survey research methodology, statistical inference and analysis, power analysis, and understanding the relative strengths and weaknesses of analytical approaches with respect to the goal of the analysis, the quality of the data, and issues that will impact measurement reliability and validity and internal and external validity.



- Expertise in designing, organizing and executing research-related meetings, including larger meetings such as forums, workshops, roundtables, symposiums, and conferences, and facilitating the participation of experts/consultants and the development and dissemination of summary materials.
- Expertise developing and reviewing white papers, literature reviews, issue briefs, and reports of academic quality on labor-related topics like: employer compliance; health and safety; employment and training; earnings and wages; labor equity, unemployment insurance, education and skill gains and public benefit of services.
- Expertise in adult and online learning for technical topics, and experience translating technical concepts related to social science research for non-technical audiences.
- Expertise in communicating and disseminating complex evaluation and research findings to a range of individuals, including program and policy audiences, through the development of clear and compelling communications materials, including: final reports and briefings, presentations, graphic design, briefings, tweets, blog drafts, email design and content, listserv-building outreach, branding, and website design and content development.
- Expertise ensuring products meet federal research standards related to 508 compliance and accessibility, the Paperwork Reduction Act, and the protection of human subjects (HHS Common Rule).
- Experience obtaining data from other federal and state agencies, such as the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH), including through the development of Data Use Agreements, Memoranda of Understanding, etc.
- Expertise in statistical and econometric analyses, including but not limited to random and fixed effects models, limited dependent variable models, propensity score matching algorithms; cross-sectional time-series, Bayesian hierarchical models, & forecasting tools such as VAR models using statistical packages such as R, STATA or SAS; and web scraping, data and text mining techniques using R or Python.
- Experience in applying the above skills to provide thorough, detailed technical reviews of research products.
- Subject Matter Experts (SME) or the ability to procure SMEs across a range of labor-related fields, including but not limited to the work of all [DOL agencies](#). **CEO is especially looking to expand BPA contractor coverage relevant to worker protection and enforcement agencies** such as the Wage and Hour Division (WHD), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP), Office of Worker Compensation Programs (OWCP) and the Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB).



How does my firm participate?

Do your capabilities match one or more of our needs? [Share your two-page capabilities statement and other expertise by filling in this short form.](#) Please be sure to highlight subject matter expertise as it aligns with specific [DOL agencies](#) and [topics](#) on which CEO conducts research on behalf of the department. DOL will make public when the new Blanket Purchase Agreement is open for competition in early 2023, but you can also [sign up to be notified](#) when the competition opens. All other inquiries related to the BPA mechanism or contracting rules and regulations should be directed to DOL's Office of the Senior Procurement Executive, at OSPE@dol.gov.