

Superfund Quality and Sample Support (QSS) Contract

Pre-Solicitation Webinar

December 8, 2021

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency





~ *Our Mission* ~

Provide analytical data of known and documented quality through comprehensive analytical, quality assurance, and data management in a cost-effective manner.



- Office of Superfund Remediation & Technology Innovation's Analytical Services Branch (ASB)
- Office of Acquisition Solutions' Emergency Response, Remedial & Laboratory Analysis Mission Support Branch (OAS)



1. Superfund's Contract Laboratory Program
2. Superfund Quality and Sample Support (QSS) Overview
3. Technical Information
4. Contract Information
5. Questions and Answers

Disclaimer: The webinar is presented for informational purposes only; official information will be published in the Request for Proposal on SAM.gov and Fedconnect.net.

Superfund Contract Laboratory Program (CLP)

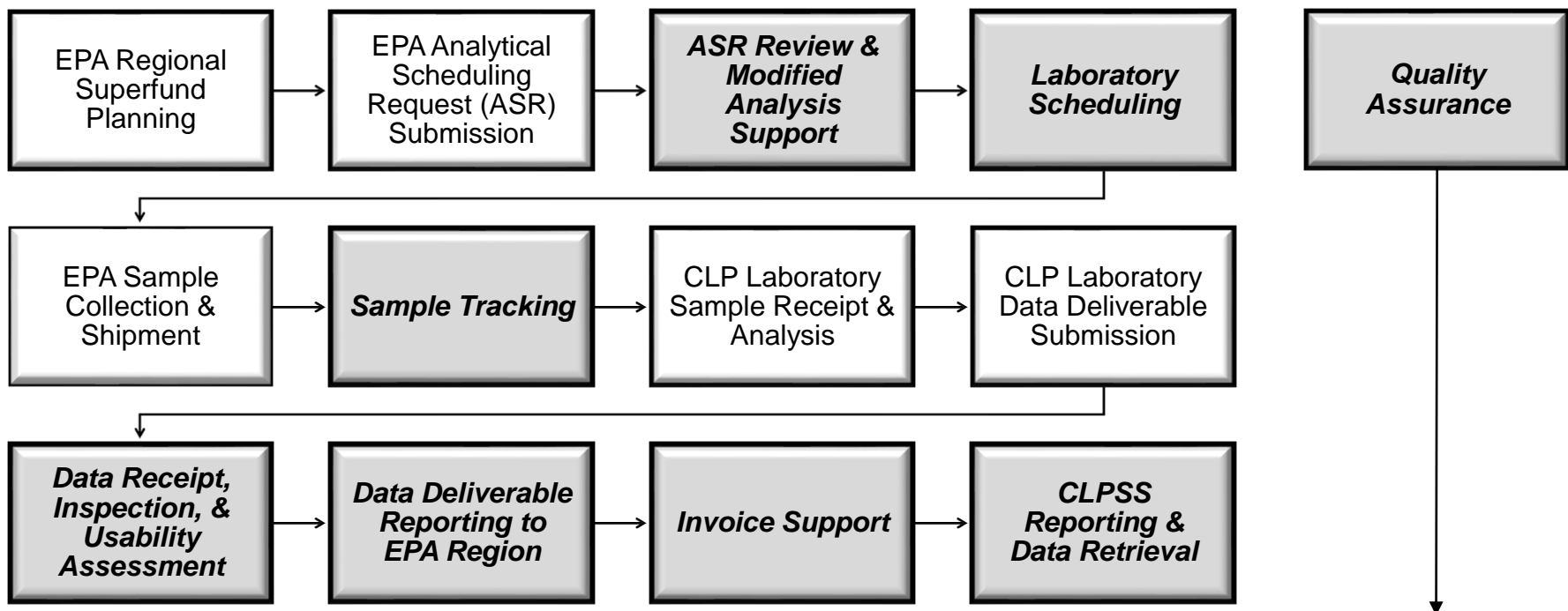


- Created in 1980 to support Superfund site decisions with analytical services
- Over 200 laboratories have performed approximately 4.5 million analyses from Superfund sites
- First program of its kind to evaluate analytical laboratory capability
- Instrumental in the development of other environmental laboratory programs (e.g., NELAP, ELAP)



- Provide Data of Known and Documented Quality
- National Network of Environmental Testing Laboratories
- Centralized Sample Management Service Center
- Uninterrupted Services - Operational 365 Days
- Standardized Requirements for Analytical Services - Statements of Work
- Data & Usability Assessment on 100% of Deliverables
- Comprehensive Quality Assurance Program
- Cost Recovery & Litigation Support
- Support to EPA's Regional Superfund offices and other EPA programs

Superfund CLP Activities



Note: Shaded activities are completed in CLPSS by the QSS Contractor.

Superfund Quality and Sample Support (QSS) Overview



- **Comprehensive** sample management support for each Superfund CLP sample (from scheduling through invoicing)
- **Centralized** service center with an established IT enterprise system and standard processes
- **Integrated** quality assurance, technical, and scientific support
- **Professional** and **administrative** services to the ASB, CLP customers, and EPA program offices
- **Contracted** analytical chemistry services for emerging contaminants of concern
- **Utilizing** streamlined process improvements to the maximum extent possible

Superfund QSS Performance Work Statement (PWS)



Section 3 ~ Task Areas 1 - 8

- 3.1 Sample Management Operations (SMO)
- 3.2 Sample Scheduling and Tracking (SST)
- 3.3 Data Assessment Support (DAS)
- 3.4 Sample Invoice Processing (SIP)
- 3.5 Superfund Enforcement Support (SES)
- 3.6 CLP Support System Infrastructure (CIS)
- 3.7 Quality Assurance Technical Support (QATS)
- 3.8 Other Analytical Methods Support (OAMS)

Task Area 1: Sample Management Operations (SMO)



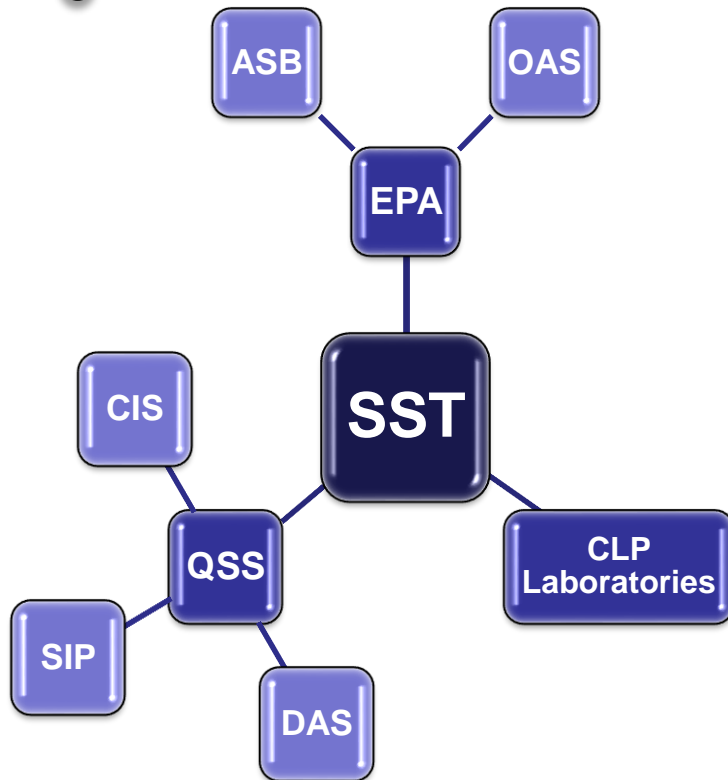
SMO is the central control point for communication and administrative QSS activities.

- Daily communication and coordination
- Customer service relations
- Administrative support for day-to-day operations
- Editorial and document publishing support
- Records management
- CLP training & conference support
- EPA compatibility & conformance
- Purchasing support

Task Area 2: Sample Scheduling & Tracking (SST)



SST provides all sample scheduling and tracking activities.



- Schedule all Regional analytical service requests
- Track all Superfund site samples
- Report laboratory performance information
- Monitor CLP laboratory utilization
- Provide program and CLP user customer support

Task Area 3: Data Assessment Support (DAS)



DAS provides inspection and assessment on 100% of analytical data deliverables.

- **Receipt, documentation, and verification** of analytical data deliverables for timeliness
- **Inspection and data assessment** of analytical data deliverables
 - ✓ Initial Assessment – A valid Staged Electronic Data Deliverable (SEDD)
 - ✓ Full Assessment – Completeness and compliance with analytical Statements of Work
 - ✓ Usability Assessment – Data usability in accordance with the National Functional Guidelines for Data Review
- Utilization of the **CLPSS Electronic Data eXchange and Evaluation System (EXES)** and **EXES Data Manager (EDM)** applications
- **Proficiency Testing (PT) Support** to assist with analytical laboratory capability, performance monitoring, and data validation activities
- **Technical Support** to ASB, customers, and laboratories

Task Area 4: Sample Invoice Processing (SIP)



SIP provides defect and disincentive accounting support and laboratory invoice processing assistance.

- Apply analytical service disincentives using DAS (Task Area 3) information
- Process EPA-approved analytical service waivers
- Process, calculate, enter, & reconcile analytical service invoice information
- Process and transmit invoice information to EPA RTP-FC to meet Prompt Payment Act
- Monitor invoices and provide invoice support

Task Area 5: Superfund Enforcement Support (SES)



SES assists the EPA with litigation activities and the recovery of Superfund costs from Potentially Responsible Parties.

- Superfund cost recovery information and cost documentation facilitate the litigation phase of the cost recovery process to substantiate and defend CLP costs
- Maintain and report site-specific and non-site specific analytical and QSS cost information

Task Area 6: CLPSS Infrastructure Support (CIS)



The CLPSS is a web-based, fully integrated IT enterprise system providing centralized, automated support of processes inherent in the analysis, evaluation, reporting, and invoice payment of analytical chemistry services under the CLP.

Hardware

- IBM server cages, hosting rack systems, routers, switches, consoles, and gateways.

Software

- Java Enterprise Version 8 in five environments
- Java Platform with an Oracle (v12c) database backend
- Google Chrome is EPA Standard browser

Hosting

- Options include the NCC (EPA Data Center), a contractor sponsored Data Center or a private cloud environment (EPA AWS or other FedRAMP facility)

CLPSS Infrastructure Support



- **Web-based, single-sign on** system for authorized users and permissions-based, user-specified functional applications
- 33 functional **applications**
- **Help Desk Support** (8am-8pm ET), supporting all registered CLPSS users
- Continuous **Operations & Maintenance** activities on CLPSS and all its components
- **Development and Enhancement** activities using Agile Development methodology
- Compliance with EPA and Government IT **security** requirements (NIST 800-53)
- Maintenance and execution of a **Continuity of Operations, Preparedness, and Disaster Recovery Plan** in the event of a disaster

Task Area 7: Quality Assurance Technical Support (QATS)



QATS assists with assessing laboratory competency and monitoring laboratory performance, ensuring data produced by the laboratories are of known and documented quality.

- Perform **Data Package & Electronic Media Audits** of analytical data deliverables and laboratory instrument files for completeness and compliance
- Conduct **On-site Laboratory Audits** of analytical laboratories to ensure quality systems, equipment, and personnel meet requirements
- Perform **Quality Documentation Review** of analytical laboratory quality management plans, quality assurance plans, and standard operating procedures
- Provide **Data Validation Services** to determine data integrity and usability

Task Area 8: Other Analytical Methods Support (OAMS)



OAMS provides a cost-effective option to utilize established CLP processes to provide additional laboratory services

- Opportunity to provide analytical services not currently offered by CLP, such as PFAS
- Responsible for sample management from scheduling through data delivery
- Data to be used in the same manner as CLP analytical data. Therefore, labs must:
 1. Follow CLP procedures
 2. Be pre-qualified
 3. Perform in accordance with EPA SOWs
 4. Meet quality requirements
- Managed through QSS subcontracting mechanisms



- **NAICS Code:** 541611
- **Certification:** CMMI Level 3 (or similar)
- **Method:** Performance-Based
- **Services:** Advisory and Assistance Support
- **Contract Type:** IDIQ w/Fixed Price TOs
- **Duration:** 8 years (Base + Option Periods)
- **COI Considerations:** Cannot hold current CASC contract.

Request for Proposal (RFP) Highlights



- **RFP release date** – FY22 Q2
- **New Executive Order Clauses** – Important information about EO 14042
- **COI Provisions and Clauses** – To be publicized prior to the release of the solicitation
- **Small Business (SB) Subcontracting** – A plan is required to meet EPA's SB goals
- **Evaluation Factors** – Will be published as part of the RFP.



How to Respond to the RFP

- Register your business on SAM.gov
- Register on FedConnect.net to access and respond to the RFP

Please read the entire RFP including attachments for all the proposal instructions



*All questions must be directed in writing to the Contracting Officer
and the Contract Specialist*

Contracting Officer

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Contract Specialist

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