



East Bay Municipal Utility District Laboratory Services

Questions and Answers

RFP for Laboratory Services 0125

May 19, 2025

No.	Questions	District Responses
1	Would EBMUD be amenable to shipping samples if pick-up can be made at your site?	Yes, we are amenable to shipping if courier services are not available. Shipping supplies and pre-paid labels must be provided.
2	Subcontract Laboratories can bid on a portion of the RFP or all of it.	Subcontract Laboratories can bid on a portion of the RFP or all of it.
3	Will more than one contract be issued?	Subcontract Laboratories can bid on a portion of the RFP or all of it. Multiple contracts may be awarded if warranted.
4	Can the forms and tables be provided in Word or Excel?	The Bidding Sheet will be posted in editable pdf on https://www.ebmud.com/business-center/requests-proposal-rfps/laboratory-services-0125
5	Can the penalties be negotiated (propose alternate)?	Please use 'Exceptions, Clarifications, Amendments' portion of Exhibit A to propose an alternate penalty.



East Bay Municipal Utility District Laboratory Services

6	What sections need to be submitted for the RFP?	Please submit completed Exhibit A, B and D.
7	Who is the incumbent for the current Contract?	Alpha Analytical Laboratories, Inc.
8	Are the prices for the current Contract available and can they be shared?	Please submit a public record request via: Public records :: East Bay Municipal Utility District (https://www.ebmud.com/about-us/public-records).
9	Regarding Price Table, for Metals/Solids/EPA 6010 and Metals/Aqueous/EPA 6020, can you please identify the required list of metals to be analyzed?	<p>The EPA 6010 solid metals of interest are: Aluminum, Antimony, Arsenic, Barium, Beryllium, Boron, Cadmium, Calcium, Chromium, Cobalt, Copper, Iron, Lead, Lithium, Magnesium, Manganese, Molybdenum, Nickel, Potassium, Selenium, Silicon, Silver, Sodium, Strontium, Sulfur, Thallium, Tin, Vanadium, Zinc.</p> <p>For EPA 6020 aqueous metals of interest are: Aluminum, Antimony, Arsenic, Barium, Beryllium, Cadmium, Chromium, Cobalt, Copper, Lead, Manganese, Mercury, Molybdenum, Nickel, Selenium, Silver, Thallium, Vanadium, Zinc.</p>
10	Regarding Price Table, for PFAS on waters by EPA 533 and/or 537.1, will any samples require that a UCMR5 certified laboratory be used?	A UCMR5-certified laboratory is not required, as these samples are not part of UCMR5. However, the laboratory must be ELAP- or NELAP-certified and capable of reporting to CLIP.



East Bay Municipal Utility District Laboratory Services

11	Regarding Price Table, for PFAS on water with the method reference DOD QSM. Can you please elaborate on what “DOD QSM” means with respect to this Contract, i.e. does lab need to meet DOD QSM Table 24, are DOD deliverables require, does the lab have to hold DOD accreditation, etc.?	The DOD QSM is the current method that we use to analyze raw water samples. The data is not used for compliance/regulatory purposes. We are flexible on the method, provided it is suitable for high-turbidity water and offers MDLs comparable to EPA 533/EPA 537. The subcontract laboratory is not required to follow the QC requirements of Table B-24, nor is DOD accreditation or DOD deliverables reporting necessary.
12	There is a footnote that says, “Indicate proposed method for analysis by entering a proposed method or an equivalent method.” The analytical methods are already filled in, and we perform many of the analyses by different methods. Are equivalent methods acceptable, and where should we input them?	Please list the method in the Method Ref column and document in the ‘Exceptions, Clarification, Amendments’ table that an alternate method has been proposed.
13	Our laboratory does not offer method 522 for reporting 1,4-Dioxane. Can we not bid on this item or alternatively, can EBMUD accept reporting by method 624 or 8260?	EPA 522 is the only ELAP certified method for 1,4-Dioxane. The result must meet the notification limit of 1 ug/L.
14	For 4-Methyl-2-pentanone water, would method 524.3 be acceptable for reporting this?	Yes. EPA 524.3 is an acceptable substitute for EPA 524.2/EPA 524.4 as long as the laboratory is ELAP- or NELAC-certified for this compound for that method and can meet a notification limit of 120 ug/L. Please use the EXCEPTIONS, CLARIFICATIONS, AMENDMENTS section of Exhibit A to list this exception.



East Bay Municipal Utility District Laboratory Services

15	For aqueous samples analyzed for semi-volatile organics (BNA), specifically 1,4-Dioxane — would The District accept EPA Method 624 or 8260 instead of 8270C? Detection limits would be in the range of RL 0.5 to MDL 0.3 µg/L.	Yes. EPA 8260 is an acceptable substitute for EPA 8270 for 1,4-Dioxane as long as the laboratory is ELAP- or NELAP-certified this compound for that method.
16	For TPH-Gasoline in solids via EPA 8015 — do you also need BTEX to be reported?	If we require BTEX to be quantified, we will request EPA 624 BTEX or 8260 BTEX.
17	For metals - can you specify which metals you may need (individually reported, or reported as groups of metals).	Aluminum, Antimony, Arsenic, Barium, Beryllium, Boron, Cadmium, Calcium, Chromium, Cobalt, Copper, Iron, Lead, Lithium, Magnesium, Manganese, Mercury, Molybdenum, Nickel, Potassium, Selenium, Silicon, Silver, Sodium, Strontium, Sulfur, Thallium, Tin, Vanadium, Zinc. These metals can be grouped as single analytes, CAM-17 or any other combination. Please quote metals per analyte.
18	For metals specifically in solids listed under EPA 6010 — would EPA 6020 be an acceptable alternative in place of 6010? Please note that we are not certified for 6010, however if 6010 is required with certification, can we get your approval to subcontract?	EPA 6020 is an acceptable substitution for EPA 6010. Please use the EXCEPTIONS, CLARIFICATIONS, AMENDMENTS section of Exhibit A to list this exception. If you do need to subcontract, please notify EBMUD prior to get approval.
19	For STLC metals can we use EPA 6020 in place of 6010? Again, we are not certified for 6010, however if 6010 is required with certification, can we get your approval to subcontract?	EPA 6020 is an acceptable substitution for EPA 6010. Please use the EXCEPTIONS, CLARIFICATIONS, AMENDMENTS section of Exhibit A to list this exception. If you do need to subcontract, please notify EBMUD prior to get approval.



East Bay Municipal Utility District Laboratory Services

20	Same for TCLP metals please confirm if EPA 6020 is acceptable, or, If 6010 is required with certification, would you approve subcontracting?	EPA 6020 is an acceptable substitution for EPA 6010. Please use the EXCEPTIONS, CLARIFICATIONS, AMENDMENTS section of Exhibit A to list this exception. If you do need to subcontract, please notify EBMUD prior to get approval.
21	For aqueous metals, would EPA Method 200.8 be acceptable? And just to confirm—will any of these aqueous samples be drinking water?	This request is for metals analysis related to wastewater hazardous waste characterization and we request EPA 6010 or EPA 6020 for these samples. These samples are not drinking waters.
22	Will there be any need to test for Hexavalent Chromium in drinking water samples?	Yes. Reporting limit must meet the regulatory DLR of 0.1 ug/L.
23	Where should we include any additional fees—such as CLIP upload charges, after-hours sample pickup, disposal fees, pulverization fees, hold fees, or other special service costs on the Proposal Form or in our proposal?	For costs not built into the test price, please use the EXCEPTIONS, CLARIFICATIONS, AMENDMENTS section of Exhibit A to list these additional fees.
24	For sample pick ups, our latest pick up time will be by 2pm. Would there be any pick ups requested outside of our regular business hours? What would be the best way to note our courtesy courier timeframe restrictions and pricing for courier services outside of those hours?	Yes. There might be a rare request for an after-hours pick-up. Please use the Supplemental Question #7 of Exhibit A to detail the courier timeframe and pricing for after-hours pick-up.



East Bay Municipal Utility District Laboratory Services

25	<p>For analyses that you may require a field blank or trip blank – if the method does not require it by default then EBMUD will be charged the same unit price per blank per method, what would be the best way to reflect this in the cost proposal? Can you specify which methods you will need with field blank or trip blanks for.</p>	<p>Please use the EXCEPTIONS, CLARIFICATIONS, AMENDMENTS section of Exhibit A to list these additional fees.</p> <p>Field blanks are used for the following methods: EPA 1631, EPA 504, EPA 524, EPA 533, EPA 537, EPA 1633, DOD QSM.</p>
26	<p>Regarding specific requirements in section C #19 penalties assessed for not meeting the turnaround time, would it be possible to offer to amend any RUSH TAT that is not delivered on time to the actual TAT (rush or not) that data gets reported?</p>	<p>Yes. Please use the EXCEPTIONS, CLARIFICATIONS, AMENDMENTS section of Exhibit A to list this exception. EMBUD must be contacted if the TAT requires modification</p>
27	<p>In Exhibit A Page 15, under Proposers Information and Acceptance, it states that we must declare that the terms, conditions, certifications and requirements are agreed to. However, on page 14 it indicates that any clarifications and/or amendments, or taking exception to any part of the RFP, must be submitted in the Exceptions section of Exhibit A.</p> <p>So, we have to declare we agree to the terms but it lets us take exceptions as long as they are in the exceptions section of our submittal. Is that accurate? Will we be disqualified if we agree and then take exceptions?</p>	<p>Your RFP submission will not be rejected due to exceptions. Please use the EXCEPTIONS, CLARIFICATIONS, AMENDMENTS section of Exhibit A to list any exception.</p>



East Bay Municipal Utility District Laboratory Services

28	<p>For the Contract Equity Program, if we are not a small business entity and do not claim preference. We will be doing all the analysis within our network and have not subcontracting opportunities.</p> <p>Do we still have to complete Form P-040 – Contract Equity Participation and Form P041 Good Faith Outreach Efforts Documentation?</p>	<p>We recommend that you complete and submit the P-040 form. You can add your information at the top of the form, then write “N/A” and/or include a note stating you will be performing all the work and there are no subcontractors.</p>
----	--	---