Question #1: I could not locate a projected amount, estimated amount or bid tabulation from a previous quote for RFP AA15-GD-4970. I know some entities provide it in the bid information and others offer it upon request. I am hoping you can provide me with this information.

Answer #1: We do not provide an estimated or projected amount.

Question #2: Clarification on Appendix A: Is this the Purchase Agreement referenced in 5.2 (2nd bullet)? If not, where does our response to Appendix A fit into bid response documentation (outlined in 5.6)?

Answer #2: Yes, the Purchase Agreement is Appendix A. You must respond to all of the items in the RFP and Attachment A in order to have a complete response to this RFP.

Question #3: Please clarify the intended difference between conformance testing protocol (5.6.1.10) and acceptance testing.

Answer #3: There are references in the RFP to a narrative re: conformance testing, in which we are requesting a narrative that describes how the vendor will test and demonstrate conformance with the specifications. Once the conformance testing has been concluded, the equipment is “accepted.” There are not two different types of testing, as the request for clarification implies.

Question #4: Forms in section 5.6: sections 5.6.1.1 (Form of Proposal), .12 (Bidder’s Qualification Statement), .14 (Non-discrimination Certificate) & .15 (Signature Authority) appear to be required forms. No forms were received with this RFP. Please provide any required forms. If the item is not a form, please advise on intention for this section & any requirements.

Answer #4:

5.6.1.1 Form of Proposal – This means that your responses should be numbered and follow the same order as they appear in the RFP.

5.6.1.12 Bidder’s Qualifications Statement – This requirement will be covered when you include your 3 references in response to section 5.3 References.

5.6.1.14 Non-discrimination Certificate – The University is eliminating this requirement.

5.6.1.15 Signature Authorization – Include a document that states the person signing your submission has the full authority to commit the company to the terms and conditions of the RFP.
Question # 5: Is an extension to the due date anticipated?

Answer # 5: At this point in our RFP process, we are not planning on extending the due date.

Question # 6: Philips does not manufacture multinuclear coils (except for 31P loop), so these will be exceptions to the specification, but can be supplied by third-party vendors with whom we have prior agreements. Should Philips provide price quotes from the 3rd-party vendor with the RFP in the Exceptions, or would UMass prefer to get those quotes independently?

Answer # 6: Philips must provide quotes from your third party vendors.

Question # 7: Please specify the anatomy that will be studied for the extremity coils (thigh vs. knee vs. wrist/small animal) and the targeted application for the 13C quadrature coil.

Answer # 7: All applications will be for human research; there will be no animal studies conducted on this system. Anatomy for extremity coils: thigh, knee, lower leg (shank), ankle and foot. Targeted application for 13C quadrature coil: muscle [glycogen], liver [glycogen].

Question # 8: Does the University really want 4 sets of “technical and planning documents” as requested below? Philips is happy to meet this requirement, but it will add significant page count to the document, and we wanted to be sure this is something you want.

3.0.20 DOCUMENTATION: Provide four sets of all technical and planning documents related to the system being proposed. Include all current and future system specifications and performance data. Provide a list of referral clients for described MRI and MRS applications who may be contacted by the university. Provide a table listing the system, bore size and primary applications for the 10 most recent installations by the vendor.

Answer # 8: The University wants 1 hardcopy of the technical and planning documents. In addition, we want 3 thumb drives that contain this same information in both PDF and .DWG files.