Question 1: Does it matter if the binder is standard O ring or a D ring?

Answer 1: *The preferred binder ring is the "D" ring.*

Question 2: Should the interior text pages be three (3) holes drilled and inserted into the binder?

Answer 2: *Yes, pages must be three (3) holes drilled and inserted into the binders.*

Question 3: Can a substitute paper be submitted for consideration?

Answer 3: *No, this is a brand specific IFB. Only bids for the specific brands will be considered.*

Question 4: Do the divider sheets have a colored Mylar reinforcement on the actual tab?

Answer 4: *No, we are not requesting colored Mylar reinforcement on the actual tabs.*

Question 5: Do the interior pages or tab sheets have any type of Mylar reinforcement running along the 11" side to prevent the drill holes from stretching or tearing?

Answer 5: *There is no request for reinforcement*

Question 7: What is the purpose of the cookbook?

Answer 7: *To help child nutrition programs that offer the National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs in Mississippi meet the required federal and state nutrition standards for these programs; it is a tool that school nutrition professionals can use to prepare and serve USDA reimbursable meals to students.*

Question 8: How will it be used?

Answer 8: *It is designed to be used daily in all preparation kitchens operating under the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs regulations. Utilizing the cookbook assures the program director that they are meeting current USDA Child Nutrition Program meal pattern nutrition standard requirements.*

Question 9: Where will it be used (specific location to food if applicable)? If applicable then should not FDA compliant inks be a part of the specs?

Answer: *This tool will be used in the production kitchens that operate USDA FNS Child Nutrition Programs. Second part- NO*

Question 10: What is the life expectancy of the cookbooks?

Answer 10: *Five Years (A variance in the life expectancy could occur due to USDA Child Nutrition Program regulations and Mississippi Department of Education Office of Child Nutrition Statewide Purchasing products).*

Question 11: Cover wraps. Specs are not clear, 6-different cover wraps (3 of each size binder). Does that make it a total of 15 different cover wraps or is that front/back and spine per each?

Answer 11: *There will be one cover wrap insert for each binder, for a total of six different cover wraps (one for each binder). The cover wrap insert wraps around the front, back and spine of each binder. There are two sizes of binders*

Question 12: Confirm cover wrap size of 12.5x11.125. Does that include the spine?

Answer 12: *Yes, that is the cover wrap size and yes, it includes the spine.*

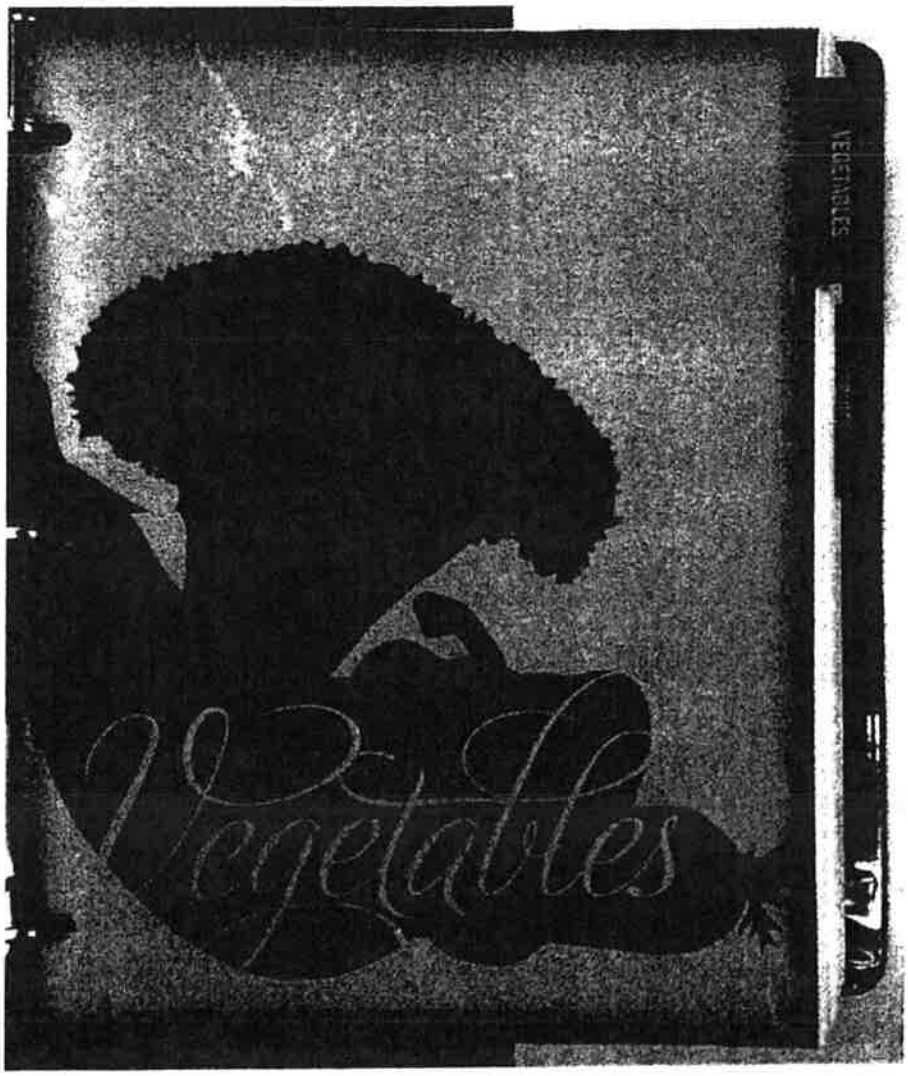
Question 13: In the event of an Addendum will the response date be extended?

Answer 13: *No, this is a time sensitive IFB due to the scheduled training for school districts.*

Question 14: How many tabs per row or bank? For example, if the tabs are a one third cut, it is a bank or row of three.

Answer 14: *(See attached snapshot of dummy illustrating a binder with only two tabs.)*

The custom die cut tabs will be 1/2 inch wide x 2.2 inches long in banks of 5. Only the tabs will extend beyond the 8.5" x 11" sheets they separate. After die cut, the overall divider size will be 9"x11". All binders will begin with bank position #1; not all binders have the same number of dividers; see page 4 of IFB "Assembly (approximate page-counts for dividers)".



Questions from the first 2015 IFB

Question: Would you have the bid tabulation from the previous bid in March of 2014?

Response: There were 3 bids for the 2014 Cookbook sets:

$402,147.43
$233,470.00
$399,100.00

These bids did not include shipping, which is requested in the 2015 bid. The 2014 bid specifications defined shipping as "boxes/carton, labor, tape, labels, filler and postage."

Question 1: Can we bid on Yupo Accel Fast Dry paper for offset printing rather than Yupo Original?

Answer: Yes for the text and picture pages. However, Yupo Accel is not available in the 100# cover weight required for the MRS dividers, so the dividers must be printed on Yupo Original.

Question 2: Can we bid on Yupo Blue for Indigo digital printing rather than Yupo Original/Yupo Accel Fast Dry for offset printing?

Answer: No. There is an ink durability concern with the digital inks.

Question 3: Will you be able to provide the shipping information presented in the RFB in an excel spreadsheet for the awarded printer?

Answer: Yes.

Bid responses from the first 2015 IFB

$335,880.00
$248,925.00
$267,964.72
$352,320.86