



Request for Proposal Development Services

Forum of Incident Response and Security Teams, Inc.

Issue Date: 22 April 2026
Submission Deadline: 22 May 2026

Section 1 – Introduction

FIRST is seeking an expert, security-conscious technical contractor to provide supplemental project / development support for our infrastructure on an ongoing basis. The successful candidate will provide approximately 5–10 hours of focused development effort per week, specifically managing tasks within an AWS environment. We prioritize candidates who exhibit technical autonomy, a deep commitment to privacy, and the ability to seamlessly integrate into our existing collaborative workflow using tools like Slack and Zoom.

Section 2 – Technical Requirements

The contractor will be responsible for maintaining, securing, and enhancing FIRST services including, but not limited to: API, member portal, threat intelligence platform, and web site. Candidates must demonstrate deep proficiency in the following:

- **Infrastructure:** Experience operating in and securing AWS environments, and working with Kubernetes.
- **Web Server & Backend:** Expert-level knowledge of Nginx configuration and PHP development.
- **Workflow & Documentation:** Proficiency in markdown for documentation and git for version control and CI/CD.

Security & Privacy: A "security-first" mindset. You must be deeply familiar with hardening servers, implementing robust privacy protections against modern digital threats, and prioritizing the protection of sensitive data.

Section 3 - Collaboration & Communication

- We value clear, concise communication. The contractor must be:
Platform-Ready: Highly comfortable and efficient using Slack for asynchronous coordination and Zoom for brief syncs when necessary.
- **Autonomous:** Capability to take ownership of tasks and execute them with minimal oversight, maintaining a high standard of quality even within a limited weekly time block.

- **Language:** Fluent and comfortable communicating in English.
- **Availability:** Able to collaborate with the team during US Eastern time zone business hours.

Section 4 - Proposal Submission Guidelines

Please keep your submission concise. We value technical competency over corporate marketing. Include the following:

1. **Technical Profile:** Summary of experience specifically related to our stack (AWS, Nginx, PHP, Git).
2. **Security Methodology:** Briefly describe your approach to maintaining privacy and security in a production environment.
3. **Engagement Preference:** Your hourly rate for recurring, part-time, contract technical work.
4. **Availability:** Confirmation of your ability to dedicate a consistent **5–10 hours per week**.
5. **Proof of Competency:** A brief highlight of a past project where you successfully optimized or secured an AWS/Nginx/PHP setup.

Section 5 - Evaluation Criteria

We will evaluate proposals based on the following:

- **Security/Privacy Expertise:** Demonstrated ability to harden systems.
- **Technical Fit:** Proficiency in FIRST's technical stack.
- **Reliability & Communication:** Proven history of consistent delivery and effective collaboration.

Section 6 - Submission & Deadline

Please submit your proposal to rfp-response@first.org by May 22nd, 2026. We are seeking an individual or vendor able to fill this role beginning in August 2026.