



Data to Request Before Issuing RFQs

1. Program Context & Intent

- Intended production lifecycle (pilot → ramp → steady state)
- Expected volatility (engineering changes, demand swings)
- Program criticality (launch-driven vs cost-optimized)
- Internal timeline constraints vs external deadlines

2. Volume & Demand Profile

- Ramp curve (how fast, not just how much)
- Batch sizes and run frequency
- Seasonality or forecast uncertainty
- Acceptable volume variability

3. Part Risk Profile (Beyond Print & Tolerances)

- Features most sensitive to variation
- Material behavior concerns at scale
- Cosmetic vs functional priorities
- Known pain points from similar programs
- A short risk narrative accompanying drawings

4. Tooling Strategy Assumptions (Decisions that lock in cost, lead time, and flexibility)

- Prototype vs production tooling intent
- Expected tool life
- Anticipated engineering changes
- Tool ownership and relocation expectations

5. Quality & Validation Expectations

- Validation depth (IQ/OQ/PQ or equivalent)



- Critical capability thresholds
- Documentation rigor required
- Change control tolerance post-validation

6. Secondary Operations & Dependencies (Hidden cost and risk multipliers)

- Required secondary processes
- Approved vendors vs open sourcing
- Inspection and testing handoffs
- Packaging, labeling, and logistics constraints

7. Communication & Program Management Expectations

- Update cadence and format
- Escalation thresholds
- Data visibility expectations
- Defined interfaces between teams

8. Commercial Guardrails

- Cost vs risk tradeoff boundaries
- What cost includes (tool changes, validation support, rework)
- Flexibility expectations over time