



Date	Event
November 17 & 24, 2020	Dates of public notice
November 30, 2020	Due date for questions by 5:00 pm
December 3, 2020	Questions and Answers posted on our website

Checklist and Submission Guidelines

This checklist is provided to help you conform to all form/document requirements stipulated in this solicitation and attached herein.

(This is not a required form, it is not necessary to return this checklist with your proposal.)

Understanding the Proposal

Completed

- Read entire RFP document, appendices and attachments
- Review AISD Policy and Instructions on our website: [Policy and Instructions](#)
- Attend pre-proposal conference (not required)
- Submit questions properly before deadline
- Review addenda, Q&A and other additional attachments
- Review Proposal Format section of RFP

Forms

Completed | Required

- | Bid Certification
- | Notification of Criminal History of Contractor
- | Debarment, Suspension and Ineligibility Certification
- | Conflict of Interest Questionnaire (CIQ) electronic
- | Strategic Partner Profile
- | EDGAR Vendor Certification
- | Software Vendor Certification Form

Submitting the Proposal

Completed

- Prepare the proposal in the format specified and sign all required forms
- Submit proposal via email by RFP opening / due date and time

Table of Contents

Section I	Introduction
Section II	Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Program Requirement
Section III	Proposal Format
Section IV	Initial Revul1 ForQq0.0000092 0 612 79 reW*nBT/F3 15.0 Tf1 0 0 1 303.43 576
Section V	
Section VI	
Section VII	

any exceptions taken to the specifications of this RFP, or any conditions of the proposal.

Section III - Financial Proposal

This section shall contain a straightforward, concise delineation of the contractor fees to satisfy the requirements of this RFP. It is the contractor responsibility to specify all costs (i.e. administrative fees, processing fees, etc.) associated with providing the products or services required herein.

Section IV – References

sub-sections A - N, of section **VI - Scope of Service and Performance Requirements.**

- comply with all portions of that sub-section, or check the box next to be followed by a detailed explanation of why the vendor cannot comply, either in the provided space, or as a separate attachment to the Proposal.
- See example, below, of what to look for below after each sub-section.

Example: | Vendor Response to items in this section: Comply Exception - Explanation:

Responsible

In order for a proposal to be responsible, the contractor shall be in good financial standing with the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

V. COMPETITIVE SELECTION / EVALUATION

- A. This is a NEGOTIATED procurement and as such, award will not necessarily be made to the offeror submitting the lowest priced proposal. Award will be made to the firm other factors considered.

- B. The district anticipates that the evaluation process may include the following evaluation criteria (for example, but not limited to):

Points	Item	Detailed Description
30 Points	Proposed Plan	The adequacy and completeness of the plan offered addressing the Scope of Service. Extent to which the goods or services meet the
25 Points	Contractor's Capabilities	The demonstrated ability of the Contractor to provide services, including references.

- D. If the district determines that additional evaluation steps are required to determine the best value between Contractors, the district reserves the right to consider any or all of the following additional criteria; the proposed price, s experience, references and record for responsibility, or any other relevant factor that the district deems necessary to determine best value.

VI. SCOPE OF SERVICE AND PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

Term

The agreement(s) resulting from this solicitation will be in effect for an initial term of one (1) year from the date of award by the Board of Trustees, or such date established by the agreement. The parties by mutual consent may renew the agreement for up to four (4) additional one (1) year periods. In addition, the district reserves the right to extend the contract for an additional time beyond the final expiration date if necessary to ensure no lapse in service.

A. Background Information and Overview

The Austin Independent School district is a large urban district in Austin, TX with approximately network known as the Greater Austin Area Telecommunications Network (GAATN) which is arranged in multiple interconnected rings throughout the city. The GAATN network is maintained via a consortium of several other government and public entities including the City of Austin, the State of Texas, and the University of Texas at Austin. The AISD network has implemented the Resilient Ethernet Protocol (REP) to meet requirements for high reliability and availability of the GAATN fiber network. Austin ISD obtains broadband Internet access via multiple 10 Gbps links running across the GAATN network. Each of these links connect to an Internet Service Provider (ISP) in a colocation facility or point of presence (POP) to reach the Internet.

For purposes of Internet access, the AISD network infrastructure is partitioned into two separate network segments (North and South). The purpose of this RFP is to replace the firewall equipment serving the North and South segments of the AISD network. The South segment supports approximately 57 campuses and the North segment supports approximately 73 campuses.

The proposed firewall equipment must provide sophisticated features for identifying, controlling and blocking Internet traffic at multiple levels at 10Gbps speed. Extensive Layer 7 functionality will be important to this project, as well as next generation intrusion detection and prevention technologies. AISD expects to use the firewalls to provide up to 10 Gbps of additional bandwidth capacity and plans to manage these devices from one management application (single pane of glass).

The AISD will request funding for this project as part of the E-Rate Program. The bidder must confirm that they are in full compliance with all E-Rate vendor requirements as specified below.

AISD expects to begin the firewall replacement sometime after April 1st, 2021 and to complete all work by September 30th, 2022.

Palo Alto equipment is used in the example, but proposals of alternative products with equivalent features and functionality will be accepted for consideration.

Any alternative solution proposed must include all additional costs that would be incurred in order to create an equally functional and manageable enterprise environment. These additional considerations must include licensing, implementation of a management platform, etc. The

additional technical issues must be described comprehensively in detail in the proposal. The

6. The equipment installation should be completed in one evening.
7. Provide any additional equipment to AISD that will be installed by AISD if necessary.

Vendor Response to items in this section: Comply Exception - Explanation:

Evaluation Criteria for: Contractor's Capabilities

D. Project Management

This project will be coordinated by an AISD project manager. The selected contractor will be required to provide comprehensive project management services on this project. These services will include on-site inspections, scheduling, close oversight of work crews, weekly reporting, documentation updates, communication and coordination with other parties involved in the overall project. The vendor should provide a dedicated project manager for the entire project. The selected vendor must be willing to work in a cooperative manner with the AISD project manager and with other AISD contractors. These project management services should be quoted as a separate cost (there is a line item at the bottom of the Attachment A Cost Estimate Worksheet).

The contractor will be responsible for all tasks requested in this RFP under the direction of a project manager provided by AISD.

21. The bidder should submit the resume of the networking professional proposed for the technical leader of this project.
22. The contractor must minimize and coordinate downtime of the existing network equipment when performing this work.
23. The contractor must have a set of test equipment for testing copper and fiber links. This test equipment must be onsite with

Austin ISD
227901

PURCHASING AND ACQUISITION
VENDOR RELATIONS

CHE
(LOCAL)

**Contacting Board
Members**

Restricted Contact
Period

*Prohibited
Communications*

*Permissible
Communications*

DATE ISSUED: 7/5/2018
LDU 2018.08
CHE(LOCAL)

PURCHASING AND ACQUISITION
VENDOR RELATIONS

CHE
(LOCAL)

Complaints

Any person who is aggrieved in connection with a HUB program policy decision may file a complaint in accordance with GF(LOCAL).

Violations

The following are violations subject to sanctions:

1. Falsely conceal or cover up a material fact or make any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements, reports, or representations, or make use of any false writing, document, or electronic report knowing the same to contain any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement.
2. Fraudulently obtain, retain or attempt to obtain, or aid another in fraudulently obtaining, retaining, or attempting to obtain certification status as a HUB.
3. Make false reports regarding payments made to subcontractors or sub-consultants.

Sanctions

Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be subject to the following sanctions and to the maximum penalties provided by law:

1. The District may bar, suspend, or deem nonresponsive in future District solicitations and contracts, for a period of up to five years, any bidder or proposer, or contractor or subcontractor following notice and an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with the protest procedures in this policy.
2. The District may, by contract, and where appropriate and lawful, impose an administrative penalty.
3. In addition to other f3 Tr 4.588 0 Td()Tj0 Tr 0.281-29.24174 Td(f)-4(hi)6(s)-4

*Request for
Proposal and Bid
Invitation*