

MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS FOR DARK FIBER NETWORK SPECIFICATIONS

Applicant: Avon Local School District

BEN: 129402

Form 470 #: 270000169

Form 470 Contacts:

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Procurement Timeline

Task	Due Date
Deadline to Submit Questions	September 25, 2026, 3 PM EST
Posting of Questions/Clarifications	September 29, 2026
Proposal Submission Deadline	October 28, 2026, 3 PM EST

Communications and Questions

All communication with the Applicant regarding this solicitation **must** be emailed and received by the “Deadline to Submit Questions” noted in the “Procurement Timeline.” Questions should be directed to all “Form 470 Contacts” listed above, with the Form 470 Number included in the subject line. Failure to include all “Form 470 Contacts” could result in questions going unanswered. Verbal inquiries are not allowed. Clarifications, when applicable, will be posted as an attachment/addendum to the Form 470. Each Offeror is responsible for downloading the current version of the Form 470 and attachments, including any addenda. Applicant reserves the right to ask vendors clarifying questions during the proposal review process.

Contact initiated by an Offeror concerning this solicitation with any other Applicant representative other than those listed as Form 470 contacts is prohibited. Unauthorized contact may result in the offeror's disqualification from this solicitation.

Pre-Proposal Meeting or Site Visit

For this solicitation, a pre-proposal meeting or site visit is: ☐ Required ☐ Optional ☒ Not Offered

Proposal Instructions

Proposals **must** be submitted by the Proposal Submission Deadline in the Procurement Timeline.

Proposals should be emailed to ALL Form 470 Contacts listed above and include the following:

- Applicant name
- Form 470 number
- SPIN (Service Provider Identification Number)
- Clear indication of service offering (Dark Fiber, Managed Lit Service, or both Dark Fiber and Managed Lit Service)
- Service provider's terms and conditions
- Completed Pricing Attachment

Proposals **must** include **all** costs associated with providing the requested services to the applicant.

Proposals **must** be in response to the specific requirements of this solicitation. Offers including a generic listing of services beyond the scope of this solicitation and/or encyclopedic price lists will be disqualified. SPAM and/or robotic responses will not be considered valid responses and will be disqualified from consideration.

Applicant reserves the right to consider its existing service as a standing proposal and evaluate it against the other submitted proposals.

Service Requirements

Applicant is seeking proposals for maintenance of their existing dark fiber network between the Applicant's Internet hub site at Avon High School, 37545 Detroit Road, Avon OH 44011 and all endpoint (Z) locations listed on the pricing attachment. Offers for maintenance services must include all locations listed in the Avon FY27 C1 MO Pricing Attachment – partial bids **WILL NOT** be considered.

The respondent will include only the portion of maintenance that is required to support the Applicant fiber segments versus overall network maintenance.

Contract Term and Modifications

Services are needed effective July 1, 2027. If the service cannot be guaranteed by this date, this should be indicated in the proposal, along with an estimated timeline for when the service will be available.

Offers of month-to-month or contracted services will be considered. Service providers submitting proposals for contracted service are requested to provide 12-month pricing. Unless otherwise stated, the customer can voluntarily extend the agreement for two (2) additional twelve (12) month terms. Offers requiring an initial term of more than 12 months will not be considered.

All contracts should include a provision allowing for early termination of circuits without penalty if a location is closed by the Applicant.

All contracts should include a clause allowing additional sites to be added at the existing MRC for the duration of the agreement, with the Applicant covering any one-time charges related to adding the new

site to the network. Any additional sites added will have the same end date as the main agreement.

No price increases will be permitted during the term of the agreement.

Service providers proposing equipment whose prices may increase depending upon new U.S. government tariffs imposed on imports are encouraged to (a) identify such products in their offers, and (b) propose an acceptable methodology for limiting price adjustments over the life of the contract.

Subject to contract restrictions, services may be reevaluated for cost-effectiveness at any time during the life of the agreement including renewal periods.

E-Rate Specific Considerations/Information

FCC rules require vendors to offer discounted SPI billing. The applicant **prefers** SPI discount method for these services.

Per USAC E-Rate rules, "cost of eligible services" will be the highest valued criterion in the evaluation process; however, other criteria with a lesser value may also be considered.

Service providers proposing a temporary equipment loan for product demonstration and/or evaluation purposes are **required** to clearly state that such loans are of limited duration. Product demos extending beyond thirty (30) days must be explicitly authorized by both parties and provided at a fair market rate.

By submitting a proposal on the requested services herein, the vendor certifies its proposed services and/or products comply with Parts 47 Section 54.9 and 54.10 of the FCC rules which prohibits the sale, provision, maintenance, modification, or other support of equipment or services provided or manufactured by Huawei, ZTE, or any other covered company posing a national security threat to the integrity of communications networks or the communications supply chain. See <https://www.usac.org/about/reports-orders/supply-chain/> for more details.

As required by Section 54.500(f) of Part 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations all bids in response to this RFP **must** offer the lowest corresponding price (LCP) which is defined as the lowest price that a service provider charges to nonresidential customers who are similarly situated to a particular E-Rate applicant (school, library, or consortium) for similar services. See <https://www.usac.org/E-Rate/service-providers/step-2-responding-to-bids/lowest-corresponding-price/> for more details.

Additional Considerations/Information

Applicant is subject to state and local policy restrictions for Avon, Ohio.

The language in this solicitation has been standardized: "must," "shall," "mandatory," and "required" indicate mandatory specifications that the Applicant expects in the proposed solution. Proposals failing to meet these will be disqualified. "Should" and "may" indicate desirable specifications. A mandatory

requirement may be waived if all respondents fail to meet a mandatory requirement.

Applicant reserves the right to waive any irregularities or informalities in the proposals received.

Offerors must accept that Applicant obligations are contingent on appropriation and availability of funds and may be reduced or terminated without penalty if funds are unavailable.

Applicant reserves the right to award all, part or none of the services set forth in this procurement. This procurement does not obligate Applicant until a valid agreement and/or valid Purchase Order is executed.

Applicant may, at its sole discretion, extend the due date for the submission of proposals and any extensions shall be done via an addendum posted in the E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC.)

The vendor submission is subject to open records requests and, as such, the records will be released in accordance with those policies. Vendors are encouraged to mark pages as “Proprietary” or “Confidential” as appropriate, but the entire submission may not be marked as such. Identifying information as “Proprietary” or “Confidential” does not guarantee that the information will not be released but will be considered in determining whether the information is required to be released in accordance with the open records policies. Generally, pricing is not exempt from being publicly released.

By submitting a proposal, the Offeror certifies that no relationship exists between the Offeror and Applicant that would interfere with a fair and open competition or is a conflict of interest.

Evaluation Criteria

Potential criteria in the evaluation may include, but are not limited to, the following criteria. Vendors are encouraged to provide details in their proposals that address the following potential criteria.

Potential Criteria may include, but are not limited to:
Cost of E-Rate Eligible Products/Services
Meets/Understands Needs
Compatibility with Existing Network
Past Performance