

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

E-Rate Funding Year 2027-28

Form 470 # 270000233

Category 1 – Data Transmission Services and/or Internet Access

ISSUED BY:

Flex High School Ohio (BEN 17021070)

QUESTIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY:

5:00pm PDT on Friday, October 23, 2026

DUE DATE:

Bids are due no later than 5:00pm PDT on Friday, November 13, 2026

Proposal Requirements:

Proposals must be submitted by the deadline for guaranteed consideration by the School.

There will be no bidders' conference or job walks.

Bids and questions must be submitted via email to erateoh@flexhigh.org no later than the deadlines specified on the cover page of this request for proposals.

Bid submissions must include the following:

- Form 470 number
- Bidder's Service Providers Identification Number (SPIN)
- sample contracts for requested services, except for month-to-month services being proposed.

Bids must include all costs associated with providing the requested service, including but not limited to:

- monthly recurring charges
- all applicable taxes, surcharges, usage fees, etc., even if the amounts are estimates
- one-time construction and/or installation costs

Additional Requirements:

- Pricing must clearly identify any ineligible services and the corresponding monthly recurring or one-time charges.
- Bidders must agree to comply with the rules and regulations of USAC and the E-Rate program. Bidders must be familiar with the billing methods and timelines specified by USAC.

Contract Term and Modifications

Bidders must include pricing for 12-month, 24-month, and 36-month pricing. The School also requests options for two (2) single-year voluntary renewals. Offers of month-to-month services will also be considered.

Submitted bids must allow for bandwidth increases throughout the term of the contract. Increases in bandwidth during the contract period and/or optional renewal periods shall be considered modifications to the existing agreement, not new agreements and thus do not extend the term of the contract.

Contracts will be completed after bid award and final negotiations are completed. Renewals will be valid only when accepted in writing by both parties.

The School withholds the option to relocate or remove locations due to closures or re-organization requirements, as deemed necessary by the School. The School may elect not to upgrade services requested herein or install the services identified herein.

Disqualification of Bids

Failure to meet any of the specifications in this document may result in disqualification of bid. The School reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Unauthorized contact with the School may result in disqualification of the Service Provider's bid. To assure all vendors receive identical information, the School will not discuss the Form 470 by phone. All communication will be via email at the email address listed herein for bid submissions.

SPAM and/or robotic responses will not be considered valid bid responses and will be disqualified from consideration.

Bid Evaluation

The winning bid will be the most cost-effective bid based on a number of weighted factors. Price will be the primary factor, but other factors such as compatibility of products with the School's existing systems, School's previous experience working with vendor, vendor's E-Rate experience, and completeness of bid (e.g. bid includes all items requested and complete pricing information) will be evaluated. Other factors contributing to the overall costs, both direct and indirect, related to the proposed equipment will be considered. Please address these factors in your bid proposal. The School reserves the right to award the services requested herein to the best-qualified bidder(s).

Bid Specifications

Fiber Optic Internet Circuit

- Service providers are requested to submit offers for all bandwidths listed for each location.
- The School requires a /29 block of static public IPv4 addresses per circuit: 5 usable, externally facing and reachable from the internet without needing to be routed through a firewall or NAT.

The School is requesting bids for fiber internet services for the following locations:

Service Location	Requested Bandwidth(s)
567 – 575 W. Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215	1 Gbps
5175 Main St. Columbus, OH 43213	1 Gbps

Availability of Requested Services

Bidders must specify their readiness to provide services at the requested locations in their proposals. Indicate if each requested service is already available within the building or if construction is required to install the service. If construction is required, bidders must provide an estimate of how long such construction would be expected to take after a contract is signed and service order is placed.