DISTRICT OWNED SELF-PROVISIONED FIBER MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS

Applicant:	Lonoke Public School District
BEN:	139507
Form 470 #:	270000408
Service Types:	**C1 Network Maintenance and Operations**
Form 470 Contacts:	Nathan Griffin nathan.griffin@lonokeschools.org Diana Coleman dzarillo@e-ratecentral.com

1. Procurement Timeline

Task	Due By
Issue Date	November 16, 2026
Deadline to Submit Questions	November 30, 2026, no later than 3:00PM CST
Posting of Questions/Clarifications	December 2, 2026
Proposal Submission Deadline	January 4, 2026, no later than 3:00PM CST

2. Communications and Questions

2.1. 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/Respondent is responsible for downloading the current version of the Form 470 and attachments, including any addenda. Applicant reserves the right to ask offerors clarifying questions during the proposal review process.

2.2. 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.

3. Pre-Proposal Meeting

3.1. For this solicitation, a pre-proposal meeting is: ☐ Required ☐ Optional ☒ Not Offered

4. Proposal Instructions

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

4.2. 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)
- Offeror's terms and conditions

4.3. Proposals **must** include **all** costs associated with providing service, including but not limited to:
- Proposals must include all costs associated with the requested maintenance and operations services, including scheduled (routine) maintenance as a monthly or annual recurring charge and unscheduled break/fix maintenance as an annual time-and-materials estimate. No installation, special construction, or equipment is requested under this solicitation.

4.4. 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.

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

4.6. Any E-Rate ineligible costs should be clearly identified in proposal pricing.

4.7. Partial Bids will be accepted. Offerors can submit a bid for either one of the two fiber routes requiring Maintenance and Operations, or both. Each route will be evaluated separately.

5. Service Request

5.1 Lonoke Public School District, hereafter referred to as Applicant, is seeking maintenance and operations of district owned self-provisioned fiber. The district currently owns 4 strands OS-2 single mode fiber between the Lonoke High School Safe Room located at 405 W Academy Street, Lonoke, AR 72086 and Lonoke Middle School Safe Room located at 1100 West Palm Street, Lonoke, AR 72086. The fiber route is 2,607.48 feet. A map of the fiber route has been attached to the Form 470 as "LMS LHS FiberRoute". The district also currently owns 2 twelve strand OS-2 single mode fibers connecting the Lonoke Middle School MDF to the Lonoke Middle School Gym located at 1100 West Palm Street, Lonoke, AR 72086 to the Lonoke Elementary School MDF located at 900 West Palm Street, Lonoke, AR 72086.

5.2 New services are planned to begin on July 1, 2027, which represents the start of the E-Rate funding year.

6. Proposal Options

6.1 Applicant is seeking **C1 Network Maintenance for District Owned Self-Provisioned Fiber Network:** This service option is for maintenance and operations for Self-Provisioned network solutions. Respondents may offer ongoing or on-demand maintenance either themselves or through

3rd party subcontractors. If respondent intends to use 3rd party subcontractors to deliver a part or all of the service, this should be clearly indicated in the response. The Applicant will provide and maintain its own modulating electronics.

6.1.1. **All respondents must be capable of providing telecommunication services under the Universal Service Support Mechanism, be a registered service provider with USAC, and have a USAC issued 498 ID (formerly Service Provider Identification Number-SPIN).**

6.2 Solution Specifications

6.2.1 C1 Network Maintenance for District Owned Self-Provisioned Fiber Network:

Applicant is seeking proposals related to Maintenance and Operations for District Owned Self-Provisioned Fiber network. Respondents may offer ongoing or on-demand maintenance either themselves or through 3rd party subcontractors. If respondent intends to use 3rd party subcontractors to deliver a part or all of the service, this should be clearly indicated in the response.

Price quotes are requested for a 60-month term and a 120-month term, each with ten (10) optional twelve (12) month renewals. Responses for maintenance **must** include scheduled routine maintenance as a monthly or annual cost as well as unscheduled break/fix maintenance as an annual time and material cost estimate. Explanation of how the annual scheduled and unscheduled maintenance was estimated should be included.

Maintenance Terms and Conditions

Respondents shall maintain the applicable network seven days per week, twenty-four hours per day. Upon notification from the Applicant of a malfunction relating to the applicable network, respondent shall respond to such malfunction within two (2) hours and thereafter proceed to correct the malfunction with reasonable diligence. When pricing maintenance, the respondent should include an overview of maintenance practices including:

- Routine maintenance and inspection
- Scheduled maintenance windows and scheduling practices for planned outages
- Handling of unscheduled outages and customer problem reports
- What service level agreement is included and what alternative service levels may be available at additional cost
- What agreements are in place with applicable utilities and utility contractors for emergency restoration
- Repair of fiber breaks
- Mean time to repair
- Replacement of damaged fiber

- Post repair testing
- Replacement of fiber that no longer meets specifications
- Policies for customer notification regarding maintenance
- Process for changing procedures, including customer notification practices
- Process for moves, adds, and changes
- Process for responding to locate requests

7 General Terms for All Proposals

7.2 Description of Proposal

7.2.1 Respondents will provide a description of their proposal for all services and solutions.

7.2.2 Description will include an overview of the proposal, any deviations from the requested architecture, design or requirements, assumptions made, and other detail Applicant may find useful or necessary (or could differentiate the solution from a competing proposal).

7.3 Timeline

7.3.1 Proposals for Maintenance and Operations of District Owned Self-Provisioned Fiber Network should be able to bring the site online by the July 1 start of the funding year.

7.4 Network Diagram

7.4.1 Respondents should describe how they will document and maintain the existing route shown on the attached map

7.5 References

7.5.1 For each response, the offeror must provide three (3) references from current or recent customers (preferably K-12) with projects equivalent to the size of Applicant.

7.6 E-Rate Program Integrity Assurance (PIA) Review

7.6.1 If their solution is chosen, respondents are required to promptly provide Applicant with any information being requested as part of PIA review.

7.6.2 Offerors may assist applicants with preparing funding requests or responding to PIA questions and may speak directly with PIA reviewers.

7.7 Required Notice to Proceed and Funding Availability

7.7.1 Applicant will follow the purchasing policies of the Applicant Board and requirements and procedures of the FCC's E-Rate program as administered by the Universal Service

Administrative Company to be eligible for all available funding.

7.7.2 The implementation of any associated contracts resulting from this competitive bid process will be dependent on the Applicant's issuance of a written Notice to Proceed.

7.7.3 Receipt of E-Rate funding notification shall not constitute a Notice to Proceed. The Applicant reserves the right to allow the contract to expire without implementation if sufficient funding, including any applicable state matching funds for special construction projects, is not secured.

7.8 Non-Appropriation

7.8.1 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.

8 Evaluation Criteria

These criteria are to be utilized in the evaluation of offers to be considered. Individual criteria have been assigned a weight to reflect relative importance. Offerors are encouraged to provide details in their proposals that address the following criteria.

8.1 **C1 Maintenance**

% Weight	Criteria
35%	**E-Rate eligible costs**[1]
25%	Ability to support requirements of this solicitation[3]
25%	Proposed contract terms and conditions[4]
5%	E-Rate ineligible recurring costs[5]
10%	Respondent references[6]

8.2 **Criteria Explanation**

8.2.1 E-Rate eligible costs: The total pre-discount cost of the eligible recurring maintenance and operations (M&O) services proposed for the Applicant's existing, Applicant-owned dark fiber network, calculated over the full initial contract term. Recurring costs include all monthly or annual charges for the M&O services described in this service specification. Only the eligible E-Rate portion of each proposal will be evaluated under this criterion; bidders must identify and separately price any ineligible components, and those costs will not be counted here. E-Rate eligible costs refers to the pre-discount cost of the services, not the post-discount portion that is the Applicant's responsibility. Per E-Rate program rules, this criterion will be weighted more heavily than any other single criterion.

8.2.2 Ability to support requirements of this solicitation: proposed solution clearly meets Applicant's requirements and needs.

8.2.3 Proposed contract terms and conditions: Proposed contract has flexibility and terms desired by Applicant.

8.2.4 E-Rate ineligible costs: Any costs of the proposed service that are not eligible for E-Rate funding. This does not refer to the post-discount portion of eligible costs that are the responsibility of the Applicant.

8.2.5 Provider references: response included K-12 references that were similar in size and scope.

10. Contract Term and Modifications

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

10.2. The Applicant may add segments or locations to this agreement during the contract term at the same or lower rates, subject to E-Rate eligibility.

10.3. For offers of recurring services, 60-month pricing with ten (10) optional twelve (12) month renewals and 120-month pricing with ten (10) optional twelve (12) month renewals will be considered.

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

10.5. E-Rate discounts for this multi-year agreement will be requested annually on FCC Form 471 and are subject to annual USAC funding approval.

11. E-Rate Specific Considerations/Information

11.1. FCC rules require service providers to offer discounted SPI billing. The applicant requires SPI discount method for these services. Offerors that are unable to provide SPI billing will be deemed non-responsive and excluded from further consideration.

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

11.3. Offerors 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.

11.4. By submitting a proposal on the requested services herein, the offeror 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.

11.5. 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.

12. Additional Considerations/Information

12.1.1 Applicant is subject to Arkansas state and local procurement policy restrictions.

12.1.1.1 Bids or information requests must reference this Form 470 number and should be emailed to (a) the applicant contact and (b) dzarillo@e-ratecentral.com. Subject to contract restrictions, services may be reevaluated for cost-effectiveness any time during the year. As required by E-Rate rules, all bids in response to this Form 470 must offer the Lowest Corresponding Price ("LCP") see https://www.usac.org/e-rate/service-providers/step-2-responding-to-bids/lowest-corresponding-price/.

12.2 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.

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

12.4 Applicant reserves the right to award all, part or none of the services requested and reserves the right to reject any or all proposals without liability or obligation. This procurement does not obligate Applicant until a valid agreement and/or valid Purchase Order is executed.

12.5 The Applicant reserves the right to request Best and Final Offers (BAFOs) from one or more Offerors. BAFOs must be received by the date and time specified during discussions or negotiations. If an Offeror does not submit a BAFO by the stated deadline, the Applicant will evaluate that Offeror based on its originally submitted proposal. If BAFOs are requested, the Applicant reserves the right to conduct a subsequent evaluation and scoring of proposals, including any revised pricing and other information submitted in response to the BAFO request, in accordance with the evaluation criteria set forth in this solicitation.

12.6 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).

12.7 Offeror submissions are subject to open records requests and, as such, the records will be released in accordance with those policies. Offerors 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. Any claim of confidentiality must be clearly identified and justified in accordance with applicable state public records laws. Generally, pricing is not exempt from being publicly released.