DARK OR LIT FIBER SERVICE SPECIFICATIONS

Applicant: **Babylon Union Free School District**
BEN: **123881**
Form 470 #: **270000503**
Form 470 Contacts:

Deirdre Lunetta at dlunetta@babylonufsd.com
David Dileo at ddileo@babylonufsd.com
Alex Majewski at amajewski@e-ratecentral.com
Pamela Tyler at ptyler@e-ratecentral.com

Procurement Timeline

Task	Due By
Issue Date	See Form 470 Certification Date
Deadline to Submit Questions	November 30, 2026, 3 pm EST
Posting of Questions/Clarifications	December 2, 2026
Proposal Submission Deadline	January 4, 2027, 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: ☒ Not Offered

Proposal Instructions

Proposals **must** be submitted via email 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 in xlsx format

Proposals **must** include **all** costs associated with providing service, including but not limited to:

- Monthly recurring charges (MRC) include any recurring charge related to delivering the services, such as monthly charges for Internet access, IP addresses, basic terminating equipment, etc.
- Non-Recurring Charges (NRC) include any one-time fee other than special construction charges. This includes but is not limited to installation charges, connection charges, and/or basic terminating equipment charges.
- Special Construction Charges (SPC) include one-time costs for deploying new fiber or upgrading network facilities for eligible entities. These charges are non-recurring and include the following components: construction of network facilities, design and engineering, and project management. Offerors should provide special construction details sufficient to support E-Rate review, including route feet, cost per foot, and plant mix where applicable.
- Failure to identify the monthly recurring, non-recurring, and special construction charges will result in the disqualification of the proposal. Respondents are encouraged to provide the estimated taxes and surcharges associated with the service. Submissions indicating that there may be additional MRC, NRC, or SPC related to delivering the services **WILL** be disqualified.

Submission of the completed FY2027 Babylon UFSD Category 1 Pricing Attachment provided with this solicitation is optional, but encouraged.

- When submitting the FY2027 Babylon UFSD Category 1 Pricing Attachment, offerors shall provide it as a Microsoft Excel-compatible file (.xlsx). Offerors may use any spreadsheet application capable of saving in .xlsx format (e.g., Microsoft Excel, Google Sheets, LibreOffice Calc).
    - To ensure all offers are evaluated on an equal basis, Offerors must not alter the Pricing Attachment's structure (rows, columns, line-item descriptions, order, headings, or formulas) and must enter pricing only in the designated cells.
    - Offerors may also submit a PDF copy for reference. The .xlsx file will be used for evaluation and will control if there is a discrepancy.

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 Wide Area Network (WAN) Transport services between the Applicant's Internet hub sites (A) and all endpoint (Z) locations listed on the pricing attachment. The district currently has a leased dark fiber network with 12 strands of fiber connected to each location. The district's current WAN speed provides 2 Gbps to each location. The district encourages prospective bidders to provide pricing that enables each location to be scaled up to 5 Gbps. Offerors may propose solutions for one or more acceptable modes of transport.

The district is open to any technology or topology that can meet the bandwidth and service level requirements. Offers for transport services must all of the following locations – partial bids **WILL NOT** be considered.

Location A (HUB) Name	Location A (HUB) Address	Location Z Name	Location Z Address
Babylon Elementary School	171 Ralph Ave, Babylon, NY 11702	Babylon Jr-Sr High School	50 Railroad Ave, Babylon, NY 11702
Babylon Jr-Sr High School	50 Railroad Ave, Babylon, NY 11702	Athletic Complex / HS Field	Trolley Line Road, Babylon, NY 11702
Babylon Jr-Sr High School	50 Railroad Ave, Babylon, NY 11702	Babylon Memorial Grade School	169 Park Ave, Babylon, NY 11702
Babylon Elementary School	171 Ralph Ave, Babylon, NY 11702	Babylon Memorial Grade School	169 Park Ave, Babylon, NY 11702

The District's Wide Area Network (WAN), including its existing Dark Fiber WAN service, is part of the District's critical infrastructure. Continuity of operations is essential to the success of this project. Accordingly, vendors must demonstrate the ability to turn up services no later than July 1, 2027. Failure to provide documentation showing that the vendor can either (a) currently deliver service to the specified address or (b) deliver service to the address by July 1, 2027, will result in rejection of the proposal. Vendors that cannot currently provide service must include a detailed plan and timeline for establishing connectivity by the required date.

All solutions must terminate service or infrastructure at the demarcation point within the building, generally, the MDF. Solutions that only bring service to the property line but not to the demarcation point will be disqualified. The agreement must terminate service at an MDF designated by the Applicant. The Offeror should specify the exact demarcation setup included in the base fees, such as wall-mounted CPE and CAT6a handoff, rack mount patch panel, etc.

Option 1: Leased Dark Fiber

1) **Leased Dark Fiber**

   Offers will be accepted for the provision of a leased dark fiber network solution which is terminated at both ends. The Applicant currently owns hardware to light the fiber; therefore, new modulating equipment **is not** a required component of proposed dark fiber solutions. The solution should include the lease of twelve (12) strands (6 pair) of single-mode fiber from the A Locations to each eligible Z location listed above and in the FY2027 Babylon UFSD Category 1 Pricing Attachment.

   a. **Excess Fiber Strands:** To the extent that the Successful Offeror installs additional strands of fiber for future business ventures, the Successful Offeror assumes full responsibility to ensure those incremental costs are allocated out, as applicable, of the special construction charges to the Applicant in accordance with FCC rules and orders.
   b. **Note:** If, after the issuance of the FCDL (Funding Commitment Decision Letter), USAC or the FCC determines that the Successful Offeror did not cost allocate those charges associated with any additional, excess strands, the Applicant will not be responsible for reimbursing the Successful Offeror, and the Successful Offeror will assume all responsibilities and costs deemed ineligible by USAC.

2) **Maintenance for Dark Fiber**

   All dark fiber responses require maintenance as part of the response, even if maintenance is subcontracted out to a third party. In the case of the 3rd party maintenance, the respondent must hold and manage the subcontract and is ultimately responsible for the SLA. It is assumed that the dark fiber network is part of the service provider's more comprehensive fiber infrastructure. The respondent will include only the portion of maintenance that is required to support the Applicant fiber segments versus overall network maintenance. If the fiber serves multiple customers, the maintenance cost should be shared among all the recipients. For leased dark fiber offerings, maintenance costs shall be assumed to be included in the monthly lease fee. Fee structures that separate maintenance costs must explicitly state this and provide itemized costs.

Service Requirements – Option 2: Leased Lit Fiber

1) **Leased Lit Fiber**

   Offers will be accepted for leased lit fiber WAN transport services. The service must include fully managed symmetrical bandwidth connections (minimum 2 Gbps to maximum 5 Gbps) between the A Locations and each of the Z Locations listed above and in the FY2027 Babylon UFSD Category 1 Pricing Attachment.

   To be eligible for consideration, all proposed solutions must be within the specified bandwidth range from the FY2027 Babylon UFSD Category 1 Pricing Attachment. In addition to the specified minimum and maximum bandwidths, Service Providers are encouraged to offer various bandwidth options within this range. Refer to the FY2027 Babylon UFSD Category 1 Pricing Attachment for the requested service levels. Vendors should include their closest comparable service level for consideration if the exact bandwidths listed are unavailable.

Submissions meeting any of the three (3) numbered criteria **WILL** be disqualified.

1. Solution does **NOT** offer at least the minimum bandwidth.
2. Solution does **NOT** offer bandwidth dedicated to the applicant but instead, the bandwidth is dependent on the number of other customers on the network or some other factor that does not, generally, guarantee the minimum bandwidth as a committed information rate (CIR).
3. Solution includes caps on data usage or slows speeds based on data usage or other factors.

Offerors must accept responsibility for site delivery, construction, permitting, pathway, and right-of-way costs required to deliver service.

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 and 36-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 36 months will not be considered.

All contracts should permit bandwidth increases during the term. Any such increases, including those during optional renewal periods, will be treated as modifications to the existing agreement rather than new agreements and, therefore, will **NOT** extend the contract's term.

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

Offerors must hold a valid, active nine-digit SPIN (498 ID) issued by USAC as of the proposal submission deadline. The SPIN must belong to the legal entity that will contract with and invoice the Applicant. A pending registration, a SPIN assigned to an unrelated entity, or a commitment to obtain one after the deadline will not satisfy this requirement.

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, the vendor certifies that the proposed products and services comply with 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.9 and 54.10, which prohibit the use of Universal Service Fund support to purchase, obtain, maintain, improve, modify, or otherwise support any equipment or services produced or provided by a company on the FCC's Covered List (including Huawei and ZTE) as 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.

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.500(f) and 54.511(b), service providers may not charge applicants a price above the Lowest Corresponding Price (LCP) for supported services. LCP is the lowest price a service provider charges to nonresidential customers similarly situated to a particular 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 preference to NYS OGS Contracted Vendors. Public works and purchase contracts for public schools in New York State are governed by the procurement provisions of the State's General Municipal Law. Public Schools may also purchase equipment and services under publicly bid centralized procurement contracts administered by the State's Office of General Services (OGS).

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.

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

The cost of E-Rate eligible services will carry the greatest weight in the evaluation. Other factors may be considered.