Middlesex County STEM Charter School
BEN 17021078
Category 1 Specification

Form 470 # 270000572

All bids must be submitted to bids@erateconsulting.com by 11:59pm (EST) on December 11, 2026

Requirements/Preferences:

(1) You must submit your proposal in electronic format to bids@erateconsulting.com. Adherence to this requirement is your responsibility and cannot be imputed to the Applicant. Do NOT send proposals to any other contacts.

(2) You must include your standard contract terms and conditions with your submission. Failure to do so will result in your bid being incomplete for bid evaluation purposes.

(3) In your email submission, the subject line **must** specifically reference the Applicant and the applicable Form 470#.

(4) At the time of your bid submission, you **must** have a valid Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN). Lacking a valid SPIN at the time of submission will result in your bid being deemed incomplete for bid evaluation purposes.

(5) Spam, robotic bids, and generic proposals crafted using artificial intelligence shall be deemed non-responsive and disqualified.

(6) If your proposed solution is comprised of products and/or services available through a State Master Contract or some other cooperative purchasing arrangement recognized by the State of New Jersey, please provide a specific reference to the contracting arrangement and, where applicable, the contract number.

(7) Vendors should have prior experience delivering their proposed solution(s) to public school districts in New Jersey. References must be provided upon request.

(8) Your proposed monthly recurring cost(s) (MRCs) must include all taxes, fees, and additional eligible charges (if any). Your proposed MRC shall be deemed final for bid evaluation purposes. Once the bid submission deadline has passed, service providers may not amend their proposed MRC(s). Failure to incorporate any taxes, fees, or other additional eligible charges in your proposed MRC shall preclude any subsequent modifications to the MRC(s) without the district's prior written consent to said modification. By submitting a proposal in response to this Form 470, you agree to be bound by this requirement.

(9) Proposals encompassing multiple Category One services **must** include an itemized breakdown of all proposed monthly recurring charges, inclusive of all taxes, fees, and additional charges (if any). Failure to do so will result in your bid being deemed incomplete for bid evaluation purposes.

(10) Proposals should include all one-time, non-recurring charges. Failure to include such charges in your submission will be deemed a waiver of the right to collect any such costs prior to or during the implementation process.

(11) All service providers should be able to provide a current NJ Business Registration Certificate and W-9 upon request. Failure to do so will result in your bid being deemed incomplete for bid evaluation purposes.

(12) All proposals must conform to the applicable provisions of the New Jersey Public Schools Contracts Law (Title 18A:18A-1 et seq.) and Board policies and regulations.

(13) The Applicant prefers a three-year term of service, with two possible one-year extensions options, but will consider any other proposed term of service.

(14) By submitting a bid in response to this Form 470, you are certifying that your Company is in compliance with FCC Order FCC 19-121, which bars the use of USF subsidies to fund equipment, components, and services from "covered" companies deemed to be a national security risk.

(15) In Attachment A, you must provide a projected service start date, taking into account any necessary construction timeline estimates. **Failure to indicate the service start date in Attachment A will result in your bid being deemed incomplete for bid evaluation purposes relative to that service.**

(16) Providers must allow the Applicant to use the Service Provider Invoicing (SPI) method or the Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement (BEAR) invoicing method.

(17) If the incumbent vendor does not submit a proposal in response to this Form 470, then the Applicant shall use the incumbent vendor's current pricing as a bid.

(18) The Applicant reserves the right to consider in its evaluation any eligible services that are available by way of State Contract and/or State-approved cooperatives.

(19) Do NOT bundle the costs of any ineligible services into the monthly recurring costs of eligible services unless otherwise necessary under Program rules. When a bundled C1 solution is proposed, you must specifically identify the separate costs of all bundled services. Failure to abide by this request may jeopardize the applicant's E-rate funding and will impact the bid evaluation.

(20) Please have an authorized company representative print, sign and date this document and submit along with your bid to indicate that you have read, considered, and understand each of these requirements. **Failure to submit this document with an authorized representative's signature will result in your bid being deemed incomplete for bid evaluation purposes.**

Internet Access (Attachment A):

- The Applicant seeks pricing for three (3) dedicated Internet circuits.
- Two of the circuits are located at legacy site locations and one of the circuits will be located at a new school location and will be a new service. The Applicant's Internet sites and requested bandwidths are referenced in Attachment A.
- Please include separate monthly pricing for IP static address block(s), as needed.
- If part of your proposed solution, bids should include line-item pricing for an optional managed router capable of handling the requested bandwidth.

If other than July 1, 2027, you must specify your proposed service start date in Attachment A. Failure to do so will cause the district to reasonably conclude that service can begin on July 1, 2027. If that turns out to not be the case, then the district reserves the right to terminate the agreement with no penalty.

Please print your name, sign, and date to indicate that you have read the above requirements, that you understand them, that your proposal complies will all requirements, and that you agree to be bound by the terms of this document. Failure to do so will result in your bid being deemed incomplete for bid evaluation purposes

_____
Vendor Representative Name

_____
Vendor Representative Signature

Date: _____