

Request for Proposal: Fiber Optic & Network Cabling

~~September 9, 2026~~

Updated September 17, 2026

Tri County Public School District
72520 Hwy 103
DeWitt, NE 68341

E-Rate Identifier: Cat2.2027Cabling

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Overview

Tri County Public School District is seeking proposals for installation of new fiber optic and network cabling in the district.

Top two Resellers may be asked to present their proposal to the district technology staff in person.

Vendors will have 24 hours after vendor selection is announced to raise any questions. Questions will be addressed via the web site posting answers to all questions. The District will have the final authority to the resolution of all questions.

All bidding vendors must be E-Rate eligible and have an updated Form 473 (SPAC) on file to provide the services requested and provide their Service Provider's Form 498 ID (formally known as SPIN) as part of this RFP. **Vendors are required to state if any proposed equipment and/or services are ineligible for E-Rate funding as part of their proposal documentation.**

Proposals are due in either hardcopy or in electronic form (PDF format) on or before **Wednesday, October 9, 2026 at 3:00 pm CST** at Tri County Public School District, Attn: Jerod Spahr – RFP Response, 72520 Hwy 103, DeWitt, NE 68341 or emailed to jerod.spahr@tricountyschools.org. Emailed proposal documents will be time-stamped from the receiving computer. Tri County Public School District is not responsible for electronic proposals delivery, including lost or garbled proposals. SPAM and/or robotic responses will not be considered valid bid responses and will be disqualified from consideration.

Proposals will be available for inspection, at the District Office (72520 Hwy 103, DeWitt, NE) by Noon on October 14, 2026.

Questions should be addressed, no later than September 23, 2026, to:

Jerod Spahr

Email: jerod.spahr@tricountyschools.org

Questions and Answers will be posted on district website (<http://tricountyschools.org/>) by September 25th.

Vendors are required to contact Jerod Spahr (jerod.spahr@tricountyschools.org) to schedule a walk through. No walk throughs will be scheduled after September 25th, 2026.

1.1 General Description.

The general description of the Scope of Work (SOW) is to install one new fiber optic run and network cabling to various locations throughout the building renovation and addition, per the attached Appendix C, for approximately 60 Cat 6 drops and 120 Cat 6A drops. All bids must comply with all sections of this RFP and the products and services to be considered.

Vendors are required to contact Jerod Spahr (jerod.spahr@tricountyschools.org) to schedule a walk through. No walk throughs will be scheduled after September 25th, 2026.

2.1 Product and services Specifications.

All new fiber optic cabling shall be 6 strand OS2 single mode armored plenum rated fiber. Vendor should supply new fiber enclosures in the new IDF, wall mounted telecom rack, within the existing Auditorium storage room. All fiber strands should be terminated with LC connectors and test results provided to the district. All new network cabling shall be either category 6 or category 6A as follows:

Access Point Cabling - Yellow Category 6a

Camera/Card Access/Video Board/TV Cabling - Blue Category 6a

General Data Cabling - Green Category 6

All network cabling shall be terminated as noted.

Refer to Appendix C for exact locations, quantities, type of cabling and termination details. Refer to Appendix D for exact cabling manufacturer information.

3.1 Installation Schedule.

Cabling installation must be completed during non-school day hours or times agreed upon at signing of contract. All installation equipment must be removed from student access during school hours. A secured storage room will be provided for vendor.

4.1 Changes to Scope of Work.

The District, without invalidating the Contract, may order changes within the SOW consisting of additions, deletions, and/or modifications, the Contract Sum and the Contract Time being adjusted accordingly. All said changes in the SOW shall be authorized by written "Change Order(s)", signed by the District.

5.1 Vendor Responsibilities.

It shall be the responsibility of the selected vendor/contractor to provide the configuration and system quantities to all locations stated herein. The intentional or accidental omission of necessary component(s) or system(s) shall require the selected vendor/contractor to supply said missing component(s) or system(s) at no cost to the District. The District and any Consultants associated with this RFP are not responsible for any omission, failure to detect any requirement, or any other condition required to complete the Scope of Work.

The awarded Bidder shall:

- Meet jointly with representatives of the District to exchange information and agree on details of equipment arrangements and installation interfaces for the cabling project.
- Have sufficient resources in order to complete the SOW within the allotted timeframe.
- Furnish all labor, supervision, tooling, and miscellaneous mounting hardware and consumables for the cabling system installed at the District.
- Furnish, install, and terminate data jacks at each location according to the Product and Services Specifications.
- Attend the mandatory walk-thru.
- Install all cable in accordance with the Product and Services Specifications and/or manufacturer's recommendations and best industry practices.
- Develop and submit for approval a labeling system for the cable installation. At a minimum, the labeling system shall clearly identify all components of the system; racks, cables, panels, and outlets. Sample labels must be approved by the District.
- Test (100%) all cables and termination hardware for defects in installation and to verify cable performance under installed conditions. Testing procedures should be included in proposal documentation.
- Supply documentation of testing and footage of each cabling run in proposal documentation.
- Abide by and responsible for all electrical and fire code regulations.
- Provide a written guarantee/warranty covering the installed cabling system against defects in workmanship, components, and performance, and follow-on support after project completion for a period of fifteen (15) years.

6.1 E-Rate Terms.

Any and all USF E-Rate "ineligible" products and/or services must be listed separately in the Bid.

7.1 Pricing and Payment Structure.

Vendors are required to breakdown equipment as outlined in the table in Appendix A. Vendors are required to complete Appendix A as part of their proposal.

Contracts will be awarded only after receiving a funding commitment and decision letter from SLD or agreed upon by the district. This RFP will automatically become part of any contract awarded to a vendor. The District requests vendors to file a Form 474 (Service Provider Invoice; SPI) to request reimbursement directly from USAC for the eligible E-Rate portion of the contract.

8.1 Evaluation Process.

Please refer to Appendix B for further details regarding the evaluation process.

9.1 Discrepancies and Omissions.

Vendors finding discrepancies or omissions in the RFP or having any doubts as to the meaning or intent of any part thereof shall submit such questions or concerns to Jerod Spahr, Tri County Public School District, jerod.spahr@tricountyschools.org. Addenda issued in correspondence to this RFP shall be considered a part of this RFP and shall become part of any final Contract that may be derived from this RFP. This RFP and its addenda will be part of any possible future contract with successful vendor(s).

10.1 Contingencies.

This RFP should not be considered as a Contract to purchase goods or services, but is a Request for Proposal in accordance with the Terms and Conditions herein and will not necessarily give rise to a contract. However, RFP responses should be as detailed and complete as possible to facilitate the formation of a contract based on the RFP response(s) that are pursued should Tri County Public School District decide to do so. Proposals stating that pricing is valid dependent upon availability and/or subject to prior sale will be considered as non-responsive. Completion of this RFP form and its associated Appendices are a requirement. Failure to do so will disqualify your RFP response submittal. Vendors must submit sealed RFP responses by the due date and time as specified herein. Electronic submissions will be accepted if created in PDF format and e-mail jerod.spahr@tricountyschools.org by the due date and time as specified herein. Date and time stamp of receiving computer will govern all e-mails. Vendors will be considered nonresponsive if the above requirements are not submitted as requested. The Tri County Public School District has the right to reject all submitted proposals and resubmit for new proposals through a revised RFP.

Appendix A

Required Form for RFP Response.

TABLE 1.1: TRI COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT			
E-Rate Eligible Services			
Description	Qty	Unit	Total
Installation of Fiber Optic & Network Cabling*	1		
Payment & Performance Bond**			
<i>* Proposed bids must provide a detailed breakdown of all costs, including materials and labor. Material costs must be itemized by individual item, including quantity and unit cost where applicable. Labor costs must be identified separately from material costs.</i>			
<i>** Contractor shall provide a payment and performance bond amount of 1 ½% of the total project costs for each, equaling a total of 3% of the total project costs. Contractor shall include this total amount in the Payment & Performance Bond line item.</i>			

I acknowledge Section 2.1 Pricing and Payment; Tri County Public School District will only accept discount on invoices; therefore, the winning vendor will file a Form 474 (Service Provider Invoice Form) to request payment of the discount amount for eligible services after billing the applicant for the non-discount share of the cost of the equipment and/or services.

Vendor Name: _____

E-Rate Form 498 ID (SPIN): _____

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date Submitted: _____

Appendix B

Evaluation Rubric
Tri County Public School District
E-Rate: Cat2.2027Cabling

1. Cost of eligible equipment and/or eligible maintenance25 points

Cost of Equipment will be released at time of proposal opening. Points will be awarded during the evaluation of the proposal(s).

2. Compatibility with currently owned district devices20 points

Compatibility is very important. Points will be awarded during the evaluation of the proposal(s) and determination of compatibility with existing equipment will be done at that same time. Zero (0) points will be awarded for non-compatible devices and twenty (20) points will be awarded for full 100% compatibility.

3. Features included..... 15 points

All documented features of the device in the RFP will be evaluated and points award as such. Points will not be awarded for features that are not included in the cost of the device as presented in the RFP.

4. Support of hardware 10 points

Technical support will be contacted and will be evaluated on its technical knowledge, English as the primary language, and ease of use.

5. Reliability..... 10 points

Reliability score will be determined using the following criteria:

- a. References given in the RFP
- b. Known other users of the device
- c. Personal experiences

6. User Interface..... 10 points

The user interface will be evaluated and points awarded on the ease of use and the completeness of the interface to the device.

7. References..... 10 points

References will be contacted and points awarded on their responses.