

Armstrong Township High School District 225

Request for Proposals – Replace Cabling to AG Building

470 # 270000656

October 14, 2026

The Armstrong Township High School District 225 (the “Applicant”) seeks bids for a project to remove and replace the cable connection between the High School and the High School AG Building (located on the same property). Bidders are advised that this project will be contingent upon district approval and the successful obtaining of Category 2 E-Rate funding, and the contract agreement between the district and the successful bidder must recognize that contingency. Bidders should also understand that this RFP is essentially for “time and materials” pricing and the District reserves the right to scale this project back substantially or to cancel it entirely, regardless of the status of E-Rate funding.

Project Scope

Contractor will supply pricing for time and materials to install fiber optic cable run of approximately 250 lineal feet from the computer lab in the basement in the northwest corner of the High School to the AG shop, a annex just north of the main High School building (see diagram at the end of this document). Contractor should evaluate the existing termination equipment and determine if it can still be used or if it needs to be replaced and if it can be housed in the existing shelves. It is expected that the outdoor portion of the fiber run will be suspended between the two buildings from the existing building penetrations with sufficient support to ensure satisfactory service, but alternate solutions will be considered.

The contractor shall provide and install all equipment, materials, cabling, hardware and labor required to deliver a complete and fully functional fiber optic cable connection between the buildings as specified. All terminations shall meet or exceed TIA/EIA-568-B.1 ratings. All cables shall be tested in accordance with BISC and ANSI/TIA/EIA standards, and best industry practice. If any of these are in conflict, the Contractor shall bring any discrepancies to the attention of the project team for clarification and resolution.

Fiber Optic Cabling shall be Corning or equivalent. A sufficient coil of cable shall be left in each building for splicing use.

Indoor cables should be in cable tray where available, and otherwise suspended every 5 feet in drop ceilings using J or D style hooks or in enclosed conduit on exterior runs. The contractor shall not tie or suspend wiring to sprinkler pipes, electrical conduits or insulated ceiling joists. Under no circumstances shall wiring be laid on or across ceiling tiles. Wiring which requires routing through steel walls or other abrasive surfaces shall be protected using rubber grommets, conduit sleeves or other appropriate protective devices. Holes around conduit sleeves which penetrate between floors, walls and ceilings shall be completely filled with matching material. All wiring penetrations through fire-rated walls, floors or ceilings shall be completely filled with fire-rated caulk.

All installed cabling will be labeled on both termination points. Cable labeling schema must be coordinated with owner.

All horizontal wiring shall run parallel to walls. Turns and room entries shall make ninety (90) degree angles while maintaining the manufacturer's minimum specified bend radius. The contractor shall make themselves aware of all adjacent AC power and other high voltage circuits so as to give adequate separation between high and low voltage wiring. Installation, testing and labeling is to be done in a professional manner and must be in accordance with the current TIA/EIA Telecommunications Building Wiring Standards. Wiring shall meet or exceed all state and local electrical codes. It is the responsibility of the contractor to remove all debris from the project site. All areas shall be wiped clean and floors broom swept clean.

At the conclusion of the project the contractor shall provide copies of the original test results. Applicant may request that a 10% random field re-test be conducted on the cable system, at no cost, to verify documented findings. Documentation and as-built drawings must also be provided prior to submission of final request for payment.

Site Visit

A **voluntary** site visit will be held at the Armstrong Township High School at 30474 Smith Street, Armstrong, IL at 10:00 am Central on November 4, 2026. This will be the only opportunity to ask questions or to receive answers to questions related to this RFP. Respondents choosing not to attend in so doing acknowledge their understanding that they were offered and voluntarily declined the opportunity.

Response Format

All proposals must include the following information:

1. Per-run pricing for each item included in your bid. Any discounting applied to your proposal must be reflected at the line-item level.
2. Two (2) reference sites where your company has performed a similar work as that being bid, including business name, contact name and contact information. It is preferable that at least one reference should be for a school district or library system within 90 miles of the Applicant.
3. Your E-Rate SPIN Number. (You must have a current SPAC form on file with USAC.)
4. A ready-to-execute contract which includes the proposal requirements and the E-Rate contingences outlined herein.

The Applicant's review of information will be primarily focused on the substance of the details provided in response to the requirements herein including but not limited to technical details, pricing and terms, experience, references, and adherence to the response format provided. Per E-rate rules, the cost of eligible goods and services will be the most heavily weighted evaluation factor.

Proposals must be prepared with specificity with regard to the services listed herein. Bids merely listing a general menu of services available from a vendor, bids appearing to be automatically generated without specificity in relation to the requirements of this RFP, and bids missing substantial information but inviting the applicant to contact the bidder to refine the bid and/or discuss specifics will not be considered valid bid responses and will be disqualified from consideration. This includes any SPAM and/or robotic responses. For more information, please review the USAC E-Rate News Brief of February 15, 2024.

Proposal Delivery

The Applicant reserves the right to reject each and every bid, and to waive informalities, irregularities, and errors in the bidding to the extent permitted by law. This includes the right to extend the date and time for receipt of bids. In the event that a responsible bid is not received or if it is determined that the low bid received is too high, the bid received will be rejected and the project will be cancelled or re-bid.

Bids should e-mailed to the office of Nick Hipsher at nhipsher@armstrong.k12.il.us by 2 pm Central on December 8, 2026.

