

School City of Hammond

**Request for Proposals – Internal Connections
470# 270000904**

September 23, 2026

School City of Hammond (the “Applicant”) is seeking proposals for a project to supply network equipment at its eligible locations. Bidders are advised that this project will be contingent upon the successful obtaining of Category 2 E-Rate funding, and the contract agreement between the district and the successful bidder must recognize that contingency.

The Applicant seeks an agreement that allows it to work with the selected vendor to adjust quantities and/or scale back or cancel the project entirely as needed based upon funding availability and/or the best interests of the Applicant.

Project Scope

The Applicant seeks eligible equipment and Basic Maintenance as outlined in Appendix A. Equipment shall be new, factory-sealed equipment currently available from the manufacturer; the Applicant will not accept proposals of used, remanufactured, refurbished, “B stock,” returns, open-box, discontinued, “gray market,” or equipment in any other condition other than new and factory-sealed with all original manufacturer warranties.

Equipment will be in place of existing equipment, and the requested equipment will be integrated into the existing environment. Each bid for installation should include all labor necessary for staging, installation, testing, and documentation of equipment. Equipment staging will consist of (but not be limited to) ensuring firmware version consistency, configuration loading, and hardware preparation for mounting. Software and firmware version for components will be agreed upon at time of deployment, and configurations will be coordinated with the Applicant’s staff. Installation, if that option is selected, shall include the removal of the existing equipment and placement of the new equipment. Equipment testing should verify access to internal resources and the Internet. Documentation should include configuration and summary reports.

Questions

No informational meetings or building visits will be scheduled. Any questions related to the technical aspects of this document should be directed to Brian Tucker, Network Engineer, at bwtucker@hammond.k12.in.us with a copy to karenr@adtecerate.com, no later than Noon Central Time on October 16, 2026. Answers to any written questions or any additional information, revisions, or clarifications to the RFP will be provided in the form of an addendum to be posted with the FCC Form 470 on the Universal Service (E-Rate) website. It is the sole responsibility of the Service Provider to check for any addenda that may be issued.

Response Format

Responses should include the following, if applicable:

- Applicable items should include all related software and hardware components that enable the functionality of the equipment (including any necessary mounting brackets, software licenses, multi-year licenses, and basic maintenance).
- If applicable, vendor is to specify all fees, shipping charges, taxes, surcharges and contingency fees for eligible equipment.
- If applicable, vendor is to specify the manufacturer's warranty provided as an integral part of an eligible component without separately identifiable cost.
- Any ongoing subscription pricing must be listed separately.

Your response **must** include the following information:

1. Line-item pricing for each item listed in Appendix A. Any discount applied to your proposal must be reflected at the line-item level.
2. In the case of proposed equivalent products, a thorough technical description of how each product from the manufacturer being bid meets each of the required functionalities of the product listed herein.
3. Information outlining your company's certifications and connections regarding the manufacturer's equipment being bid, and length of time your company has provided equipment from the manufacturer being bid.
4. Two (2) reference sites where your company has provided similar equipment, including business name, contact name and contact information. It is preferable that at least one reference should be for a school corporation or library system within 90 miles of the Applicant.
5. Your E-Rate SPIN Number. (You must have a current SPAC form on file with USAC.)
6. A ready-to-execute or sample contract which includes the proposal requirements and the E-Rate contingencies 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 regarding the equipment and/or services listed herein. Bids merely listing a general menu of equipment and/or 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

Notice is hereby given that the Board of School Trustees of the School City of Hammond, Hammond, Indiana will receive email bids at technologyrfp@hammond.k12.in.us with a copy to karenr@adtecerate.com until 12pm (noon) Central time on November 13, 2026 at which time they will be reviewed. Emails containing bids shall be plainly marked "Bids for RFP FY2027." Bids received after the designated time will be returned unopened. You can pre-email TechnologyRFP@hammond.k12.in.us with your intention to bid and request a confirmation of bid received.

Bidders must submit an electronic version of the bid response (including any required forms) to the email address provided.

The School City of Hammond Board of School Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, 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 may not be withdrawn during the sixty (60) day period immediately following the date of receipt of the bids without the consent of School City of Hammond.

APPENDIX A

Below is a reference of the type of equipment and capacities (or their equivalent) to be supplied. Bidders should price separately and clearly indicate any ineligible costs for all services and equipment associated with this RFP. For any part numbers that have been updated or replaced by the manufacturer, bidders should offer the most similar current part with a note of the change.

Switches

Qty	Item	Description
2	EDU-Cisco CW9800M	Cisco Catalyst Wireless Lan Controller. One unit for each head end at east and west sides. 220v power cables requested.
4	SFP28- 25G jumpers	To connect CW9800M to C9500 core switch in rack. 1 meter length preferred if on manufacturer approved list.
1	APC SMTL1000RM2UCNC	APC Smart-UPS, Line Interactive, 1000VA, Lithium-ion, Rackmount 2U, 120V, 6x NEMA 5-15R outlets, SmartConnect Port+Network Card, Short Depth, AVR
2	Cisco C9350- 48HX	48 port POE+ switch, with Network Advantage/DNA Advantage added to EA agreement, triple power supplies and .5M stacking cable.
6	Cisco C9350-48P	48 port POE+ switch, with Network Advantage/DNA Advantage added to EA agreement, triple power supplies and 1M stacking cable.
2	Cisco C9350-NM-8Y	SFP module for C9350 switch

4	Cisco Stack-T1A-3M	9350 3M stack cable
6	PWR-C1-1100WAC-P	Cisco 1100W AC Power supply for C9300
	Delivery	Ship to 46320 Area Code
	Installation	We will accept bids for an hourly rate, however, no installation services are being requested.
	Smartnet	Cisco Smartnet quote 4-year terms on equipment quoted, to be paid annually. Cisco DNA licenses priced as EA added to School City of Hammond's existing agreement.