



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

E-Rate RFP #14-2027

Battery Backup Solution

Release Date: October 8, 2026

Central Administrative Office

Madison County School District

476 Highland Colony Parkway

Ridgeland, MS 39157

Contact

Anne Scott Brown, Purchasing Agent

Phone: (601) 499-0728

E-Mail: asbrown@madison-schools.com

Proposals Due: November 10, 2026, at 2:00:00 p.m.

SECTION 1

1.1 Proposal and Acceptance Period

The Proposal shall be signed and submitted in a sealed envelope or package to 476 Highland Colony Parkway, Ridgeland, MS 39157. Proposer also has the option to upload their Proposal to Central Bidding (www.centralbidding.com) no later than the time and date specified for receipt of proposals. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

Timely submission of the proposal is the responsibility of the Proposer. Proposals received after the specified time shall be rejected and returned to the Proposer unopened. The Proposer may use the email label provided or shall mark the envelope or package with the proposal opening date and time, and the RFP number to prevent premature opening by the Madison County School District ("MCSD"). The time and date of receipt will be marked on the outside of the envelope of package by the MCSD.

Failure to submit pricing on the Proposal Forms provided or to include required documents may be cause for rejection of the proposal as non-responsive. The MCSD may, but is not obligated to, consider the omission of any information requested as an informality, or irregularity, when in their opinion the omitted information does not alter the amounts contained in the submitted proposal, or place other Proposers at a disadvantage.

Pricing submitted with the Proposal shall remain firm and valid through **ninety (90) calendar days following the date of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL)** applicable to the services and equipment proposed under this RFP.

The Proposer shall honor the pricing submitted in its Proposal during this period. Upon award and execution of a contract, the pricing established in the resulting contract shall remain firm for the applicable contract term, subject only to any price adjustments expressly permitted by the contract.

1.2 Procurement Schedule Timeline

The following is the timetable for the procurement process.

Board Approval to Advertise	August 10, 2026
Send Advertisement to Paper & MPTAP	September 30, 2026
Newspaper Run Dates	October 8 & 15, 2026
MCSD Closed for Fall Break	October 5-9, 2026
Release of RFP & Submit to Central Bidding	October 8, 2026
MCSD to File 470 (E-Rate RFP Process)	October 12, 2026
Deadline For Written Clarifications/Questions	October 19, 2026, 10:00 a.m., CST
Addendum to be Issued to Respondents DO NOT submit bid until after this date.	On or before October 20, 2026
Deadline for Proposals and Open Date (Not open to public)	Tuesday, November 10, 2026, 2:00 p.m., CST
RFP Evaluations (Proposer should be available)	November 10-13, 2026
Presentations, if necessary	November 16 & 17, 2026
Contract Negotiations, if necessary	Finalized by: November 18, 2026
Intent to Award Target Date	Target Date: By November 18, 2026
Deadline for Award Questions from Proposers	November 19, 2026, 2:00 p.m., CST <i>If Intent to Award is sent on a different day, the deadline for Proposers to ask award questions will be the following day at 2:00pm.</i>
MCSD to File 471 (E-Rate Intent to Award)	November 19, 2026, after 2:00 p.m., CST
Submit to MCSD Board	November 20, 2026
MCSD Closed for Thanksgiving Break	November 23-27, 2026
Contract Approval by MCSD Board	December 7, 2026
Anticipated Equipment Delivery	July 16, 2027
Anticipated Installation/Configuration	September 30, 2027
Anticipated Project Completion	October 22, 2027
E-Rate Funding Year	July 1, 2027- June 30, 2028

1.3 RFP Clarification, Deadline, and Acknowledgment

If a Proposer discovers any significant error, discrepancy, omission, or other deficiency in the Request for Proposals, the Proposer should immediately notify the Purchasing Agent. All questions must be submitted in writing. **Clarifications to RFP specifications will be accepted and given a response until the deadline noted on the Procurement Schedule.** (House Bill 5 states-No addendum to bid specifications may be issued within 2 working days of the receipt of bids.) After the deadline shown above, no more specification questions will be accepted. Until the deadline, please submit in writing any specification questions to:

Anne Scott Brown

Email: asbrown@madison-schools.com

It is the Proposer's responsibility to ensure receipt of all addenda. Please do not submit your Proposal until after the date noted in the Procurement Schedule. Proposers shall

acknowledge receipt of any addenda to this solicitation by noting acknowledgement on the RFP Signature Form contained herein. The RFP Signature Form shall be submitted as part of the Proposer's response. Failure to list any addenda as received may result in the rejection of the proposal.

1.4 RFP Proposal Open Force Majeure

If MCSD is closed for any reason, including but not limited to: acts of God, lockouts, riots, acts of war, epidemics, government regulations superimposed after the fact, fire, earthquakes, ice, snow, floods or other natural disasters (the "Force Majeure Events"), which closure prevents the opening of bids at the advertised date and time, all bids received shall be opened on the next business day that the MCSD shall be open and at the previously advertised time. The new date and time of the bid opening, as determined in the accordance with the paragraph, shall be advertised, and all Proposers, upon submission of a proposal, shall be deemed to have knowledge of and shall have agreed to the provisions of this paragraph. Proposals shall be received by the MCSD until the new date and time of the RFP opening as set forth herein. The MCSD shall not be held responsible for the receipt of any bids for which the delivery was attempted and failed due the closure of the MCSD as a result of a Force Majeure Event. Each Proposer shall be required to ensure the delivery and receipt of its bid by the MCSD prior to the new date and time of the RFP opening.

1.5 Preparation of RFP

All blank spaces in the RFP pages, applicable to the subject specification, shall be correctly filled in. Failure to examine any Proposal requirements, specifications, and/or instructions will be at the Proposer's risk. Proposers shall acknowledge receipt of each addendum issued in the space provided on the RFP Signature Form.

1.6 Rejection of Proposals

Proposals that do not conform to the requirements set forth in this Request for Proposals may be rejected by the MCSD. Proposals may be rejected for reasons that include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (1) The proposal contains unauthorized amendments to the requirements of the Request for Proposals.
- (2) The proposal is conditional.
- (3) The proposal is incomplete or contains irregularities, which make the proposal indefinite or ambiguous.
- (4) The proposal is received late.
- (5) The proposal is not signed an authorized representative of the Proposer.
- (6) The proposal contains false or misleading statements or references.
- (7) The proposal does not offer to provide all services required by the Request for Proposal.

(8) The proposal is not submitted on the provided Proposal Form (Attachment A).

1.7 Expenses Incurred

The MCSD accepts no responsibility for any expense incurred by the Proposer in the preparation or presentation of a proposal. Such expenses shall be borne exclusively by the Proposer.

1.8 Pricing Submission Requirement

All pricing **must** be submitted on the Proposal Form (Attachment A).

The Proposer shall provide complete, itemized pricing for each proposed item or service on the Proposal Form (Attachment A). The **E-Rate Eligible Cost per Unit** and **E-Rate Ineligible Cost per Unit** shall be all-inclusive and shall include all costs necessary to provide the proposed equipment or services in accordance with the requirements of this RFP, including, but not limited to, equipment, materials, labor, installation, configuration, implementation, shipping, delivery, and any other applicable costs.

The **TOTAL PROPOSAL COST** shall reflect the Proposer's total cost for all equipment and services proposed, including all applicable E-Rate eligible and E-Rate ineligible costs.

Each proposed item or service shall be identified as E-Rate eligible, E-Rate ineligible, or, where applicable, allocated between eligible and ineligible portions. If the Proposer believes that an item or service is entirely E-Rate eligible, the Proposer shall enter **\$0.00** in the E-Rate Ineligible Cost per Unit column for that item. If the Proposer believes that an item or service is entirely E-Rate ineligible, the Proposer shall enter **\$0.00** in the E-Rate Eligible Cost per Unit column for that item.

The E-Rate eligibility designations provided by the Proposer shall be based on the Proposer's understanding of the applicable E-Rate rules and requirements. Final E-Rate eligibility and funding determinations are subject to applicable E-Rate program requirements and USAC review. The District does not guarantee that any particular equipment, service, or cost identified by the Proposer as E-Rate eligible will receive E-Rate funding.

Failure to provide the required pricing information on the Proposal Form, including a Total E-Rate Eligible Cost and a Total E-Rate Ineligible Cost or **\$0.00** designation when no ineligible costs are proposed, may result in the proposal being deemed non-responsive and rejected by the District.

1.9 Proprietary Information

The Proposer should mark any and all pages of the proposal considered to be proprietary information which may remain confidential in accordance with Mississippi Code Annotated §§ 25-61-9 and 79-23-1 (1972, as amended). Any pages not marked accordingly will be subject to review by the general public after award of the contract. Requests to review the proprietary information will be handled in accordance with applicable legal procedures.

1.10 Registration with Mississippi Secretary of State

By submitting a proposal, the Proposer certifies that it is registered to do business in the State of Mississippi as prescribed by the Mississippi Secretary of State or, if not already registered, that it will do so within seven (7) business days of being offered an award. Sole proprietors are not required to register with the Mississippi Secretary of State.

1.11 Debarment

By submitting a proposal, the Proposer certifies that it is not currently debarred from submitting proposals for contracts issued by any political subdivision or agency of the State of Mississippi or Federal Government and that it is not an agent of a person or entity that is currently debarred from submitting proposals for contracts issued by any political subdivision or agency of the State of Mississippi.

1.12 Receipt and Registration, and Opening of Proposals

If not electronically uploaded to Central Bidding, Proposals shall be time/date- stamped upon receipt and registered as an official received proposal. The Opening of Proposals will be opened to the public but *only names* will be read aloud. Proposals will not be disclosed to unauthorized persons prior to awarding of the contract. Proposals will be opened and taken under advisement to be reviewed and evaluated in accordance with the stated criteria. After award of the contract, all Proposals shall be open to public inspection, subject to any continuing prohibition under disclosure of confidential data, which is designated as such in a proposal, and which is consistent with the laws of the State of MS.

1.13 Negotiations

A contract may be awarded on the Proposals as submitted or the MCSD may elect to conduct written or oral negotiations of technical aspects of the proposals, final terms and conditions, requirements, and/or cost after reviewing all proposals submitted. These negotiations will involve only Proposers who submit proposals which fall within the competitive range.

1.14 Sample Contract

Proposer shall submit their sample contract integrating the terms and conditions of this

RFP and submit acknowledgment consenting to the MCSD Standard Contract Addendum (Attachment B). It is understood that any contract resulting from the award of this RFP will include or not be in conflict with all the provisions listed on the MCSD Standard Contract Addendum. The MCSD's Standard Contract Addendum shall be affixed to the Proposers final Contract and shall be an integral part of the Contract.

1.15 Form of Contract

Contract shall be a firm fixed-price agreement. The complete Contract shall consist of the Proposer's Request for Proposal, including Addendums, and the final Proposers Contract that includes the MCSD Standard Contract Addendum. Issuance of the purchase order will be contingent upon USAC acceptance and funding of the project.

SECTION 2

2.1 Purpose

The MCSD (E-Rate Entity 128616) is seeking sealed proposals for Schneider Electric APC Smart-UPS model SMTL1500RM3UCNC Battery backup solutions, or equivalent, as well as configuration and installation services for said equipment. It is the intent of the MCSD to utilize E-Rate to assist in the funding of this solution.

2.2 Scope of Work

The selected vendor shall provide:

- New APC Smart-UPS Ultra SMTL1500RM3UCNC units, or District-approved equivalent, in the quantities identified in the RFP.
- All required rack-mounting hardware, power cords, network management components, and accessories necessary for a complete solution.
- Delivery to MCSD-designated locations.
- Installation, configuration, firmware updates, testing, and verification, as required.
- Manufacturer warranty and applicable technical support.
- Itemized pricing that clearly separates E-Rate eligible and ineligible equipment and services.

Vendors shall comply with all applicable FCC, USAC E-Rate, state, and District procurement requirements. The District reserves the right to increase, decrease, or redistribute quantities based on E-Rate funding, available District funds, and final project needs.

Specific Site IDs, model numbers, and quantities will be provided below.

E-Rate Contingency: The MCSD intends to utilize all available E-Rate funds. To that end, the MCSD reserves the right to select any, all, or none of the goods and services proposed, pending availability of E-Rate and MCSD funds. The MCSD has the right to add equipment to our order at the proposed bid price, if needed. We also reserve the right to delete equipment from the RFP, should budget issues arise.

E-Rate Service Provider Requirements: The MCSD expects Service Providers to make themselves thoroughly familiar with any rules or regulations regarding the E-Rate Program.

The following table identifies the school. For address and phone information, please visit our website – <https://www.madison-schools.com>.

ESTIMATED QUANTITIES BY LOCATION:

The quantities identified in this RFP are estimates based on the District's current anticipated needs and are provided for purposes of obtaining comparable competitive pricing. The District does not guarantee the purchase of any minimum quantity.

Vendors shall provide **unit pricing by product, model, and/or service**, including all applicable installation, configuration, shipping, delivery, and other associated costs. Pricing shall be provided on a per-unit basis for each proposed location, where applicable.

The District reserves the right, based on available funding, E-Rate funding commitments, and actual operational needs, to increase, decrease, or eliminate quantities from those identified in the RFP. Any such adjustment shall not result in an increase to the quoted unit price, unless otherwise expressly agreed to in the resulting contract.

The District may purchase quantities different from the estimates identified in this RFP and shall have no obligation to purchase the estimated quantities.

Locations:

Site	Site ID	SMTL1500RM3UCNC
Luther Branson Elementary	4	4
East Flora Elementary	8	8
Camden Elementary	10	2
Shirley Simmons Middle	14	4
Velma Jackson High	16	12
Madison Crossing Elementary	18	5
Germantown Middle	22	4
Ann Smith Elementary	24	6
Madison Station Elementary	26	5
Madison Middle	28	5
Rosa Scott High	30	7
Madison Avenue Elementary	32	4
Madison Avenue Upper Elementary	34	5
Madison Central High	36	14
Highland Elementary	38	5
Old Town Middle	40	6
Ridgeland High	46	9
Mannsdale Elementary	62	3
Mannsdale Upper Elementary	64	4
Germantown High	66	16
Madison Career and Technical Center	90	3
Academic Options Center	92	1
TOTAL		132

Battery Backup Scope Overview: (additional information provided in Battery Backup Scope Detail)

Vendor shall provide, at a minimum, the following services:

- **Project management**
 - Single point of contact from awarded vendor – please provide name, contact info and 5 examples of projects completed
 - Coordinate installation dates/times with building principals
 - Coordinate the order and delivery of all equipment to installation locations
 - Coordinate all vendor staff and services
 - Coordinate removal of older equipment – to be delivered and categorized to our central warehouse
 - Coordinate design, configuration and installation of new equipment
 - Coordinate training of staff on solution
 - Communication and updates provided to MCSD POC
 - Provide proof of completion documentation
 - Additional services identified by vendor
 - Project installation must be completed after hours, 3:00 pm – 9:00 pm.
- **Configuration Services**
 - Physical installation and configuration of any necessary management software
 - Setup and registration of warranties in vendor portal
 - Installation and configuration of any necessary license files
 - Additional services identified by vendor
- **Physical deinstallation and installation Services**
 - Physical removal of existing battery backups and any mounting hardware
 - Physical installation of new battery backups including new hardware
 - To include any copper patch cables, as needed
 - Application of MCSD provided asset tags
 - Connect to building power and verification of operation
 - Plug existing network equipment and verify power is supplied
 - Old battery backups delivered to our central office warehouse
 - Locations of new battery backup systems identified in closeout documentation
 - Application of vendor supplied tag to identify –Room #, Purchase date, Serial number, IP Address, and install date and be provided as a spreadsheet

- 15 day onsite follow up after final installation to identify and correct any issues
- Additional services identified by vendor
- Equipment can ship to our warehouse or yours, but shipment to schools must occur day of installation and vendor will provide delivery to each site location
- Clean up work areas and remove trash. Vendor shall not use the MCSD dumpsters for trash disposal.
- **Training of staff**
 - Over the shoulder training is preferred during the configuration of systems and software
 - Detailed explanations and walkthroughs of support portal, processes and procedures
 - Additional services identified by vendor

Battery Backup Scope Detail:

Currently, every school has a battery backup located in the MDF. The MCSD is looking to replace these aging systems with new UPS systems in the main MDF of every school. The MDF is the location where all network communication collapses for each school.

Installation should include the removal of the existing APC UPS with delivery to our Central Office warehouse. The new UPS should be installed and network equipment connected with power delivery verified.

UPS Requirements

- Lithium-ion batteries
- At least 1500VA
- Minimum of 4 NEMA 5-15R plugs
- Device monitoring with Ethernet uplink with any necessary additional modules
- SNMP management monitoring capable

Must provide:

- Detailed specifications of proposed battery backup systems
- Detailed description of project plan
- Certifications and contact information of installation personnel
- Certifications and contact information of configuration personnel
- Detailed warranty information of equipment proposed
- All licensing costs shall be included

OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL ORDER:

Offer the option to purchase additional Schneider Electric APC Smart-UPS model SMTL1500RM3UCNC Battery backup solutions, or equivalent, for six (6) months from the date of the initial order.

- All proposed prices shall remain firm for **ninety (90) calendar days following the date of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL) applicable to the services and equipment proposed under this RFP**. Following the ninety (90) day period, any permitted annual price adjustment shall not exceed **30% of the prices established in the initial proposal**. The initial proposal pricing shall remain the baseline for calculating any allowable price adjustment throughout the contract term.
- Price adjustments shall not be compounded from the prior year's adjusted pricing. Any requested price adjustment must be submitted in writing with supporting justification and shall be subject to the terms of the resulting contract.

2.3 Accident Prevention

Precautions shall be exercised at all times for the protection of persons (including employees and students) and property and hazardous conditions shall be guarded against or eliminated. The MCSD or building principal will determine what constitutes a hazardous condition on any campus and the successful Proposer will be responsible for rectifying the issue to the satisfaction of the MCSD.

2.4 Risk

The work under this agreement in every respect shall be at the risk of the successful Proposer until finished and accepted.

2.5 Workmen's Safety

The successful Proposer shall meet all safety and health regulations required by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor and all state regulations dealing with occupational safety.

2.6 Service Providers Representatives

The MCSD reserves the right, with sole discretion, to refuse to allow any representative of the Service Provider to service the contract in any manner. In this event, The Service Provider shall furnish another representative that is acceptable to The MCSD. Examples of reasons for refusing to allow a Service Provider representative to service the contract include, but are not limited to:

- Use of profanity or abusive language around any school personnel or students.
- Unclean or unkempt appearance.
- Intoxication or obvious drug use.

Threatening behavior towards any school personnel or students

Should the Service Provider use subcontractors for portions of the work, The MCSD reserves the right to reject any subcontractor without explanations or recourse by The Service Provider or subcontractor.

2.7 MCSD Responsibilities

Access - MCSD will provide access to all sites as necessary to perform the required services at each location included in the agreement. If service is missed because MCSD fails to provide sufficient access, the successful Proposer shall notify MCSD and MCSD shall remedy the problem. It is not the responsibility of MCSD to inform successful Proposer of missed services or lapses of service. It shall be the responsibility of the successful Proposer to ensure that all scheduled services are made.

2.8 Damage or Loss

Any damage or loss to the MCSD's property as a result of any action by the successful Proposer in the execution or performance of any item or service in this RFP, shall be repaired to the satisfaction of the MCSD Board of Education, at the successful Proposers expense, within a reasonable time set forth by the MCSD Board of Education.

The successful Proposer shall hold the MCSD Board of Education, MCSD, its Officers, Agents and Employees harmless from liability of any nature or kind whatsoever, because of use of by publisher or author, manufacturer or agent of any copyrighted or un-copyrighted composition, secret process, patented or unpatented invention, article, environment-sensitive material, or appliance furnished or used under this bid.

2.9 Governing Law

All RFPs and related documents submitted to the MCSD shall be governed under the laws of the State of Mississippi.

2.10 Term

It is the intent of the MCSD for the initial term of agreement to be for a period of (27) months, beginning on July 1, 2027, and go through September 30, 2029. The proposal prices shall be guaranteed for the life of the agreement.

- All proposed prices shall remain firm for **ninety (90) calendar days following the date of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL) applicable to the services and equipment proposed under this RFP**. Following the ninety (90) day period, any permitted annual price adjustment shall not exceed **30% of the prices established in the initial proposal**. The initial proposal pricing shall remain the baseline for calculating any allowable price adjustment throughout the contract term.
- Price adjustments shall not be compounded from the prior year's adjusted pricing. Any requested price adjustment must be submitted in writing with supporting justification and shall be subject to the terms of the resulting contract.

2.11 Payment

All work must be complete and invoiced by the Service Provider upon USAC guidelines. Service Provider shall be responsible for invoicing USAC the E-Rate eligible portion and invoice the MCSD for the District portion of the total cost. Should the Service Provider fail to invoice USAC in a timely manner, the MCSD is not responsible for that portion. The Service Provider shall submit detailed and correct invoices upon completion of work. The MCSD invoices shall include the purchase order number and show complete details of service by location, date of service, quantity, unit prices and extensions. Invoices are to be billed upon completion and sent to Madison County School District, Attn: Accounts Payable, 476 Highland Colony Parkway, Ridgeland, MS 39157 or emailed to AP@madison-schools.com . All billing will be in accordance with MS Code §31-7-305. Payments will be made to contractor within 45 days from the date the invoice is received at the district office, provided all is satisfactory based on the Agreement requirements. MCSD is exempt from sales and use tax. Exemption from sales tax is provided by statute of the law.

SECTION 3

3.1 Insurance

The successful Service Provider shall carry, pay for, and keep in force, with a company licensed to do business in Mississippi, certifying that it has appropriate and comprehensive insurance covering any incident arising from its operation. Such insurance shall at a minimum, include the following types of insurance and coverage limits, as specified below.

Certificates of Insurance shall state that thirty (30) days prior written notice will be given to MCSD before the policy may be canceled or changed. The official Certification of adequate insurance coverage shall be presented to MCSD within five (5) working days of notification of award of contract and shall list MCSD as additional insured. An information copy of the Certificate of Insurance shall be included with proposal.

Service Provider shall ensure that vehicles, property, and facilities of MCSD and others are not damaged during the service process.

Service Provider agrees to waive subrogation against MCSD, its officers, employees, and elected representatives for injuries, including death, property damage, or any other loss to the extent the loss, if any, is covered by the proceeds of insurance.

3.1.1 Workers' Compensation - as required by the State of Mississippi and employee's liability in the amount of \$100,000.

3.1.2 Comprehensive General of Commercial Liability

Provide at least \$1,000,000 each occurrence for bodily injury, personal injury, accidental death, and property damage with the Madison County School District added as an additional insured.

SECTION 4

4.1 If Proposer uses Central Bidding to upload their proposal and have any questions related to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

If hand delivering or by mail, please submit:

- One (1) "Original" in binder
- One (1) "Copy" in binder
- One (1) digital copy on USB Flash Drive (readable PDF)

Binders and digital copy (USB Flash Drive or Electronic Upload) must identify each Tab Section number as specified below and in the sequence as specified below. Failure to respond to all the points and in this order may be grounds for rejection, this includes proposals uploaded electronically. Likewise, failure to supply any information required to accompany the proposals may cause a rejection of the proposal as noncompliant. The MCSD reserves the right to request additional information and/or presentations, if necessary.

- (1) Proposal Form: Provided for the Proposer in the RFP package. The provided Proposal Form must be completed, signed and dated.

To complete the Proposal Form, please submit in a separate spreadsheet an itemized breakdown of proposed equipment and services. Include part number, description, price per unit, and the extended price. **Identify both eligible and ineligible items.** The total cost for E-Rate Eligible and E-Rate Ineligible should then be transferred to the Official Proposal Form.

- (2) Letter of Interest: Provide a cover letter indicating the scope of the proposal. The letter should include an overview of the services being offered. By signing the letter and proposals, the Proposer certifies that the signor is authorized to bind the Proposer.

- (3) Acceptance or Exceptions:

- A. Include a statement indicating understanding and acceptance of the RFP, including Amendments, and Scope of Work. A statement of exceptions to any of the terms and conditions outlined in the RFP, refer to Section 4.3, will need to be included.
- B. Include copy of your Sample Agreement that will represent your proposal.
- C. The MCSD Standard Contract Addendum **(Attachment B)** will be an integral part of the Agreement. Include a statement indicating understanding and acceptance of the MCSD Standard Contract Addendum and clearly identify any exceptions to the terms and conditions of the MCSD Standard Contract Addendum.

- (4) Ability to Perform and Work Plan:
 - A. Describe your methods and plans for performing the required service as set out in the Scope of Work for Battery Backups. Include any resources for project implementation and deployment for the minimum required services.
 - B. Provide your companies lead time to begin implementation upon receiving the notice to proceed.
 - C. Provide your company's timeframe from the start date to complete the work for all locations.
- (5) Corporate Structure and Credentials:
 - A. The name of the Proposer and address of the Proposer's principal place of business. If different, the address of performance of the proposed contract.
 - B. Number of years of experience.
 - C. List Project Manager and on-site Implementation Engineer, with names, their working location/address, contact information and certification levels. List any other support staff that will be provided.
 - D. List proposed vendor sales and sales engineer contact, with names, their working location/address, contact information and certification levels.
 - E. Include a description of the security plan used to ensure adequate background checks before hiring and after hiring.
 - F. Examples of similar previous work.
- (6) References: Give at least six (6) local accounts of similar size and scope. List school accounts first. Preferably current accounts or within the last three (3) years. Include the company/school names, contact names, addresses, telephone numbers, emails, services provided, approximate contract amounts and date of service.
- (7) Other Required Forms:
 - a. Completed, signed and dated RFP Signature Form;
 - b. Completed, signed and dated Proposal Certification and Assurance Form;
 - c. W-9;
 - d. Information copy of your Certificate of Insurance; and
 - e. Copy of your MS Secretary of State Certificate of Good Standing.
- (8) Submit literature of your proposed Wireless, Switch and Battery Backup Solutions that includes detailed specifications.

4.2 Evaluation Procedure

4.2.1 Step One:

Proposals will be reviewed to ensure compliance with the minimum specifications and requirements. Proposals that do not comply with minimum specifications and requirements will be rejected immediately, receiving no further consideration. During proposal evaluation, the MCSD

reserves the right to make reasonable inquiry to determine the responsibility of any Proposer. Requests may include, but not be limited to, financial statements, credit ratings, and on-site inspection of Proposer facilities. Failure to respond to said request(s) will be sufficient reason to consider the RFP non-responsive.

(1) Responsive Proposer:

Proposer must submit a proposal, which conforms in all material respects to this Request for Proposals, as determined by the MCSD.

(2) Responsible Proposer:

Proposer must have capability in all respects to perform fully the contract requirements and the integrity and reliability, which will assure good faith performance as determined by the MCSD.

4.2.2 Step Two:

Proposals that satisfactorily complete Step One will be reviewed and analyzed to determine if the proposal adequately meets the needs of the MCSD. Factors to be considered are as follows:

(1) Implementation Plan, Qualifications, Experience, and Staffing (23%) – The implementation plan for performing the required services and the Proposer's ability and stability to perform the services, as demonstrated by technical training and education, general experience, specific experience providing the required services, project management capabilities, and the availability of sufficient and qualified staff.

(2) Technical Compliance / Response to RFP Specifications (25%) – The extent to which the proposed solution meets or exceeds the technical specifications, requirements, deliverables, and other requirements set forth in the Request for Proposals.

(3) References and Past Performance (12%) – The Proposer's demonstrated history of successfully providing comparable equipment and services, including references, quality of performance, reliability, and ability to meet contractual requirements.

(4) Cost of E-Rate Eligible Equipment and Services (30%) – The total cost of the E-Rate eligible equipment and services proposed, including all applicable recurring and non-recurring costs.

(5) Cost of E-Rate Ineligible Equipment and Services (10%) – The total cost of E-Rate ineligible equipment and services associated with the proposed solution, including all applicable recurring and non-recurring costs.

TOTAL: 100%

4.2.3 Step Three:

The MCSD will confirm that Proposer will accept an award made to it as a

result of the submission and agrees to contract terms and conditions in the MCSD Standard Contract Addendum (Attachment B) or seek best and final offers from Proposers with proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award.

4.4 Award

Award shall be made to the responsible respondent whose proposal is determined to be the most advantageous to the MCSD taking into consideration price and the evaluation factors set forth in the Request for Proposals. No other factors or criteria shall be used in the evaluation. The MCSD Board of Education shall be the sole judge of the contract award. The decision by the MCSD Board of Education shall be final. In the event of any adverse decision by the MCSD Board of Education, no complaint shall be made against them.

4.5 Notice of Intent to Award

Notice of Intent to Award, subject to approval of the MCSD Board of Education, shall be made to the participating bidders in writing as noted in the Procurement Schedule Timeline.

4.6 Public Records

The Proposals will not be opened to the public nor be disclosed to unauthorized persons prior to award of the contract. However, after award of the contract, all Proposals shall be open to public inspection, subject to any continuing prohibition under disclosure of confidential data, which is designated as such in a proposal and which is consistent with the laws of t MS and the MCSD policy.

RFP SIGNATURE FORM

E-Rate RFP #14-2027
Battery Backup Solution

I/We propose to furnish and deliver the services listed in the Proposal Forms according to your specifications and quantities at the indicated prices. I/We further agree not to request permission to withdraw our proposal after the official opening date.

I/We understand that the Proposal Forms are to be signed and all required documentation is to be labeled and placed in the order as specified above; unless this has been done, our proposal may be considered incomplete and rejected.

I/We, the undersigned, do hereby understand and accept the RFP Instructions under which this proposal is being submitted.

_____ Company	_____ Signature
_____ Address	_____ Name (Typed)
_____ 	_____ Title
_____ Phone	_____ Fax
_____ Date	_____ Email
_____ DUNS Number	_____ E-Rate SPIN

My company meets or exceeds the insurance requirement. Yes_____ No_____

ADDENDUM RECEIPT: The receipt of the following Addenda to the RFP Documents is hereby acknowledged:

ADDENDUM NO. _____ DATED _____, ADDENDUM NO. _____ DATED _____

ADDENDUM NO. _____ DATED _____, ADDENDUM NO. _____ DATED _____

ADDENDUM NO. _____ DATED _____, ADDENDUM NO. _____ DATED _____

ADDENDUM NO. _____ DATED _____, ADDENDUM NO. _____ DATED _____

CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES FORM

I/We make the following certifications and assurances as a required element of the proposal to which it is attached, of the understanding and that the truthfulness of the facts affirmed herein and the continued compliance with these requirements are conditions precedent to the award or continuation of the related contract(s) by signing below:

1. REPRESENTATION REGARDING CONTINGENT FEES

Proposer represents that it has not retained any person or agency upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, fee or other contingent arrangement to secure this agreement.

2. REPRESENTATION REGARDING GRATUITIES

Proposer represents that it has not violated, is not violating, and promises that it will not violate the prohibition against gratuities set forth in Mississippi Code Annotated § 97-11-53.

3. CERTIFICATION OF INDEPENDENT PRICE DETERMINATION

Proposer certifies that the prices submitted in response to the solicitation have been arrived at independently and without, for the purpose of restricting competition, any consultation, communication, or agreement with any other Proposer or competitor relating to those prices, intention to submit a proposal, or the methods or factors used to calculate price.

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Proposer certifies that no involvement, financial or otherwise, that any member of the MCSD board of education, employee, officer or agent of the MCSD may have in the Service Provider's organization. Agreements shall be in accordance with Miss Code Ann. §37-11-27.

Company Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name/Title (printed): _____

PLEASE CUT AND PLACE THE LABEL BELOW ON:

- SEALED ENVELOPE CONTAINING YOUR PROPOSAL

URGENT!
SEALED PROPOSAL ENCLOSED
DO NOT DELAY – DELIVER IMMEDIATELY
LATE PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Vendor Name:
Vendor Address:

RFP Title: Battery Backup Solution
RFP #14-2027
Open Date: 11/10/2026
Open Time: 2:00 pm, CST



MADISON COUNTY SCHOOLS
ATTN: Anne Scott Brown
476 Highland Colony Parkway
Ridgeland, MS 39157

W-9 Form

Form **W-9**
(Rev. March 2024)
Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

Go to www.irs.gov/FormW9 for instructions and the latest information.

Give form to the
requester. Do not
send to the IRS.

Before you begin. For guidance related to the purpose of Form W-9, see *Purpose of Form*, below.

Print or type. See Specific Instructions on page 3.	1 Name of entity/individual. An entry is required. (For a sole proprietor or disregarded entity, enter the owner's name on line 1, and enter the business/disregarded entity's name on line 2.)		
	2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above,		
	3a Check the appropriate box for federal tax classification of the entity/individual whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one of the following seven boxes. ☐ Individual/sole proprietor ☐ C corporation ☐ S corporation ☐ Partnership ☐ Trust/estate ☐ LLC. Enter the tax classification (C = C corporation, S = S corporation, P = Partnership) Note: Check the "LLC" box above and, in the entry space, enter the appropriate code (C, S, or P) for the tax classification of the LLC, unless it is a disregarded entity. A disregarded entity should instead check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. ☐ Other (see instructions) _____	4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3): Exempt payee code (if any) _____ Exemption from Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) reporting code (if any) _____ (Applies to accounts maintained outside the United States.)	
	3b If on line 3a you checked "Partnership" or "Trust/estate," or checked "LLC" and entered "P" as its tax classification, and you are providing this form to a partnership, trust, or estate in which you have an ownership interest, check this box if you have any foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries. See instructions ☐		
	5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.). See instructions.	Requester's name and address (optional)	
6 City, state, and ZIP code			
7 List account number(s) here (optional)			

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN*, later.

Note: If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1. See also *What Name and Number To Give the Requester* for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Social security number	
or	
Employer identification number	

Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

- The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
- I am not subject to backup withholding because (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
- I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
- The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and, generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions for Part II, later.

Sign Here	Signature of U.S. person	Date
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General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future developments. For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to www.irs.gov/FormW9.

What's New

Line 3a has been modified to clarify how a disregarded entity completes this line. An LLC that is a disregarded entity should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. Otherwise, it should check the "LLC" box and enter its appropriate tax classification.

New line 3b has been added to this form. A flow-through entity is required to complete this line to indicate that it has direct or indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries when it provides the Form W-9 to another flow-through entity in which it has an ownership interest. This change is intended to provide a flow-through entity with information regarding the status of its indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries, so that it can satisfy any applicable reporting requirements. For example, a partnership that has any indirect foreign partners may be required to complete Schedules K-2 and K-3. See the Partnership Instructions for Schedules K-2 and K-3 (Form 1065).

Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS is giving you this form because they