Wide Area Network (WAN) Transportation Service

Nov 20th 2026, 2:00PM CST - Jan 6th 2027, 11:00AM CST

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Project Details

Project	Wide Area Network (WAN) Transportation Service
Ref. #	06-112601AS
Type	RFP
Description	Hays Consolidated Independent School District (HCISD) requests proposals for Wide Area Network (WAN) Transportation Services between the Hays CISD's hub sites (A) and all endpoint (Z) locations listed on the pricing attachment. The district currently has a leased dark fiber network with 2 strands of fiber connected to each location. The district encourages prospective bidders to provide pricing that enables each location to be scaled up to 40 Gbps. Offerors may propose solutions for one or more acceptable modes of transport.The district is open to any technology or topology that can meet the bandwidth and service level requirements. Offers for transport services must include all locations listed in the Pricing Attachment – partial bids WILL NOT be considered. Each option proposed, Lit or Dark, must cover every location listed on Pricing Sheet Attachment D.
Open Date	Nov 20th 2026, 2:00PM CST
Questions Due Date	Dec 8th 2026, 11:00AM CST
Close Date	Jan 6th 2027, 11:00AM CST

Events

Event Name	Duration	Description
Open Date	Nov 20th 2026, 2:00PM CST	Posting date for the Opportunity
Questions Due Date	Dec 8th 2026, 11:00AM CST	Deadline to submit Questions
Close Date	Jan 6th 2027, 11:00AM CST	Deadline for Submissions

1. SCOPE

Hays Consolidated Independent School District (HCISD) requests proposals for Wide Area Network (WAN) Transportation Services between the Hays CISD's hub sites (A) and all endpoint (Z) locations listed on the pricing attachment. The district currently has a leased dark fiber network with 2 strands of fiber connected to each location. The district encourages prospective bidders to provide pricing that enables each location to be scaled up to 40 Gbps. Offerors may propose solutions for one or more acceptable modes of transport.
The district is open to any technology or topology that can meet the bandwidth and service level requirements. Offers for transport services must include all locations listed in the Pricing Attachment – partial bids **WILL NOT** be considered. Each option proposed, Lit or Dark, must cover every location listed on Pricing Sheet Attachment D.

The District's Wide Area Network (WAN), including its existing Dark Fiber WAN service, is part of the District's critical infrastructure. Continuity of operations is essential to the success of this project. Accordingly, vendors must demonstrate the ability to turn up services no later than July 1, 2027. Failure to provide documentation showing that the vendor can either (a) currently deliver service to the specified address or (b) deliver service to the address by July 1, 2027, will result in rejection of the proposal. Vendors that cannot currently provide service must include a detailed plan and timeline for establishing connectivity by the required date.

All solutions must terminate service or infrastructure at the demarcation point within the building, generally, the MDF. Solutions that only bring service to the property line but not to the demarcation point will be disqualified. The agreement must terminate service at an MDF designated by the Applicant. The Offeror should specify the exact demarcation setup included in the base fees, such as a rack- mount fiber patch panel with SC or LC connectors, etc.

Respondents are **required** to complete the attached Pricing Sheet Attachment D. If special construction is necessary, respondents are also required to detail that component.

1.1 Option 1 - Leased Dark Network

The first option is for the provision of a leased dark fiber network solution for which is terminated at both ends. HCISD currently owns the hardware to light the fiber; therefore, new modulating equipment is not a required component of proposed dark fiber solutions. The solution should include the lease of 2 strands of Single - model or Multi Model fiber to connect each eligible entity listed in Pricing Sheet Attachment D to the District WAN that connects back to one of the district hub sites. The District has six entities that require two connections for diverse pathways. These entities are listed twice on the required Pricing Sheet Attachment D. If special construction is necessary, respondents are required to separate pricing from monthly recurring charges.

Excess Fiber Strands: To the extent that the Successful Offeror installs additional strands of fiber for future business ventures, the Successful Offeror assumes full responsibility to ensure those incremental costs are allocated out, as applicable, of the special construction charges to the Applicant in accordance with FCC rules and orders.
Note: If, after the issuance of the FCDL (Funding Commitment Decision Letter), USAC or the FCC determines that the Successful Offeror did not cost allocate those charges associated with any additional, excess strands, the Applicant will not be responsible for reimbursing the Successful Offeror, and the Successful Offeror will assume all responsibilities and costs deemed ineligible by USAC.

All dark fiber responses require maintenance as part of the response, even if maintenance is subcontracted out to a third party. In the case of the 3rd party maintenance, the respondent must hold and manage the subcontract and is ultimately responsible for the SLA. It is assumed that the dark fiber network is part of a more comprehensive fiber infrastructure of the service provider. The respondent will include only the portion of maintenance that is required to support Applicant fiber segments versus overall network maintenance. If the fiber serves multiple customers, the cost of maintenance should be shared among all the recipients. For leased dark fiber offerings, it shall be assumed maintenance costs are included in the monthly lease fee. Fee structures that separate maintenance costs must explicitly state this and provide itemized costs.

1.2 Option 2 - Fully Managed Network Solution

The second option is for a fully managed fiber network solution. The service must include fully managed symmetrical bandwidth connections of at least 40 Gbps between each of the sites listed in the Pricing Sheet Attachment D for the District WAN that connects back to one of the district hub sites. The District has six entities that require two connections for diverse pathways. These entities are listed twice on the Pricing Sheet Attachment D.
To be eligible for consideration, all proposed solutions, once lit, must provide a minimum of 40 Gbps symmetrical bandwidth to each location listed in the Pricing Attachment D. In addition to the specified minimum and maximum bandwidths, Service Providers are encouraged to offer various bandwidth options within this range. Refer to the Pricing Attachment for the requested service levels. Vendors should include their closest comparable service level for consideration if the exact bandwidths listed are unavailable.

1.3 Responsibility

HCISD may, at its sole discretion, extend the due date for the submission of proposals when it is in its best interest to do so. Such extensions shall be done via RFP addendum and posted in the USAC E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC) (https://portal.usac.org) along with all other RFP Addenda. It is the responsibility of every Offeror to ensure they have downloaded the latest version of the Form 470 and RFP attachments, including any addenda. HCISD reserves the right to ask clarifying questions of vendors upon review of proposals.

2. CONTRACT

HCISD may, at its sole discretion, extend the due date for the submission of proposals when it is in its best interest to do so. Such extensions shall be done via RFP addendum and posted in the USAC E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC) (https://portal.usac.org) along with all other RFP Addenda. It is the responsibility of every Offeror to ensure they have downloaded the latest version of the Form 470 and RFP attachments, including any addenda. HCISD reserves the right to ask clarifying questions of vendors upon review of proposals.

CONTRACT PERIOD
Initial contract period shall be for five years from July 1, 2027, through June 30, 2032, with the option to renew from July 1 through June 30 for each subsequent agreement period. Pricing and E-Rate discounts will be requested annually, and E-Rate eligibility will be recertified each funding year, regardless of the contract term or renewal option.

OPTION TO RENEW
HCISD may, at its option and with the approval of the contractor, extend the period of this agreement to four (4) additional one-year periods. This extension would contain all terms and conditions and rates of the original contract, contingent upon availability of funds. The Contractor shall be notified in writing by the Buyer of HCISD's intention to extend the contract period at least thirty (30) days prior to expiration of the original contract period. Pricing and E-Rate discounts will be requested annually, and E-Rate eligibility will be recertified each funding year, regardless of the contract term or renewal options.

2.1 Contract Terms

HCISD reserves the right to not sign a vendors agreement and therefore the vendor shall be responsible for signing any agreements provided by HCISD.

2.1.1 Initial Understanding **[Required]** **[Text]**
(Vendor text input)

2.2 Purchase Orders

HCISD is not liable or responsible for payment to **ANY** vendor if the vendor provides goods or services without an active purchase order approved by the Purchasing Department.

3. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This Solicitation shall be governed by the following documents unless an exception is otherwise taken within this Solicitation. Documents are incorporated by reference only, and are not attached as part of this Solicitation. A copy may be obtained on the District's Purchasing website or by contacting anston.shockley@hayscisd.net
Texas Education Code 44.031.

Purchasing and Acquisition, HCISD Policy CH (Legal): https://pol.tasb.org/PolicyOnline/PolicyDetails?key=621&code=CH#legalTabContent
Purchasing and Acquisition, HCISD Policy CH (Local): https://pol.tasb.org/PolicyOnline/PolicyDetails?key=621&code=CH#localTabContent
General Terms and Conditions: https://www.hayscisd.net/documents/district-services-divisions/business-%26-finance/forms-and-publications/purchasing-forms/758000

3.1 INDEMNIFICATION

The contractor shall save and keep harmless and indemnify HCISD against any and all liability, claims and costs of whatsoever kind and nature for injury to or death of any person or persons and for loss or damage to any property occurring in connection with or in any incident to or arising out of occupancy, use, service, operations or performance of work in connection with this contract, resulting in whole or in part from the negligent acts or omissions of the Vendor.

3.2 INSURANCE

General public liability insurance covering all duties, services, or work to be performed under the contract; for contracts up to $500,000**,** insurance shall provide limits of $500,000 each occurrence, $500,000 products/completed operations aggregate, $500,000 personal injury liability, $50,000 property damage liability, $5,000 medical payments coverage, $1,000,000 policy aggregate.
Required automobile liability insurance $250,000 per person, $500,000 per accident for bodily injury, and $100,000 per accident for property damage.

The contractor must also maintain Worker's Compensation insurance providing the statutory benefits for the State of Texas and employer's liability in the amount of $500,000 for each person, $500,000 in the aggregate and $500,000 for each person for occupational disease.

Hays Consolidated Independent School District shall have no responsibility of liability for such insurance coverage.

Vendors must provide proof of insurability with the response. Acceptable proof of insurability will be a certificate of insurance or a letter from the insurance carrier (not the insurance agent). The awarded vendor must provide a certificate of insurance compliance within 15 calendar days after notification of the award.

Each policy of required insurance shall provide for 30 days notice of cancellation to Hays Consolidated Independent School District and shall name its Board of Trustees as additional insured and include the following provision:

"It is a condition of this policy that the insurance carrier shall furnish written notice to the HCISD Purchasing Department Office, 21003 IH 35, Kyle, TX 78640, 30 days in advance of the effective date of any reduction in, or cancellation of, this policy."

3.3 TERMINATION

FOR DEFAULT: The performance of work under the contract may be terminated by HCISD in accordance with this clause, in whole or in part, in writing, whenever HCISD shall have determined that the Vendor has failed to meet the performance requirements of the contract. HCISD has the right to terminate for default if the Vendor fails to make delivery of the goods or perform the work, or if the Vendor fails to perform the work within the time specified in the contract, or if the Vendor fails to perform any other provisions of the contract.

FOR CONVENIENCE: HCISD may terminate the contract at its convenience with thirty (30) day advance written notice to the Vendor. In the event of such a termination by HCISD, HCISD shall be liable for the payment of all approved work performed prior to the termination.

In the event of termination, HCISD reserves the right to re-award this contract to the next low responsive bidder.

This agreement and all services under it are contingent upon the Applicant's receipt of E-Rate funding commitments.

If USAC or the FCC does not approve funding, or approves less than requested, HCISD may cancel or reduce the affected services without penalty or further obligation.

Non-Appropriation: HCISD reserves the right to terminate this agreement at any time if at anytime the HCISD Board of Trustees do not provide funding for the following fiscal yeat.

3.3.1 Initial **[Required]** **[Text]**
(Vendor text input)

3.4 Governing Law and Jurisdiction

This RFP and any and all Agreements shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. The parties agree that exclusive jurisdiction and venue for any dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement shall be in the appropriate state or federal court located in Hays County, Texas.

3.4.1 Initial **[Required]** **[Text]**
(Vendor text input)

3.5 Inquires

Inquiries and requests for information affecting the proposal must be in writing and shall be directed to Anston Shockley, Director of Purchasing via Bonfire messaging. To provide HCISD sufficient time to adequately prepare responses to vendor inquiries, all questions must be submitted by **December 8, 2026 at 11:00am CST.**

Contact with HCISD or E-Rate personnel other than Anston Shockley or his designee regarding this solicitation may be reason for elimination from the selection process. Any prospective respondent defecting a conflict or ambiguity and

requesting the issuance of a clarifying addendum.
If HCISD determines that a clarification or modification is necessary or appropriate, it will issue a written addendum. Each addendum will be posted to both the HCISD Bonfire online procurement portal and the USAC E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC) portal, which together serve as notice to all prospective vendors. It is the sole responsibility of each vendor to monitor both the Bonfire portal and the USAC EPC portal for any and all addenda issued for this solicitation. HCISD will not be bound by any oral or other informal explanation of the requirements of the proposal documents, and vendors may rely only on written addenda posted to these portals.

3.6 Proposal Submissions to Include

1. Applicant Name
2. Form 470 Number - 270002429
3. Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN)
4. Clear indication of service offering (Dark Fiber, Lit Fiber, or IRU)
5. One-time installation, Special Construction, and/or connection fees
6. Monthly service fees
7. Managed router/modem lease fees (if required for service to function)
8. Estimated taxes, fees, and/or other surcharges
9. Service provider's terms and Conditions
    A. HCISD has full authority to accept or reject in part or in full.

3.7 Additional Information

1. As required by E-rate rules, all proposals in response to this Form 470 must offer the Lowest Corresponding Price (LCP). See https://www.usac.org/e-rate/service-providers/step-2-responding-to-bids/lowest-corresponding-price/.
2. Provide detailed explanations of any variances or exceptions the respondent has with any requirement or term specified in this Proposal and thoroughly explain any alternate service offered.
3. Delivery dates – Vendors must specify the projected delivery date as part of the Proposal response. Delivery of supplies must be in compliance with the Bid specifications.
4. HCISD is not responsible for any costs incurred by the Vendor for the preparation or distribution of the Proposal
5. Vendors or other authorized representatives are expected to fully inform themselves as to all conditions, requirements, and specifications before submitting offers. Failure to do so will be at the respondent's own risk.
6. HCISD may add, remove or modify locations and services during the term at the contracted rates, consistent with E-Rate program rules.

3.8 Proprietary Information

Proprietary information if any submitted to HCISD in response to this Proposal should be identified as such. Any information identified as proprietary will be handled in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Open Records Public Information Act as it applies to such information.

HCISD reserves the right to negotiate all elements, which comprise the Respondent's offer to ensure the best possible consideration, be afforded to all concerned and to reject any proposal that is non-responsive to a mandatory specification, omits a required form or certification, materially deviates from the specifications, or exceeds the District's budget, and to re-solicit if all proposals are rejected.

3.9 Assignment

Contractor shall not assign or sub-contract this agreement, its obligations or rights hereunder to any party, company, partnership, incorporation or person without the prior written specific consent of HCISD.

3.10 Disclosure of Criminal Histories

Pursuant to Texas Education Code Section 22.083, as passed during the 80th(R) Texas Legislative Session as Senate Bill No. 9, individuals that come in contact with students shall be fingerprinted and the person's national criminal history record information researched to determine the individual's criminal history. "National criminal history record information" means criminal history record information obtained from the Texas Department of Education under Subchapter F, Chapter 411, of the Texas Government Code (TGC), and from the Federal Bureau of Investigation under Section 411.087, TGC.

Prior to commencement of any work under this Contract, the Contractor shall provide HCISD with a list of all Contractor employees and subcontractor employees who have been arrested for, convicted of, or received deferred adjudication for any criminal conduct, except misdemeanor traffic violations. The Contractor shall ensure that no worker with a criminal history performs work for the District without first notifying the District. HCISD reserves the right of first refusal to prohibit such persons from entering District premises.

3.11 Criminal Background Checks

The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that the HCISD reserves the right to subject all persons entering District premises to background screening checks prior to granting access to areas frequented by students. Background checks may require surrendering a driver’s license or submitting fingerprints for inspection. If any of the Contractor's employees, representatives or subcontractors refuse to submit to a background check, or if a background check reveals a criminal history, such persons may be refused access to District premises; however such refusal shall not relieve the Contractor of its obligations as specified in this Contract.

3.12 Requirements of Texas Senate Bill 9

Any company that contracts with school districts or charters may be subject to the requirements of Senate Bill 9 as codified in Texas Education Code §22.0834, a copy of which is included as **Attachment A** of this solicitation.

3.13 Subcontract

If subcontractors are utilized by the Contractor, each subcontract agreement must preserve and protect the rights of HCISD with respect to the terms and conditions of this Contract.

3.14 Cost

Lit and dark fiber proposals will be compared on total E-Rate eligible cost over the full contract term, including non-recurring special construction and maintenance, and the most cost-effective option will be selected, with price as the most heavily weighted factor.

3.15 Invoices

Invoices: In order to receive payment for goods or services furnished to HCISD, invoices for each purchase order must be submitted to the HCISD Business Office, Attn: Accounts Payable, at 21003 IH 35, Kyle, TX 78640 and accounts.payable@hayscisd.net

All invoices must clearly indicate the following information:

- originating purchase order number
- complete description of goods or services furnished, including unit prices, extended prices and quantities delivered
- project name
- date of issuance
- delivery destination
- all applicable prompt payment discount terms

A) HCISD may require individual invoices per campus to facilitate ease in the payment process.
B) The Contractor shall not bill more than one purchase order on a single invoice. The purpose of this requirement is to reduce the administrative burden associated with verifying charges and remitting invoices. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in delayed payments.
C) Vendor must provide service date, proof or delivery or any other identifying information that HCISD has received the goods/service.

3.16 Payment Terms

HCISD will make payment on a Net 30-day basis. The payment term shall begin on the date the deliverables are inspected, delivered and accepted by HCISD, or on the date a correct invoice is received by HCISD, whichever is later. Bidders are welcome to quote a discount for early payment; however, prompt payment discounts will not be considered as an evaluation criterion. Prompt payment discounts shall be considered earned if payment is postmarked or personally delivered within the prescribed term.

Vendor shall provide service date, proof of delivery, or any other service information on invoices.

4. CTPA

This solicitation is not available for CTPA Adoption

5. Specifications

5.1 Specifications

1. Hays CISD covers an area of 250 square miles and consists of 28 campuses and 2 admin sites that serve as main hub for all Internet and data services.
2. The district currently utilizes approximately 70 miles of dark fiber to connect to existing campuses, see Attachment B Network Diagram.
3. Awarded vendor, other than current vendor, cannot use existing conduits to run new fiber. The district does not own these conduits.
4. Provide pricing for potential increased bandwidth up to 50-Gig during the 5-year contract period.
5. All campuses are currently connected by dark fiber at a 40-Gig connection speed.
6. For the dark fiber pricing, the connections should not include lit circuit costs or hardware. The district will provide all hardware for connection purposes.
7. Lit services should include any hardware or additional connection requirements or fees.
8. See Attachment D Pricing Sheet for a list of campus addresses, A and Z locations for all circuits.
9. See Attachment B Network Diagram for the district's current network layout
10. Vendor should provide monthly pricing per campus. If applicable, special construction and other one-time charges must be listed separately as non-recurring charges on the Pricing Sheet Attachment D.
11. Dark fiber fees should include ALL troubleshooting/maintenance of fiber connectivity issues outside of the building.
12. All fiber jumpers and inside maintenance are covered by the district.
13. All planned service outages should be planned during after-hours and communicated to the district 5 days prior to the disruption of service.
14. Vendor will conduct any necessary testing for new fiber installs and results will be provided to the district.
15. Successful vendor is responsible for providing documentation that includes physical maps for fiber paths, distances, number and location of splices and any known DB loss information.
16. If an existing fiber infrastructure is NOT currently available in the specified area, a detailed installation timeline must be provided.
17. Services will be filed and billed in compliance with E-Rate funding years.
18. All services should be installed and functional by July 01, 2027.
19. Billing for services will begin July 01, 2027.
20. Vendor should include appropriate documentation if providing services from a state contract or cooperative bid.
21. Initial contract period will be for five (5) years with the option for an additional four (4) one-year renewals.
22. Proposed prices shall be fixed for the entire initial contract term (July 1, 2027 – June 30, 2032) and any extension period. No price increases are permitted except tariff-driven adjustments for imported equipment, which must be documented to the District in writing.
23. Hays CISD uses SC fiber jumpers for the WAN and LC for the network routers.
24. Hays CISD is exempt from any taxes, such as Federal Excise.

5.1.1 Initial **[Required]** **[Text]**
(Vendor text input)

6. Proposal Pricing

6.1 Proposal Pricing

Vendors shall submit proposal pricing, delivery schedules, and warranty information, as applicable. Prices shall be inclusive of delivery, assembly, and all other applicable fees. If calculation errors produce an inaccurate total price for any item in the Vendor's response (e.g., multiplying the unit price by an incorrect quantity), the unit price shall prevail

Vendors must submit all pricing on the provided pricing sheet, "Hays_C1 Pricing Sheet Attachment D_Lit or Dark Fiber1," and upload it as an Excel (.xls) attachment with the proposal. Pricing submitted in any other format or outside of this sheet may be considered non-responsive.

6.1.1 Hays_C1 Pricing Sheet Attachment D_Lit or Dark Fiber1 **[Required]** **[PDF]**
(Vendor file upload)

7. Uploads

7.1 CIQ

7.1.1 CIQ **[Required]** **[PDF]**
(Vendor file upload)

7.2 EDGAR

7.2.1 EDGAR **[Required]** **[PDF]**
(Vendor file upload)

7.3 Felony Conviction

7.3.1 Felony Conviction **[Required]** **[PDF]**
(Vendor file upload)

7.4 Proposal Certification

7.4.1 Proposal Certification **[Required]** **[PDF]**
(Vendor file upload)

7.5 Submission Questionnaire

7.5.1 Submission Questionnaire **[Required]** **[PDF]**
(Vendor file upload)

7.6 Bidder's Disclaimer

7.6.1 Bidder's Disclaimer **[Required]** **[PDF]**
(Vendor file upload)

7.7 Proposal Submission

7.7.1 Proposal **[Required]** **[PDF]**
(Vendor file upload)

7.8 Pricing Sheet

7.8.1 Hays_C1 Pricing Sheet Attachment D_Lit or Dark Fiber1 **[Required]** **[PDF]**
(Vendor file upload)