University of Missouri System
COLUMBIA | KANSAS CITY | ROLLA | ST. LOUIS

27-0045

Data Transport Services and Dark Fiber

Issue Date: 10/22/2026
Questions Deadline: 11/13/2026 02:00 PM (CT)
Response Deadline: 12/11/2026 02:00 PM (CT)

UM Procurement

Contact Information

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Event Information

Number:	27-0045
Title:	Data Transport Services and Dark Fiber
Type:	Request for Proposal
Issue Date:	10/22/2026
Question Deadline:	11/13/2026 02:00 PM (CT)
Response Deadline:	12/11/2026 02:00 PM (CT)
Notes:	The University of Missouri requests proposals for the **Furnishing and Delivery of Data Transport Services and Dark Fiber for Missouri Research and Education Network (MOREnet)**. Qualified suppliers are invited to submit a proposal on the items or services specified. All proposals shall be subject to the terms and conditions included herein. Proposals submitted must be received utilizing the University of Missouri System's electronic bidding platform. The University assumes no responsibility for any supplier's on time submission.

Billing Information

Address: 801 Conley Avenue
325 Jesse Hall
Columbia, MO 65211
Email: umprocimagingvouche@umsystem.edu

Bid Activities

Deadline for Questions 11/13/2026 2:00:00 PM (CT)

Any questions related to this Request for Proposal must be submitted through the online bidding system no later than 2:00 p.m. CT on Friday, November 13, 2026.

Bid Attachments

Solicitation Terms and Conditions 01-26-26.pdf Download

University of Missouri General Terms and Conditions

MOREnet Instructions to Respondents 08.28.26.pdf Download

MOREnet Instructions to Respondents

Appendix A.pdf View Online

Network Diagram

Appendix B.docx View Online

MOREnet PoP Facilities

Appendix C.docx View Online

Aggregation Circuit Pricing

27-0045 Pricing Page.xlsx View Online

Pricing Pages

Requested Attachments

Pricing Pages

(Attachment required)

Respondents are required to use the Excel pricing sheet found in the Attachments tab. Formulas embedded in the spreadsheet must be removed by the supplier before submitting to be considered for evaluation.

Appendix C

Aggregation Circuit Pricing

Special Construction Charges

(Attachment required)

Attach Special Construction Charge document per Mandatory Requirement #3 here.

Bid Attributes

1 **General Terms and Conditions**

I acknowledge reading the University of Missouri General Terms and Conditions attachment and agree that these Terms shall be incorporated into and apply to any agreement resulting from this Solicitation.

☐ Yes

(Required: Check if applicable)

2 **Exceptions to Terms and Conditions**

Do you have any exceptions to the Terms and Conditions (under Attachments tab)? If YES, please list exceptions below.

☐ Yes ☐ No

(Required: Check only one)

3 **Exception to General Terms and Conditions**

Provide page number, section and reason for exception. (Attach additional pages if needed).

NOTE: Exceptions taken may cause the solicitation response to be rejected at the sole discretion of the University. Any terms to which Supplier does not take exception shall be binding and any subsequent objection to those terms shall have no effect.

(Optional: Maximum 1000 characters allowed)

4 **Instructions to Respondents**

I acknowledge reading and understand the Instructions to Respondents attachment.

In addition, Respondents must adhere to the following:

• The Pricing Page(s) must be completed and submitted on the Response Attachment tab in order to be considered. Any other form will be disqualified.
• Formulas embedded in the spreadsheet must be removed by the respondent before submitting to be considered for evaluation.

When using any language that has meaning to your firm, yet may be more or less specific than the industry meaning, please define the term in your response by attaching a document in the Response Attachments tab. Terms that are NOT defined will be interpreted based upon definitions provided in Attribute #20 of this Request for Proposal, and then upon industry standards.

☐ Yes

(Required: Check if applicable)

5 Supplier Agreement

The University of Missouri expects the awarded Supplier to comply with all terms outlined in the General Terms and Conditions included with this solicitation. The University of Missouri will prepare and submit a contract award letter for execution by the successful Respondent(s). The University of Missouri's contract award letter shall be the sole governing document. The University of Missouri will not sign or execute any Contractor's agreement. The University reserves the right to add and/or change connection points at prices negotiated with successful contractor(s) in the future as deemed by the University to be in the best interest of the University.

☐ Acknowledged

(Required: Check if applicable)

6 Maintain a regular place of business in the State of Missouri?

☐ Yes ☐ No

(Required: Check only one)

7 Are company headquarters located in Missouri?

☐ Yes ☐ No

(Required: Check only one)

8 EVALUATION OF SUPPLIER'S SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN OR HONORABLY DISCHARGED VETERAN PARTICIPATION

If a Respondent is proposing participation by a Service-Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (SDVE) and/or an Honorably Discharged Veteran-Owned Enterprise (HDVE), in order to receive evaluation consideration for participation by the SDVE or HDVE, the Respondent must provide the requested information with the proposal. Information not included with the proposal will not be considered in scoring.

SDVE and HDVE Evaluation: The Respondent must either be a SDVE or a HDVE or must be proposing to utilize a SDVE OR HDVE as a subcontractor and/or supplier that provides at least three percent (3%) of the total contract value. If the Respondent proposing a SDVE or HDVE participation percentage meets or exceeds three percent (3%) of the total contract value and provides the required documentation identified herein, then the Supplier shall be assigned the three (3) bonus points. An HDVE that receives bonus points under this section shall not receive bonus points as an SDVE, and an SDVE that receives bonus points under this section shall not receive bonus points as an HDVE.

SDVE or HDVE Commitment: If the Respondent is awarded a contract and the Respondent received points for the SDVE or HDVE participation in the evaluation, the percentage level of SDVE or HDVE participation committed to by the Respondent shall be a contractual requirement.

9 Spending with SDVEs and/or HDVEs

If you are a certified SDVE or HDVE, as defined in the MOREnet Instructions to Respondents, section #9, please provide evidence of certification in attributes #10 & 11. If you are not a certified SDVE or HDVE, are you willing to commit to using one or more certified SDVE or HDVE in the performance of this contract if awarded? If yes, please explain the nature of the participation by each SDVE or HDVE and provide the amount of the contract that will be attributable to such SDVE or HDVE and evidence of certification.

(Optional: Maximum 4000 characters allowed)

10 **SDVE and/or HDVE Certified in Missouri**

Are you a Service-Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (SDVE) or Honorably Discharged Veteran-Owned Enterprise (HDVE) certified by the State of Missouri, Office of Administration?

☐ Yes ☐ No

(Required: Check only one)

11 **Missouri Certification Name/Number**

If YES was checked above in #10 as being a certified SDVE or HDVE by the State of Missouri, Office of Administration, provide the name of the SDVE or HDVE your certificate is under.

(Optional: Maximum 1000 characters allowed)

12 **PAYMENT**

Because suppliers may rely on 3rd party facilities to provision complete end-to-end circuits, it is understood that the University may be billed by more than one party. However, it is the University's preference that only one bill be received.

13 **Pay Terms**

The University's standard pay terms are Net 30. Do you offer an early pay discount if paid sooner? If so, explain.

(Optional: Maximum 1000 characters allowed)

14 **Payment Preference**

- SUA - Payment settles using Due Immediate pay terms. The Single Use Account option is an electronically issued single use MasterCard payment, which avoids delays. Please complete this SUA Enrollment Form.
- ACH - Standard settlement terms are Net 30 but may be escalated if early pay discounts are offered. Payment is made electronically which avoids delays and eliminates the potential for interception. Payment can settle as soon as next day. If ACH is chosen and respondent is awarded, an email invitation will be sent to register in PaymentWorks in order to securely provide your ACH information.
- Check - Standard settlement terms are net 30. Payments will be mailed and are subject to USPS delivery, which may be significantly delayed.

☐ SUA (Single Use Credit Card)

☐ ACH/Direct Deposit

☐ Check

(Required: Check all that apply)

15 **Best and Final**

The University of Missouri reserves the right to negotiate best and final terms with any Respondent.

16	**Contract Term** The contract period shall be from date of award and continue for three (3) years with one automatic three (3) year extension. The University shall have the right to cancel the contract with notice to the Supplier at least sixty (60) days prior to the annual anniversary date of the award letter notification. All circuit bandwidth and term options listed on the pricing pages may be ordered or renewed at any time during the life of the contract. The University may terminate a connection, by individual site, without cancelling the contract in its entirety. The awarded contractor shall honor all circuit rates as stated in the contractor's pricing response for each site circuit for the duration of the contract. If sufficient funds are not budgeted or appropriated in any fiscal period for payments due under this contract, MOREnet shall give the Contractor written notice of such non-appropriation and the contract shall terminate as of the last day of the fiscal period for which funds are available. Such termination is without expense or penalty.
17	**Background Information** MOREnet is Missouri's telecommunications-based delivery system connecting higher education, elementary and secondary education, public libraries, state agencies, telehealth sites and other organizations and government agencies in Missouri to each other and the Internet. MOREnet is dedicated to ensuring Missouri's future by meeting the needs of its members for full access to information services. The Missouri Revised Statutes, Chapter 392 Telephone and Telegraph Companies Section 392.205 states "The public service commission shall ensure that all public school districts have access to substantially reduced telecommunications rates and may approve the tariff as submitted, or may, after hearing, modify the tariff in the public interest." MOREnet reminds Respondents that the majority of our customers are public school districts, some of whom may be included in this request for proposal.
18	**Objective** MOREnet, a division of the University of Missouri, is seeking to procure data transport services or dark fiber to connect its members to the MOREnet backbone. MOREnet's stated direction is to provide Ethernet connections to all member sites. The objective of this RFP is to establish firm pricing to acquire the services described above for the location and terms described on the pricing sheets on the Response Attachments tab as well as to establish firm pricing for Aggregation Circuits as outlined in Appendix C, if independent from the tail circuit pricing. Contract(s) will be awarded to the best Respondent(s) on a site-by-site basis. If for any reason a specific site cannot be awarded, the University reserves the right to award any and all other sites. The University reserves the right to award contracts for requested services to one or more Suppliers. The University reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and make a contract award to a lower priced tariff or consortium offering. Proposals are awarded by individual MOREnet customer site and allow for planned and future circuit orders for that address, for the life of the contract. The Respondent whose proposal for a given address is determined to be the most cost effective will be awarded one or more options from the Pricing Pages for that address. <u>An award does not guarantee an actual circuit order.</u> An official circuit order for service can be issued at any time within the contract period.

19	**Definitions** **Aggregation circuit**: The segment of the circuit that extends from the vendor network to the MOREnet PoP facility and is used to carry all combined virtual circuits from customers (refer to segment B in Appendix A - Network Diagram). **Circuit Activation:** The process of configuring and connecting equipment that allows for data flow over a circuit. **Circuit Installation:** When the Respondent has connected a new circuit, completed testing it and notifies MOREnet that the circuit is ready for activation (turn-up). **Circuit Order:** When an authorized representative of MOREnet submits a request to the Respondent on a MOREnet order form, by either email or US mail, requesting a new circuit or cancellation or changes to an existing circuit. **Dark Fiber:** Unlit fiber-optic cable provided by the Respondent. **Layer 2:** Layer 2 refers to the data link layer of the seven-layer OSI model of computer networking. **Layer 3:** Layer 3 refers to the network layer of the seven-layer OSI model of computer networking. **Mbps:** Bandwidth measured in megabits per second **Monthly Recurring Cost (MRC):** The recurring cost invoiced every month. **MOREnet Member Site:** The physical location (address) of the MOREnet member's facility. **Non-Recurring Cost (NRC):** Any one-time cost needed to deliver the service. **Point-of-Presence (PoP) Facilities:** An inter-connect address where MOREnet equipment is located to accept aggregation circuits. A list of the PoP facility locations provided in Appendix B – MOREnet PoP Facilities. **Release Date:** The date when the Respondent releases the circuit to MOREnet for billing. **Tail circuit:** The segment of the circuit that extends from the vendor network to the member site location (refer to segment A in Appendix A - Network Diagram). **Virtual Circuit (VC):** Refers to the logical path configured in a vendor's network to complete an entire data connection.
20	**Delivery** Aggregation and Tail Circuits: Service must be operational within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days of order. If more time is anticipated or when 120 days has elapsed, MOREnet may, at its sole discretion, approve the anticipated install date, cancel the order with no liability or approve incremental 30-day extensions. Supplier guarantees delivery for site(s) listed in the Supplier's proposal response. Supplier refusal or failure to deliver service upon award, contract and order may result in a reduced supplier experience evaluation in future Requests for Proposals evaluations. ☐ Acknowledged *(Required: Check if applicable)*
21	**MANDATORY/TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS** Respondents must meet all mandatory requirements in this section in order to continue with a response to this Request for Proposal. Any Respondent that does not meet all the following requirements will be removed from further consideration. Respondents must follow the instructions given and include any pertinent information with the proposal response on the Response Attachments tab.
22	**GENERAL**

23 **Mandatory Requirement #1**

It is required that the Respondent participates in the Federal USF programs (such as E-Rate or its subsequent programs) for all eligible products and services awarded from this RFP for the duration of the contract. Participation also includes the annual filing requirement of the FCC Form 473. It is further required that the Respondent complies with any information requests of the Federal Communication Commission or its delegates (Universal Service Administrative Company) regarding this RFP. Provide the Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN) to meet this requirement.

☐ Yes ☐ No

(Required: Check only one)

24 **Mandatory Requirement #1a. SPIN NUMBER**

Provide the SPIN number as referenced in the requirement above.

(Required: Maximum 1000 characters allowed)

25 **Mandatory Requirement #2**

It is required that all circuit solutions proposed adhere to the appropriate ITU/IEEE/ANSI standards.

☐ Yes ☐ No

(Required: Check only one)

26 **Mandatory Requirement #3**

Dark Fiber respondents are required to indicate what portion, if any, of the proposed non-recurring cost qualifies as Special Construction Charges. Special Construction Charges defined by USAC for purposes of USF funding are non-recurring costs of deploying new fiber or upgraded facilities. This may include construction of new facilities, design and engineering and project management but cannot include network or modulating equipment.

A description of the Special Construction Charges and the cost indication must be a separate note provided as an attachment to the RFP response.

☐ Yes ☐ No

(Required: Check only one)

27 **CIRCUITS**

28 **Mandatory Requirement #4**

Respondent must provide service level agreement (SLA) for each circuit to a member location that addresses the minimum network performance guidelines as listed below:

- Latency must be 50ms or less except when the utilization is more than 90% on the circuit.
- Packet loss must not exceed 0.7%
- Network Availability must be a least 99.95% between the hours of 6:00 am and midnight
- Jitter must be less than 50ms

If MOREnet determines the Respondent is failing to meet the above performance guidelines on a circuit, MOREnet will notify the Respondent in writing of the failure and give the Respondent 30 calendar days to correct it. If the Respondent is not able to meet the guidelines within 30 days, MOREnet will withhold 10% of the circuit MRC for each month that the Respondent fails to make the guidelines. The 10% withhold is compensatory for services not provided. If the Respondent fails to make the guidelines for six consecutive months after the first notification, then MOREnet, at its sole discretion, can cancel the circuit with no early termination fees or other penalties.

☐ Yes ☐ No

(Required: Check only one)

29	**Mandatory Requirement #5** Respondent must provide the full-sustained rate (capacity) for all tail circuits ordered from the customer premise through the vendor network. If MOREnet determines that the Respondent is not providing the full bandwidth ordered, MOREnet will only pay for the bandwidth the Respondent has provided, retroactive to the Respondent's last release date. If the Respondent does not provide the ordered bandwidth within 30 days of notification, MOREnet can terminate the circuit without penalty. ☐ Yes ☐ No *(Required: Check only one)*
30	**Mandatory Requirement #6** MOREnet must have the ability to order increased circuit capacity of Respondent pricing within the existing circuit order term of same contract. The circuit expiration date for a circuit that is upgraded in-term will remain the same. ☐ Yes ☐ No *(Required: Check only one)*
31	**Mandatory Requirement #7** Respondent must supply industry standard termination equipment, such as smart jacks, inside the building as part of the circuit installation. State any additional installation services that are available. Indicate for each of the services whether or not additional costs would apply, and any limitations or restrictions upon the services. ☐ Yes ☐ No *(Required: Check only one)*
32	**Mandatory Requirement #8** MOREnet's premise equipment will use standard Ethernet ports and the Respondent must deliver the circuit to that port. ☐ Yes ☐ No *(Required: Check only one)*
33	**Mandatory Requirement #9** It is required that MOREnet's IP addresses be used at all sites. ☐ Yes ☐ No *(Required: Check only one)*
34	**Mandatory Requirement #10** MOREnet must have the ability to rate-limit bandwidth below what was ordered (i.e. 100Mbps circuit is ordered and MOREnet can rate-limit the circuit to 50Mbps). Respondent's solution must preserve this capability. ☐ Yes ☐ No *(Required: Check only one)*
35	**Mandatory Requirement #11** It is required that the Respondent's network does not interfere with MOREnet's ability to manage and monitor member site networks. ☐ Yes ☐ No *(Required: Check only one)*
36	**Mandatory Requirement #12** MOREnet marks some packets from the member sites for Quality of Service (QoS), and it is required that the Respondent honor the QoS (including CoS) settings through their network to the MOREnet PoP facility. ☐ Yes ☐ No *(Required: Check only one)*

37	**Mandatory Requirement #13** It is required that all tail circuits be aggregated and delivered on one, ten or 100 gigabit Ethernet circuit(s) to one of MOREnet's PoP facilities (reference Appendix A – Network Diagram and Appendix B – MOREnet PoP Facilities). It is required that the bandwidth sum of the tail circuits does not exceed the bandwidth capacity of the aggregation circuit. MOREnet identifies, in the RFP Pricing Pages, the PoP facility believed to be the most optimal for delivery of each site location. However, Respondent may elect to deliver aggregation circuits to any of the MOREnet PoP facilities using the Alternate PoP facility column on the Pricing Pages. ☐ Yes ☐ No *(Required: Check only one)*
38	**Mandatory Requirement #14** If Respondent has fee-based aggregation circuit(s), MOREnet will order aggregation circuits to the appropriate PoP facility based on capacity need. MOREnet will optimize circuit utilization in terms of bandwidth capacity and financial responsibility on such aggregation circuits and may order tail circuits to any PoP facility where Respondent offers aggregation circuits. ☐ Yes ☐ No *(Required: Check only one)*
39	**Mandatory Requirement #15** Aggregation circuits must be provisioned to deliver Virtual Circuits from the member site to the MOREnet PoP. Member sites must not be allowed to communicate with other member sites connected to the Respondent's network without first going through a MOREnet router at a MOREnet Primary PoP. ☐ Yes ☐ No *(Required: Check only one)*
40	**Mandatory Requirement #16** Respondents must provide written notice of scheduled maintenance outage at least 72 hours prior to the maintenance. Scheduled maintenance must be done between the hours of 12:01 A.M. and 6:00 A.M. at no cost unless agreed to in advance by MOREnet. ☐ Yes ☐ No *(Required: Check only one)*
41	**Mandatory Requirement #17** The Respondent shall begin billing for a new circuit after successful installation of the circuit. If the Respondent notifies MOREnet that a circuit is installed and operational but MOREnet's testing verifies the circuit does not pass traffic, then that will not be considered a "successful installation." ☐ Yes ☐ No *(Required: Check only one)*

42 **Mandatory Requirement #18**

Respondent must inform MOREnet of any cost or cancellation notice required for an individual member site circuit cancellation (not contract). Document and describe any cancellation notice requirements or fees resulting from cancellation or reduction of service for any given circuit prior to its circuit term end date.

(Required: Maximum 4000 characters allowed)

43 **Mandatory Requirement #19**

State Early Termination Cost (if applicable) as related to Mandatory Requirement #18:

%

(Required)

44 **Mandatory Requirement #20**

Dark fiber must be single mode fiber suitable for DWDM networking at 100Gbps and greater per wavelength using commercially available equipment.

☐ Yes ☐ No

(Required: Check only one)

45 **Mandatory Requirement #21**

Respondents are required to fill out the Pricing Pages for all dark fiber options proposed. The NRC column is intended for any one-time payment such as an IRU payment or fiber construction cost. The MRC column is intended for any combined recurring costs such as colocation, power and M&O.

☐ Acknowledged

(Required: Check if applicable)

46 **PREFERRED CRITERIA**

47 **Preferred Criteria #1**

Respondents may contact MOREnet members at the sites being bid for the purpose of performing a site audit. Site visits are to be PRE-ARRANGED through MOREnet for each site desired.

☐ Acknowledged

(Required: Check if applicable)

48	**Preferred Criteria #2** Service Outages: Respondent to provide compensatory credit in the event of an unscheduled service outage that exceeds 30 minutes. The credit will equal the amount of time the service is unavailable by individual site. At MOREnet's request, Respondent to provide a written report of any outages that exceed one hour in length within five (5) business days of the request. The report should include an explanation of the problem and a description of the actions the Respondent took to correct the problem. *(Required: Maximum 4000 characters allowed)*
49	**Preferred Criteria #3** Respondent to provide firms with fixed prices that meet all mandatory requirements for any or all contract periods. Prices submitted shall include all costs, including but not limited to, regulatory fees, administrative fees, applicable taxes and surcharges. Prices shall be firm without conditions, qualifications, or caveats. MOREnet will not accept contracts tied to tariff increases or increases in applicable regulatory fees, administrative fees, applicable taxes, surcharges or other fees. The successful Respondent(s) shall not add any additional costs to invoices. MOREnet will not pay any costs over the bid price(s). Prices shall not be allowed to fluctuate during the term of the contract. *(Required: Maximum 4000 characters allowed)*
50	**Preferred Criteria #4** Respondents are encouraged to supply a map of any proposed Dark Fiber solution(s) in an electronic format. Map should include the actual route of the backbone fiber, all huts/POPs, all access locations available to the University, and all proposed member site connections. Map(s) should be in KML/KMZ, ESRI ShapeFile or other format supported by ESRI's ArcGIS software. *(Required: Maximum 4000 characters allowed)*

51	**Preferred Criteria #5** FCC Funding Protection: Respondent to provide compensatory credit in the event the Respondent's actions, omissions, or non-compliance directly result in the denial, reduction, recovery, or loss of FCC funding for which MOREnet would otherwise have been eligible. The credit will equal the full amount of funding lost by MOREnet. *(Required: Maximum 4000 characters allowed)*

Supplier Information

Company Name:

Contact Name:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

Supplier Notes

By submitting your response, you certify that you are authorized to represent and bind your company.

Print Name

Signature