FY2027 RFP Category 2 – Miller School District 29-4

E-rate BEN: 134177 · Form 470 # 270002881

1. Project Summary

The purpose of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to solicit bids for Miller School District 29-4 ("Applicant"). Applicant is seeking proposals for new wireless access points, new network switches, switch stacking cables and transceivers and associated licensing, structured cabling and internal fiber and software licenses and subscriptions for existing network equipment. This project is being requested under E-rate Category Two Internal Connections for E-rate Funding Year 2027.

2. Timeline

Task	To	Due Date
Form 470 & RFP Posted	EPC Portal	10/30/2026
Clarifying Questions Due	MillerErate@k12.sd.us and cc to erate@eratecomplete.com	11/30/2026 9:00 am Applicant time
Q&A RFP Addendum Posted	EPC Portal	12/3/2026
Site Visit – Required	RSVP to MillerErate@k12.sd.us and cc to erate@eratecomplete.com	11/23/2026 12:30 pm Applicant time; backup date 11/24/2026 12:30 pm
Bids Due	Bids2027@eratecomplete.com	12/14/2026 9:00 am Applicant time

These are the only dates for this RFP. Any change will be issued as an addendum posted to the Form 470 in EPC.

3. Bidder Communication & Submission Requirements

To ensure fairness, transparency, and proper documentation, all bidder communication must adhere to the following requirements:

- **Email Only:** No phone calls or texts are permitted. All communication must occur via email to the contacts specified above for documentation purposes.
- **Adherence to RFP Instructions:** Failure to comply with any RFP instructions may result in disqualification or point deductions during bid evaluation.
- **Point of Contact:** All communication regarding this RFP must be directed to the designated contact/s listed above. Communication with any other individual, department, or board member may result in disqualification.
- **Scope of Inquiries:** Questions or suggestions involving products or services not included in the Form 470 or RFP will not be considered legitimate inquiries or proposals. Questions requesting information already contained within the Form 470 or RFP will not receive a response.
- **Incomplete or Non-Responsive Proposals:** A response will be disqualified if it does not include itemized pricing for the requested items, only asks the Applicant to contact the vendor, or does not address the scope of the Form 470. Spam, robotic, generic, or encyclopedic submissions will not be considered valid and will be disqualified. The reason for each

disqualification will be documented in the bid evaluation file.

- **Late Submissions:** The applicant reserves the right to reject any bids submitted after the published deadline.
- **Addenda:** It is the bidder's responsibility to follow the Form 470 in the E-rate EPC portal to receive any updates and addenda. A Q&A addendum will be posted by the date in the Timeline, even if no questions are received. Vendor questions and responses, as well as any clarifications or other addenda, will be posted to ensure equal access to information. Bidders are responsible for monitoring the EPC Form 470 for updates. Proposals submitted after an addendum is posted must acknowledge it.

Clarifying Questions are due from vendors to MillerErate@k12.sd.us and cc to erate@eratecomplete.com by the date and time in the Timeline above. Questions received after that deadline may not be answered.

Bids must be submitted via email to Bids2027@eratecomplete.com and received by the date and time in the Timeline above. Applicant reserves the right to reject late submissions. Bidders who submitted a bid before the Q&A addendum was posted may submit a revised bid based on the addendum by the bid due date. A revised bid must acknowledge the addendum and should clarify if it replaces that bidder's earlier bid.

All responses must be labeled **ATTN: ERATE Category 2 FY2027 Response – C2 Miller**

4. Description of Proposal

Respondent will provide a description of their proposal for all services and solutions. Description will include an overview of the proposal, any deviations from the requested architecture, design or requirements, assumptions made, other detail the Applicant may find useful or necessary (or could differentiate the solution from a competing proposal).

5. References

For each response, the respondent must provide 3 references from current or recent customers (preferably K-12 schools) with projects equivalent to the size of the applicant.

6. Required Notice to Proceed and Funding Availability

Applicant will follow the purchasing policies of the Board and requirements and procedures of the FCC’s E-rate program as administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company to be eligible for all available funding. The implementation of any associated contracts resulting from this competitive bid process will be dependent on the applicant’s issuance of a written Notice to Proceed/Purchase Order. E-rate funding notification alone will not signify Notice to Proceed. The Applicant will have the right to allow the contract to expire without implementation if appropriate funding does not come available.

No Work Without Written Authorization. Vendor shall not order equipment, schedule labor, perform services, or incur costs on behalf of the Applicant until the Applicant issues a written Purchase Order/Notice to Proceed. Any work performed or costs incurred without written authorization are at the Vendor’s sole risk and expense.

Invoicing: Respondents agree to conform to all E-Rate guidelines for the billing of discounts to the

SLD/USAC. Bidders must be willing to provide E-Rate discounted billing (form 474/SPI invoicing) if requested by the applicant.

Prices to remain firm through E-rate approval, execution, and duration of the proposed contract. In the event of a price decrease for service or from the manufacturer, said decrease shall be passed on to the Applicant and documented with new price sheet sent to the contacts listed here.

7. Scope of Work

The Applicant is requesting proposals for new wireless access points, new network switches, switch stacking cables and transceivers and associated licensing.

Site visit not required for components as the district will be self-installing. The required site visit is only for the Cabling project.

This RFP will be posted concurrently with the FCC Form 470 in EPC. All proposals must align with the service type and function(s) listed on the Form 470. Bids must include all charges, including equipment costs itemized by component, shipping, and any anticipated taxes or surcharges.

Vendor must be an authorized E-rate partner of the manufacturer or will agree that no grey market products will be accepted as part of the procurement.

Only quotes for new equipment will be accepted. No used or refurbished bids will be considered.

If quoting an equivalent, please provide documentation of equivalence. Equivalent proposals must be comparable in quality and functionality and must be fully interoperable with our existing Ruckus equipment and management software.

The Applicant reserves the right to award none, some, or all of the proposal.

8. Equipment Details

Based on the applicant's experience, knowledge and existing infrastructure, below are the components believed to meet their needs. Actual quantities ordered may vary from initial estimates. Quantities and components are estimates only and the applicant will consider service provider recommendations based on their expertise and industry standards to determine the most cost-effective solution. Applicant would expect products quoted to have a minimum life expectancy of 5 years.

Seeking bids on the following, or equivalents, including any relevant ancillary components needed for a complete, working installation. Each component must be itemized. Items and quantities listed are estimates of need.

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Quantities are estimates. Vendor responses must include the full manufacturer part number/SKU for every item. Where a manufacturer or model is named, equivalent products will be considered.

Product Type	Manufacturer	Model / SKU	Est. Qty / Cabling Feet	License / Support Term Options	Installation & Configuration Fees Requested	Specifications / Notes
Wireless Access Point	Ruckus or equivalent	R670 or equivalent	34	N/A	No	New Cat6A drops for all

Product Type	Manufacturer	Model / SKU	Est. Qty / Cabling Feet	License / Support Term Options	Installation & Configuration Fees Requested	Specifications / Notes
Wireless Access Point	Ruckus or equivalent	R770 or equivalent	4	N/A	No	New Cat6A drops for all
Network Switch	Ruckus or equivalent	ICX-8200-48ZP2-E2 or equivalent	6	N/A	No	
Network Switch	Ruckus or equivalent	ICX-8200-48 or equivalent	3	N/A	No	
Network Switch	Ruckus or equivalent	ICX-8200-24ZP or equivalent	2	N/A	No	
Network Switch	Ruckus or equivalent	ICX-8200-24 or equivalent	3	N/A	No	
Network Switch	Ruckus or equivalent	ICX-8200-C08ZP or equivalent	2	N/A	No	
Transceiver (SFP / SFP+ / QSFP)	Any	E25G-SFP28-LR or equivalent	4	N/A	No	Single Mode
Transceiver (SFP / SFP+ / QSFP)	Any	E25G-SFP28-SR or equivalent	10	N/A	No	Multimode
Transceiver (SFP / SFP+ / QSFP)	Any	25G-SFPP-TWX-0101 or equivalent	7	N/A	No	Stacking Cables

*Category 2 equipment may be installed beginning 4/1/2027 and must be installed no later than 9/30/2028.

Itemize E-rate eligible and ineligible costs separately, and identify any cost allocation for ineligible license features.

9. Installation/Initial Configuration

Installation and initial configuration are not requested for the equipment listed above. Quote that equipment and its licensing only, with no installation or configuration labor. Installation is requested only for the structured cabling project; see the Structured Cabling section and Appendix A.

10. Licenses

Licensing is requested in the Software Licenses and Subscriptions section below; do not include separate licensing with the equipment above.

11. Software Licenses and Subscriptions for Existing Equipment

The Applicant is requesting proposals for software licenses and subscriptions for the existing, Applicant-owned network equipment listed below. Licenses must be compatible with this equipment. Where a manufacturer, model or license SKU is named, equivalent licensing that provides the same functionality on the existing equipment will be considered.

Licenses are requested for terms of 1, 3 and 5 years. Each term must be priced separately so bids can be compared on the same term.

- List every license or subscription by SKU, with quantity, term, start and end dates, unit price and extended price.
- Identify any license, subscription or bundle that includes features that are not E-rate eligible (for example, advanced security services) and show the eligible and ineligible portions so the

Applicant can cost-allocate as required.

- If licenses must be co-termed, state the co-term end date and how pricing was prorated.
- Do not include hardware, separately priced warranties, or on-site services. If offered, price each separately.

Equipment Covered

Product Type	Manufacturer	Model / SKU	Est. Qty	License / Support Term	Installation Requested	Specifications / Notes
Wireless Access Point License / Cloud Management Subscription	Ruckus or equivalent	Virtual Smartzone or equivalent	6	1, 3 or 5 year (quote all)	No	We currently own 32 AP licenses so only require 6 additional.
Software Support Subscription (bug fixes, security patches, remote technical support and configuration)	Ruckus or equivalent	WatchDog Support for Virtual SmartZone and APs or equivalent	38	1, 3 or 5 year (quote all)	No	WatchDog Support for the Virtual SmartZone and all 38 APs.
Switch License / Subscription	Ruckus or equivalent	Virtual Smartzone or equivalent	5	1, 3 or 5 year (quote all)	No	We currently own 11 switch licenses so only require 5 additional

12. Structured Cabling and Internal Fiber

See Appendix A for full description of the project.

Scope

The Applicant is requesting proposals to furnish and install structured cabling and internal fiber, connectors and related components, including installation, termination, testing and documentation, to support the Applicant’s eligible broadband internal connections at the sites and areas listed in Appendix A.

A comprehensive site visit is required to assess the current network infrastructure. See the Timeline for the date and time. If the visit moves to the backup date, the Applicant will email everyone who has RSVPed and post a notice to the Form 470.

Internal fiber requested in this RFP runs within a building, or between buildings of the same school on the same campus. Connections between different campuses, or between different schools, are not part of this RFP.

Maps and floor plans will not be posted online. They will be provided during the required site visit.

Pricing

- Cabling quotes must include and itemize all cabling materials, necessary components, and installation costs.
- Price each site separately, and show a per-drop price for each drop type (for example, single data drop, double data drop, wireless access point drop) and a price for each fiber run.
- Itemize materials (cable by category and estimated footage, jacks, faceplates, patch panels, connectors, cable management, fiber enclosures, adapter panels and fiber connectors), labor,

and testing and certification.

- Drops or cable serving locations or devices that are not E-rate eligible, if any are identified in Appendix A, must be priced separately so the Applicant can cost-allocate as required.
- Removal of abandoned cable, electrical work, and building modifications (for example, patching and painting) are not requested unless listed in Appendix A. If listed, price each separately.

Materials and Installation

- Vendors are responsible for determining the appropriate installation-rated materials (e.g., plenum, riser, outdoor-rated, armored) necessary to deliver a code-compliant installation based on field conditions.
- Cabling infrastructure must adhere to the latest revisions of the ANSI/TIA-568 series standards and BICSI Telecommunications Distribution Methods Manual (TDMM) installation best practices, or any state or local requirements that are more stringent.
- Pathways and spaces shall follow ANSI/TIA-569, labeling shall follow ANSI/TIA-606, and bonding and grounding shall follow ANSI/TIA-607, together with the National Electrical Code and applicable state and local codes.
- All cable and components shall be new and of the category specified in Appendix A, installed within the manufacturer’s bend radius, pulling tension and support requirements.
- All pathways, supports, and penetrations necessary to complete a code-compliant installation (e.g., J-hooks, cable tray, firestopping) shall be included in the quoted price.
- The vendor is responsible for daily cleanup and for repairing any damage caused by the installation.

Testing and Documentation

- New cabling shall be properly terminated, tested, labeled, and inspected in accordance with manufacturer specifications, applicable building codes, and ANSI/TIA standards. Certification test results shall be provided to the applicant for all newly installed cable runs.
- Testing shall include permanent link testing appropriate to the cable category installed.
- Fiber shall be tested for insertion loss on every strand, with OTDR testing where specified in Appendix A.
- Existing cable that is re-terminated, relocated, or repurposed shall be tested prior to cutover, with results provided to the applicant.
- Test results shall be delivered in the tester’s native format and as PDF, with as-built drawings showing each drop location and label.

Warranty

Describe the warranty on materials and workmanship. A manufacturer warranty included in the component price, with no separately identifiable cost, is acceptable. Any warranty with its own price must be listed as a separate line item so its eligibility can be reviewed.

Qualifications and Site Requirements

- Describe the installer’s qualifications and any industry or manufacturer certifications held (for example, BICSI).
- Contractor staff must follow the Applicant’s check-in, background check and safety policies

while on site.

- Work must be scheduled with the Applicant and completed within the installation window stated in Contract Terms.

13. Bidder Acceptance of RFP Terms

Submission of a proposal constitutes the Vendor’s agreement to comply with the requirements of this RFP, including the Applicant’s contracting process, order of precedence, and written PO/NTP requirement.

14. Public Entity Requirements

Vendor acknowledges the Applicant is a public entity and may be subject to additional requirements related to board approval, appropriation/budget availability, audit/public records, and limitations on indemnification, venue, governing law, and attorney fees. Vendor agrees to execute Applicant-required clauses as a condition of award. Vendor acknowledges that the Applicant cannot make advance payments, deposits, or prepayments for undelivered goods or services.

15. Contractor Requirements

- Must comply with all E-rate program rules
- Must have experience in K–12 environments
- Must provide three K–12 project references
- Must offer the Applicant its lowest corresponding price for the same or similar goods and services, as required by 47 C.F.R. § 54.511(b)
- Must hold a valid SPIN (FCC Form 498 ID), must not be in Red Light status with the FCC, and must file FCC Form 473 (Service Provider Annual Certification) for FY2027. Failure to meet these requirements may result in disqualification.
- By submitting, the Vendor certifies it did not help prepare this RFP or the Form 470, and has offered no gifts to Applicant staff.

16. E-rate Program Compliance

Bidder acknowledges their equipment and services are compliant with FCC's Order (FCC 19-121) prohibiting the sale, provision, maintenance, modification, or other support of equipment or services provided or manufactured by Huawei, ZTE or any other "covered company" deemed a national security threat, and that no equipment or service proposed is on the FCC Covered List (47 CFR 54.10).

Service providers are reminded of the E-Rate gift restrictions in 47 CFR 54.503(d).

17. Proposal Submission

Deadline: see the Timeline above. Submit to Bids2027@eratecomplete.com

All proposals must include:

- Itemized pricing separating E-rate eligible and ineligible costs

- Full manufacturer part number/SKU
- Completed Pricing Form (posted with this RFP)
- Vendor SPIN (Service Provider Identification Number / Form 498 ID)

18. Evaluation Criteria

Price of eligible goods and services is the primary factor and will be weighted most heavily. Proposals will be scored as follows:

Criterion	Weight	How it is scored
Price of eligible goods/services	35%	Scored proportionally: 5 × (lowest eligible price received ÷ the bidder's eligible price). Eligible items only.
Meets requirements	25%	The bid itself: quotes what the RFP/Form 470 asked for (or a documented equivalent); itemizes eligible vs. ineligible costs; includes part numbers, installation, SPIN and required documents; follows the bid submission instructions.
Understanding of needs	15%	The solution: fits the applicant's environment; compatible with existing equipment and management software; sound design; addresses the timeline / installation window.
Prior experience with vendor	20%	The applicant's past experience with this vendor, plus the references requested in this RFP.
Local presence	5%	Office within 220 miles of the applicant.

All criteria other than price are scored 1–5.

19. Contract Terms

An initial term of April 1, 2027 – September 30, 2028, with one optional voluntary extension

The contract is contingent on:

- E-rate funding approval.
- Final approval of next year's fiscal budget;
- Board approval, if required
- Issuance of PO/Notice to Proceed

The Applicant reserves the right to make reductions or changes based on available budget and/or funding.

20. Order of Precedence

Any contract resulting from this RFP will be governed only by: (1) the Applicant's written award/contract document (or board-approved contract), (2) the Applicant's Purchase Order and written Notice to Proceed, (3) this RFP and any published addenda, and (4) the Vendor's proposal/quote only to the extent expressly incorporated by the Applicant in writing. Vendor boilerplate terms or template agreements are expressly excluded unless the Applicant affirmatively adopts them in writing. Vendor agrees that any proposed contract or terms submitted with the bid are considered non-binding unless affirmatively adopted by the Applicant.

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Appendix A: Cabling Project Details

This appendix is provided to help bidders understand site-specific cabling scope and preferences.

Applicant summary

Item	Detail
Applicant/Billed Entity	Miller School District 29-4 (BEN 134177)
Primary contact	MillerErate@k12.sd.us
Project goal	Add Cat6A AP Drops for new AP's, remove existing drops, Run Fiber to rack
Facility type	The HS, HS, and Elem are all 1 Building
Preferred work window	June 14 - July 31, 2027
Access/security	Fob can be picked up at District office, during summer anytime to work is allowed M-F
Awards (single/multiple)	Single vendor

Sites/areas in scope

Site / Building	Address	Entity Type	Areas / Rooms in Scope	Drop Type	Est. Drops	Est. Total Feet	Cable Category	Notes (incl. any ineligible devices / areas)
Miller School District	623 E 4th St, Miller, SD	School	Will List on Map	Wireless access point	38	6000	Cat6A	

Internal fiber runs

From (building / closet)	To (building / closet)	Same school, same campus?	Fiber Type	Strand Count	Est. Feet	Inside or Outside Plant	Pathway	Notes
HS MDF Room 104	Armory IDF	Yes	Singlemode	6	600	Inside	Vendor Recommend	

Cabling materials requested

Item	Model / SKU	Est. Qty / Feet	Installation Requested	Notes
Copper Data Cabling (Cat6 / Cat6A)	Vendor to specify	38	Yes	Roughly 6000 feet
Fiber Optic Cabling	Single Mode Fiber OS-2 or equivalent	1	Yes	6 strands - 600 feet
Fiber Optic Cabling	Single Mode Patch Cables LC to LC or equivalent	2	No	3 – 6 feet (depending on how far away the fiber patch panel is to the switch)
Fiber Optic Cabling	OM-4 MM patch cables or equivalent	10	No	3 – 6 feet (depending on how far away the fiber patch panel is to the switch)
Patch Panels, Jacks and Patch Cords	Vendor to specify	38	Yes	Orange patch cables and jacks to match the wiring schematic for all Access Points

Applicant-provided technical and installation preferences

Item	Detail
Work type	Mixed – Replace current AP drops, new fiber run
Cabling standard	Mixed – CAT6A for AP's, fiber run
Drop use case	Wireless access points
Pathways	Vendor to recommend
Building modifications	None
Cable jacket/faceplate color	Blue or white – orange patch panel jacks and patch cables
Termination	Jack and patch panel
Racks/cabinets	Use existing
Fiber scope	Not specified
Patch cords	Vendor provides
Floor plans/closet diagrams available	Yes
Closet layouts	Not specified
PoE requirement	Not specified
Alternates requested	Not specified
Testing requirement and report format	Not specified
Labeling convention	Match existing
As-builts required	Not specified
Closeout deliverables	Not specified
Warranty terms	Manufacturer warranty included in price
Ongoing maintenance	Not requested

Logistics

Item	Detail
Ceiling type/access	False celing
Hazards/constraints	N/A
Contractor check-in	District office for keys and check in
Furniture/equipment moves	Leave areas the way you found them
Staging/storage	Tech Room 113
Cleanup expectations	Leave areas the way you found them
Progress updates	Prefer daily updates, I do prefer being on site during completion, keeps me in the know and can answer questions right away

Pricing and Eligibility

- Pricing must be itemized (materials vs. labor).
- All costs must be Category 2 E-rate eligible; ineligible costs must be clearly identified.
- Proposal must include all labor, materials, and components necessary for a complete installation.