# Dedicated Internet Access and Wide Area Network (WAN) Transport Service Specifications

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|---|---|
| **Applicant:** | Shenendehowa Central School District |
| **BEN:** | 124066 |
| **Form 470 #:** | 270003826 |
| **Form 470 Contacts:** | Ray Nardelli - nardraym@shenschools.org<br>Shaneka Bratton - bidsny@e-ratecentral.com |

## Procurement Timeline

| Task | Due By |
|---|---|
| Issue Date | See Corresponding Form 470 Certification Date |
| Deadline to Submit Questions | Monday, November 23, 2026, 2PM Eastern Time |
| Posting of Questions/Clarifications | Wednesday, November 25, 2026 |
| Proposal Submission Deadline | Monday, December 28, 2026, 2PM Eastern Time |

## Communications and Questions

All communication with the Applicant regarding this solicitation **must** be emailed and received by the "Deadline to Submit Questions" noted in the "Procurement Timeline." Questions should be directed to all "Form 470 Contacts" listed above, with the Form 470 Number included in the subject line. Failure to include all "Form 470 Contacts" could result in questions going unanswered. Verbal inquiries are not allowed. Clarifications, when applicable, will be posted as an attachment/addendum to the Form 470. Each Offeror is responsible for downloading the current version of the Form 470 and attachments, including any addenda. Applicant reserves the right to ask vendors clarifying questions during the proposal review process.

Contact initiated by an Offeror concerning this solicitation with any other Applicant representative other than those listed as Form 470 contacts is prohibited. Unauthorized contact may result in the offeror's disqualification from this solicitation.

## Proposal Instructions

Proposals **must** be submitted by the Proposal Submission Deadline in the Procurement Timeline.

Proposals should be emailed to ALL Form 470 Contacts listed above and include the following:

- Applicant name
- Form 470 number
- SPIN (Service Provider Identification Number)

- Clear indication of service offering (Dedicated Internet Access, Dark Fiber, Managed Lit Service, or any combination of these)
- Service provider's terms and conditions
- Itemized Vendor Pricing

Proposals **must** include **all** costs associated with providing service, including but not limited to:

- Monthly recurring charges (MRC) include any recurring charge related to delivering the services, such as monthly charges for Internet access, IP addresses, basic terminating equipment, etc.
- Non-Recurring Charges (NRC) include any one-time fee other than special construction charges. This includes but is not limited to installation charges, connection charges, and/or basic terminating equipment charges.
- Special Construction Charges (SPC) include one-time costs for deploying new fiber or upgrading network facilities for eligible entities. These charges are non-recurring and include the following components: construction of network facilities, design and engineering, and project management. Offerors should provide special construction details sufficient to support E-Rate review, including route feet, cost per foot, and plant mix where applicable.
- Failure to identify the monthly recurring, non-recurring, and special construction charges will result in the disqualification of the proposal. Respondents are encouraged to provide the estimated taxes and surcharges associated with the service. Submissions indicating that there may be additional MRC, NRC, or SPC related to delivering the services **WILL** be disqualified.

Proposals **must** be in response to the specific requirements of this solicitation. Offers including a generic list of services beyond the scope of this solicitation and/or encyclopedic price lists will be disqualified. SPAM and/or robotic responses will not be considered valid responses and will be disqualified from consideration.

Applicant reserves the right to consider its existing service as a standing proposal and evaluate it against the other submitted proposals.

## Service Requirements

The district is seeking proposals for Dedicated Internet Access (DIA) to the Applicant's Internet hub site (A) and Wide Area Network (WAN) Transport services between the hub site and all endpoint (Z) locations listed on the table below. The district currently leases a dark fiber network, with either two or four strands terminating at each location as indicated on the table. All proposed transport solutions must be capable of supporting at least 10 Gbps to each location. Offerors may propose solutions for one or more acceptable modes of transport.

| A LOCATION | ADDRESS |
|---|---|
| **Shenendehowa High School** | 970 Route 146, Clifton Park, NY 12065 |

| Z LOCATIONS | ADDRESS | CURRENT FIBER STRANDS |
|---|---|---|
| **Okte Elementary School** | 1581 Crescent Road, Clifton Park, NY 12065 | 2 |
| **Chango Elementary School** | 100 Chango Drive, Ballston Lake, NY 12019 | 2 |
| **Early Learning Center** | 5 Maxwell Drive, Clifton Park, NY 12065 | 4 |

Offerors may submit proposals for DIA, WAN Transport, or both services. The Applicant will evaluate DIA and WAN Transport independently and will award each service to the most cost-effective response.

If the Offeror's proposed pricing is dependent on being awarded both DIA and WAN Transport, this **must** be explicitly stated in the proposal. Vendors offering pricing that is dependent on winning both services will **ONLY** be awarded a service if they have the highest scoring bid for **BOTH** services.

Vendors offering pricing dependent on winning both services are also encouraged to submit independent pricing for each service type. Submitting independent pricing gives these vendors an opportunity to win one of the services if their bundled pricing does not win both.

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 table above – partial bids **WILL NOT** be considered.

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.

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 wall-mounted CPE and CAT6a handoff, rack mount patch panel, etc.

If special construction is necessary, respondents are required to detail that component.

***Dedicated Internet Access (DIA)***

Applicant **requires** a minimum of 5 Gbps download x 5 Gbps upload fully managed Dedicated Internet Access with Transport service to the Applicant's Internet hub site located at Shenendehowa High School - 970 Route 146, Clifton Park, NY 12065. Service providers are requested to submit pricing for 5 Gbps and 10 Gbps service.

Offerors **should** provide pricing for /24 static IP addresses.

Offerors **should** provide router lease options and pricing if necessary.

DIA proposals are subject to the same bandwidth requirements and disqualification criteria listed in this document.

***WAN Transport Option 1: Leased Dark Fiber***

1) **Leased Dark Fiber**

   Offers will be accepted for the provision of a leased dark fiber network solution which is terminated at both ends. The district currently owns the equipment used to light the fiber; therefore, modulating electronics are not a required component of proposed dark fiber solutions. Proposed solutions must include the lease of single-mode fiber from the A location to each eligible Z location listed in the table above, with at least the number of strands (two strands/one pair or four strands/two pairs) specified for each location in the table above.

   **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.

   a. **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.

2) **Maintenance for Dark Fiber**

   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 the service provider's more comprehensive fiber infrastructure. The respondent will include only the portion of maintenance that is required to support the Applicant

fiber segments versus overall network maintenance. If the fiber serves multiple customers, the maintenance cost should be shared among all the recipients. For leased dark fiber offerings, maintenance costs shall be assumed to be included in the monthly lease fee. Fee structures that separate maintenance costs must explicitly state this and provide itemized costs.

***WAN Transport Option 2: Leased Lit Fiber***

1) **Leased Lit Fiber**

   Proposals will be accepted for leased lit fiber WAN transport services. Proposed services must provide fully managed, symmetrical connections of at least 10 Gbps between the A location and each Z location listed in the table above.

   Proposals that do not provide at least 10 Gbps per circuit will not be considered. If a 10 Gbps service level is not available, vendors can propose their next available service level above 10 Gbps as long as it does not exceed 25 Gbps.

Submissions meeting any of the three (3) numbered criteria **WILL** be disqualified.

1. Solution does **NOT** offer at least the minimum bandwidth.
2. Solution does **NOT** offer bandwidth dedicated to the applicant but instead, the bandwidth is dependent on the number of other customers on the network or some other factor that does not, generally, guarantee the minimum bandwidth as a committed information rate (CIR).
3. Solution includes caps on data usage or slows speeds based on data usage or other factors.

Offerors must accept responsibility for site delivery, construction, permitting, pathway, and right-of-way costs required to deliver service.

## Contract Term and Modifications

Services must be effective as of July 1, 2027.

Service providers submitting proposals for contracted service are requested to provide 36-month pricing. Unless otherwise stated, the customer can voluntarily extend the agreement for two (2) additional twelve (12) month terms.

All contracts should permit bandwidth increases during the term. Any such increases, including those during optional renewal periods, will be treated as modifications to the existing agreement rather than new agreements and, therefore, will **NOT** extend the contract's term.

All contracts should include a provision allowing for early termination of circuits without penalty if a location is closed by the Applicant.

All contracts should include a clause allowing additional sites to be added at the existing MRC for the duration of the agreement, with the Applicant covering any one-time charges related to adding the new

site to the network. Any additional sites added will have the same end date as the main agreement.

No price increases will be permitted during the term of the agreement.

Service providers proposing equipment whose prices may increase depending upon new U.S. government tariffs imposed on imports are encouraged to (a) identify such products in their offers, and (b) propose an acceptable methodology for limiting price adjustments over the life of the contract.

Subject to contract restrictions, services may be reevaluated for cost-effectiveness at any time during the life of the agreement including renewal periods.

## E-Rate Specific Considerations/Information

FCC rules require vendors to offer discounted SPI billing. The applicant **requires** SPI discount method for these services. Vendors that do not offer SPI billing will be disqualified.

Per USAC E-Rate rules, "cost of eligible services" will be the highest valued criterion in the evaluation process; however, other criteria with a lesser value may also be considered.

Service providers proposing a temporary equipment loan for product demonstration and/or evaluation purposes are **required** to clearly state that such loans are of limited duration. Product demos extending beyond thirty (30) days must be explicitly authorized by both parties and provided at a fair market rate.

By submitting a proposal on the requested services herein, the vendor certifies its proposed services and/or products comply with Parts 47 Section 54.9 and 54.10 of the FCC rules which prohibits the sale, provision, maintenance, modification, or other support of equipment or services provided or manufactured by Huawei, ZTE, or any other covered company posing a national security threat to the integrity of communications networks or the communications supply chain. See https://www.usac.org/about/reports-orders/supply-chain/ for more details.

As required by Section 54.500(f) of Part 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations all bids in response to this RFP **must** offer the lowest corresponding price (LCP) which is defined as the lowest price that a service provider charges to nonresidential customers who are similarly situated to a particular E-Rate applicant (school, library, or consortium) for similar services. See https://www.usac.org/E-Rate/service-providers/step-2-responding-to-bids/lowest-corresponding-price/ for more details.

## Additional Considerations/Information

Applicant is subject to General Municipal Law §103 and local procurement restrictions.

The language in this solicitation has been standardized: "must," "shall," "mandatory," and "required" indicate mandatory specifications that the Applicant expects in the proposed solution. Proposals failing to meet these will be disqualified. "Should" and "may" indicate desirable specifications. A mandatory

requirement may be waived if all respondents fail to meet a mandatory requirement.

Applicant reserves the right to waive any irregularities or informalities in the proposals received.

Applicant reserves the right to award all, part or none of the services set forth in this procurement. This procurement does not obligate Applicant until a valid agreement and/or valid Purchase Order is executed.

Applicant may, at its sole discretion, extend the due date for the submission of proposals and any extensions shall be done via an addendum posted in the E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC.)

The vendor submission is subject to open records requests and, as such, the records will be released in accordance with those policies. Vendors are encouraged to mark pages as "Proprietary" or "Confidential" as appropriate, but the entire submission may not be marked as such. Identifying information as "Proprietary" or "Confidential" does not guarantee that the information will not be released but will be considered in determining whether the information is required to be released in accordance with the open records policies. Generally, pricing is not exempt from being publicly released.

By submitting a proposal, the Offeror certifies that no relationship exists between the Offeror and Applicant that would interfere with a fair and open competition or is a conflict of interest.

## Evaluation Criteria

The cost of E-Rate eligible services will carry the greatest weight in the evaluation. Other factors that may be considered include but are not limited to E-Rate ineligible costs, overall/long-term cost to the Applicant, technical merit/capability of the offer, the Applicant's prior experience with the vendor, and/or completeness of the vendor's proposal response. The Applicant reserves the right to weigh these criteria as it deems appropriate, or not at all, however E-Rate eligible services WILL be weighted the heaviest and evaluated. In the event of a tie, the Applicant will award the Offeror with the lower total E-Rate eligible cost over the initial term.