REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
Port Aransas Independent School District
Erate FY 2027

Wireless Access Points and Uninterruptible Power Supplies

Superintendent: Dr. Sharon McKinney
DELIVER SEALED PROPOSALS TO:
Port Aransas ISD
ATTN: Jeff Moss
100 S. Station Street
Port Aransas, TX 78373

DELIVER ELECTRONIC PROPOSALS TO:
jeff@paisd.net

MANDATORY WALKTHROUGH

December 8, 2026

BID DUE DATE:
January 12, 2027 No Later Than 1:30 PM
BID OPENING
January 12, 2027 at 3:30 PM
Port Aransas Administration Building

100 S. Station Street
Port Aransas, TX 78373

1.0 General Information:

The Port Aransas Independent School District is soliciting sealed proposals for wireless access points and UPSs. See Section 8.0 for details. This Request for Proposals (RFP) states the instructions for submitting proposals, the procedure and criteria by which a vendor may be selected, and the contractual terms by which the Port Aransas Independent School District intends to govern the relationship between it and the selected Vendor. It is the intention of the Port Aransas Independent School District to award the contract to the company or companies that appear most advantageous to the District.

Contact Person: Jeff Moss, Technology Director, 361.749.1200.

Proposals are due on January 12, 2027 at 1:30 PM

Proposals may be hand delivered to the District Administrative Offices located at 100 S. Station Street, Port Aransas, TX 78373. Proposal may be mailed to

Port Aransas Independent School District
Attention: Jeff Moss
100 S. Station Street
Port Aransas, TX

Envelope must be clearly labeled with the following information:

Name of Bidder
Address of Bidder
FY 2027 Erate Bid
Bid Due Date

Electronic proposals may be sent to jeff@paisd.net.

Emails must include the following subject line:
FY 2027 Erate

FAXED PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

SPAM AND/OR ROBOTIC RESPONSES WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED VALID BID RESPONSES AND WILL BE DISQUALIFIED FROM CONSIDERATION

Mandatory Walkthrough

All vendors who wish to bid on this project must attend a walkthrough on December 8, 2026 at 10:00 AM. Vendors will meet Jeff Moss at the Port Aransas ISD Administration Office located at 100 S. Station Street, Port Aransas, TX. For questions about the walkthrough please contact Jeff Moss, jeff@paisd.net.

1.1 Communication with the Port Aransas Independent School District: It is the responsibility of the bidder to inquire about any requirements of this RFP that are not understood. Inquiries must be submitted by email to jeff@paisd.net and answers will be posted online at https://tinyurl.com/2r6bsbm7. The deadline for submitting questions is **December 15, 2026**. Q and A document will be posted in the EPC on that same date. If a change or clarification to the RFP is made in a substantial manner, addenda will be posted online. The Port Aransas Independent School District will not be bound by oral responses to inquiries or written responses other than the RFP Q&A Page posted above.

Please direct all inquiries to:
Jeff Moss,
Port Aransas Independent School District
jeff@paisd.net

1.2 Award of Proposal: Port Aransas ISD Board of Trustees reserves the right to award this proposal on an item-by-item basis or a group of items. Port Aransas ISD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, and is not necessarily bound to accept the lowest cost proposal. Port Aransas ISD will conduct a comprehensive, fair and impartial evaluation of all Proposals and will analyze each Proposal to determine overall responsiveness and completeness. The District, in its sole discretion, may deem a Proposal non-responsive if the Proposer fails to comply with the instructions in this RFP or submits an incomplete Proposal. The District may, in its sole discretion, disqualify non-responsive proposals from further evaluation.

1.3 Public Information Act and Confidentiality: All proposals, documentation, and technical materials submitted in response to this RFP become the property of Port Aransas ISD and are subject to the Texas Public Information Act (TPIA), Texas Government Code Chapter 552.

- Pre-Award Confidentiality**:** To the extent permitted by law, proposals will remain confidential during the evaluation process until a contract is awarded or the solicitation is cancelled.
- Proprietary Information**:** Pricing, contract terms, and information required to establish compliance with E-Rate rules become public information once an award is made or upon open record requests after bid evaluation. Bidders claiming confidential, trade secret, or proprietary status on any portion of their proposal must:
    - Clearly mark those specific pages, sections, or trade secrets as "CONFIDENTIAL / PROPRIETARY".
    - Provide a detailed explanation justifying the exemption under Texas Government Code §552.110.

- Texas Attorney General Ruling**:** A blanket marking of the entire proposal as "confidential" or "proprietary" is invalid and will be ignored. If an open records request is received for marked materials, Port Aransas ISD will notify the vendor in accordance with TPIA provisions; however, the vendor is solely responsible for submitting arguments to the Texas Office of the Attorney General to defend its confidential assertion. Port Aransas ISD assumes no liability for the disclosure of unmarked information or disclosures mandated by Texas law.

1.4 Costs of Preparation: Bidder assumes all costs of preparation of the proposal and any presentations necessary to the proposal process.

1.5 Debarment: Submission of a signed proposal in response to this solicitation is certification that the bidder (or any sub-vendor) is not currently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any City, State or Federal department or agency including, but not limited to the FCC and USAC. Submission is also an agreement that Port Aransas ISD will be notified of any change in this status.

1.6 Proposal Understanding: By submitting a proposal, the bidder agrees and assures that the specifications are adequate, and the bidder accepts the terms and conditions herein. Any exceptions should be noted in the bidder's proposal.

1.7 Proposal Validity: Unless otherwise specified, all proposals shall be valid for 180 days after the due date of the proposal.

1.8 Errors: Proposals may be withdrawn or amended by bidders at any time prior to the proposal opening. If a significant mistake has been made by the apparent low bidder, the bidder will be given the option of fulfilling the contract at the proposed price or withdrawing the proposal. If an extension error has been made, the unit price will prevail.

2.0 General Terms and Conditions:

2.1 Contract Documents: If a separate contract is not written, the contract entered into by the parties shall consist of the RFP, the signed proposal submitted by the Vendor, the specifications including all modifications thereof, and a purchase order or letter of agreement requiring signatures of Port Aransas ISD and the Vendor, all of which shall be referred to collectively as the Contract Documents.

2.2 Contract Validity: In the event one or more clauses of the contract are declared invalid, void, unenforceable or illegal, that shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the contract.

2.3 Contract Administration: If the Vendor needs clarification of, or deviation from the terms of the contract, it is the Vendor's responsibility to obtain written clarification or approval from Jeff Moss, Port Aransas Independent School District, 100 S. Station Street, Port Aransas TX 78373 or at jeff@paisd.net.

2.4 Litigation: The Contract and the rights and obligations of the parties hereunder shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas without reference to its conflicts of laws principles. The Vendor agrees that any litigation action or proceeding arising out of this Contract shall be instituted in a state court located in the State of Texas

2.5 Tax Exemption: The Port Aransas Independent School District is a governmental entity and is exempt from the payment of Federal Excise Taxes on articles not for resale, the Federal Transportation Tax on all shipments, and state sales tax. The vendor and sub vendor shall quote and shall be reimbursed less these taxes. Upon application, exemption certificates will be furnished when required.

2.6 Equal Opportunity: In the execution of the contract, the Vendor and all sub vendors agree, consistent with Port Aransas ISD policy, not to discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin or citizenship status, age, disability or veterans status and to provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities upon request.

2.7 Independent Vendor: Whether the Vendor is a corporation, partnership or other legal entity, the Vendor is an independent vendor. The manner in which services are performed shall be controlled by the Vendor, however, the nature of the services and the results to be achieved shall be specified by the Port Aransas Independent School District. The Vendor is not to be deemed an employee or agent of Port Aransas ISD and has no authority to make any binding commitments or obligations on behalf of Port Aransas ISD except as expressly provided herein.

2.8 Indemnification: The Vendor agrees to be responsible for, and to protect, save harmless, and indemnify Port Aransas ISD and its employees from and against all loss, damage, cost and expense (including attorneys fees) suffered or sustained by Port Aransas ISD or for which Port Aransas ISD may

be held or become liable by reason of injury (including death) to persons or property or other causes whatsoever, in connection with the operations of the Vendor or any sub vendor under this agreement.

2.9 Quantities: The quantities shown on this request are based on estimated needs. Port Aransas ISD reserves the right to adjust quantities up or down to meet actual needs.

2.10 Payment: It is the District's desire to use **Service Provider Invoicing (SPI)** for all services and equipment related to this RFP. If a vendor is unable or unwilling to provide Service Provider Invoicing, the vendor must notify the district in their response to this RFP. Payment of the undiscounted portion of the project will be made upon receipt of a correct invoice for goods and/or services that have been delivered, installed and accepted. A vendor may submit an invoice for partial installation. All materials must be installed, inspected and approved by Port Aransas ISD prior to final payment. If materials are damaged during installation, the vendor must replace the product with like product prior to final payment.

2.11 Cancellation: Port Aransas ISD reserves the right to cancel this contract without pecuniary risk or penalty upon written notice of the intent. The District reserves the right to cancel this contract upon written notice of the intent. If at any time the vendor fails to fulfill or abide by the terms, conditions, or specifications of this contract, Port Aransas ISD reserves the right to cancel upon thirty days written notification of the intent.

3.0 Insurance:

3.1 Liability Insurance: Vendor must provide evidence of liability and workers comp insurance with this proposal. Port Aransas ISD retains the right of approval for insurance coverage. Port Aransas ISD shall be named as an Additional Insured on the Commercial General Liability insurance. Certificates of Insurance for all of the above insurance shall be filed with the Port Aransas ISD. Certificates shall be filed prior to the date of performance under this Agreement.

4.0 Evaluation Process:

Port Aransas ISD will evaluate all responsive proposals using the weighted criteria outlined below. In accordance with FCC E-Rate rules, the price of E-Rate eligible goods and services is weighted as the primary factor in the evaluation process.

Purchase price of Erate eligible goods and services: 30%

The reputation of the vendor and of the vendor's goods and services:15%

The quality of the vendor's goods or services: 15%

The extent to which the goods or services meet the District's needs: 15%

The vendor's past relationship with the District: 13%

The impact on the ability of the District to comply with laws relating to historically underutilized businesses: 2%

The total long-term cost to the District to acquire the goods or services: 10%

4.1 Disqualification Criteria

The following criteria will be used by the District to disqualify a bid.

Bids submitted after the due date

Bids submitted via fax

Non-responsive proposals (see 1.2)

Responses that do not include pricing for specific services or equipment requested in this RFP

Bids that do not include site- or project-specific details, and/or are not responsive to the applicant's requests

SPAM bids[1]

Robotic bids

Absence of valid Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN)

Absence of current FCC Form 473, Service Provider Annual Certification (SPAC) on file with USAC/SLD.

FCDC Red-Light Status of Red

5.0 Confidential Information:

Bidders are advised that materials contained in their proposals are subject to the Public Information Act and may be viewed and/or copied by any member of the public, including news agencies and competitors. Port Aransas ISD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals received, or to award a contract on the basis of initial offers received without discussions or clarifications. Therefore, the proposal should contain the vendor's best price and technical response based on the RFP.

6.0 Port Aransas ISD Obligations:

Port Aransas ISD accepts no obligations for costs incurred by vendors responding to this RFP or on being awarded the contract. Port Aransas ISD reserves the right to select a proposal without discussion with the vendors. It is understood that proposals shall become part of Port Aransas ISD's

[1] Emails to the applicant saying that the service provider can provide the general type of service requested and asking for a call-back is not a good faith response to an FCC Form 470 posting and will be considered a SPAM bid

official files. Retention of these proposals does not obligate Port Aransas ISD to any action. Port Aransas ISD reserves the right to reject any and all proposals received.

7.0 Default Conditions:

If the contracted service provider breaches any provision, becomes insolvent, enters voluntary or involuntary bankruptcy or receivership proceedings, or makes an assignment for the benefit of creditors, Port Aransas ISD will have the right (without limiting any other rights or remedies that it may have in the contract or by law) to terminate this contract with five days written notice to the service provider.

Port Aransas ISD will then be relieved of all obligations, except to pay the value of the service provider's prior performance (at not exceeding the contract rate). The service provider will be liable to Port Aransas ISD for all cost exceeding the contract price that Port Aransas ISD incurs in completing or procuring the service as described in this document. Port Aransas ISD's right to acquire strict performance of any obligation in this contract will not be affected by any previous waiver, forbearance or course of dealing.

ERate Contract Terms

The contract may be subject to Port Aransas ISD receiving ERate funding in the form of a funding commitment decision letter in the amount requested. Prices must be held firm for the duration of the ERate 2027 funding year ending June 30, 2028, or until all work associated with the project(s) are complete (including any SLD approved extensions). The work shall be subject to the following conditions:

1. Only applicants holding a valid Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN) are eligible to respond to this RFP. Entities holding "Red-Light Status" with the FCC or are under any state of debarment as stated in the "Debarment" section listed above are not eligible to respond to this RFP and no proposals submitted by such entities will be considered.
2. Port Aransas ISD expects the proposer/Service Provider to make themselves thoroughly familiar with any rules and regulations regarding the ERate program.
3. All contracts entered into as a result of this RFP may be contingent upon the specific funding of the FRN at the percentage rate submitted for.
4. Once a funding commitment decision letter has been issued the maximum percentage Port Aransas ISD will be liable for is the pre-discount amount minus the ERate funded amount.
5. No Category 2 installation work can take place before April 1, 2027.
6. In the event of questions during the ERate audit process, the successful vendor is expected to reply within 3 days to questions associated with their proposal(s).
7. Port Aransas ISD reserves the right to deny any or all proposals associated with this RFP, even after ERate funding approval.

8. Port Aransas ISD reserves the right to fund, or partially fund (proceed with project or purchase) regardless of ERate approval.

8.0 Scope of Work

Wireless Access Points

1. Overview & Baseline Scope

The District is seeking proposals for the purchase, physical installation, and initial configuration of **seventy-six (76) more cloud managed,** enterprise-grade Wi-Fi 7 wireless access points (APs) and associated hardware.

- **Sixty-seven (67) or more Indoor APs** - Reference: Aruba AP-725 or functional equivalent.
- **Nine (9) or more Outdoor APs** - Reference: Aruba AP-765 or functional equivalent.

Bids must include all required mounting hardware, accessories, power options (PoE injectors/brackets if required), manufacturer hardware warranties, and cloud management licensing necessary for complete integration into the District's existing network architecture.

2. Site Walkthrough & Coverage Recommendations

It is the District's belief that 76 access points will provide adequate coverage. However, bidders are encouraged to provide their own quantity and design recommendations based on their specific equipment capabilities.

- **Floor Plans:** Detailed campus floor plans and maps will be distributed during the mandatory bidder walkthrough. .
- **Variances:** Any recommended variance from the baseline count of 76 APs must be explicitly itemized with technical justification (e.g., predictive heatmaps, antenna patterns) in the bid response. .

3. Deliverables & Services Required

The awarded vendor must provide complete turnkey implementation, across the following service areas:

- **Hardware & Accessories:** Supply of all specified APs, mounting brackets (drop-ceiling, hard-ceiling, or outdoor pole/wall mount as applicable), and all necessary internal/external mounting hardware.
- **Licensing:** Bidders must provide pricing for both operational licensing tiers outlined below for a **5-Year** term (if applicable). All proposals must clearly identify E-Rate Category 2 eligibility and comply with USAC cost-allocation guidelines.

- **Option A (Standard Management & Support — 100% E-Rate Eligible):** Quoted using the manufacturer's standard cloud management subscription tier. This option must include core wireless configuration, central monitoring, basic network operational tools, OS firmware entitlements, and 24/7 manufacturer technical support (TAC). Bidders must certify that Option A contains **100% E-Rate Category 2 eligible components**.
- **Option B (Advanced Management & Security Tier — Cost-Allocated):** Quoted using the manufacturer's enhanced software licensing tier. If Option B contains functions deemed ineligible by USAC (such as advanced intrusion prevention/IPS, deep client location analytics, user experience sensors, or third-party IoT application integration), the bidder **must provide an explicit Cost-Allocation matrix**. This matrix must separate the dollar value/percentage of the license attributed to eligible WLAN management/support from the ineligible software functions.
- **Vendor Requirement:** Bidders must explicitly identify and list all USAC-ineligible software features in their response. The District reserves the right to award based on Option A or Option B at its sole discretion based on budget, eligibility, and available funding.

RFP Option	Functional Scope	Typical E-Rate Eligibility	Bidder Requirements
Option A: Standard Tier	Core cloud/controller management, basic health monitoring, OS updates, and TAC support.	**100% Eligible**	Submit full price under E-Rate Category 2.
Option B: Advanced Tier	Option A features **PLUS** enhanced security/IPS, granular location analytics, application visibility, or IoT modules.	**Partially Eligible** *(Requires Cost Allocation)*	Must supply a percentage breakdown showing the eligible WLAN portion vs. ineligible software features.

- **Deployment and Professional Services**
  - **Physical Installation:** Mounting APs, connecting patches to existing structured cabling drop points, and labeling AP assets with MAC addresses/location names.
  - **System Integration:** Adoption into the district's cloud management console, SSIDs/VLAN profile application, 802.1X/RADIUS integration, and RF optimization tuning.
  - **Verification & Acceptance Testing:** Post-deployment signal testing (RSSI check), client onboarding verification, and handover of final "as-built" documentation including AP mapping and asset tag logs.

Uninterruptible Power Supplies

1. Overview & Scope The District is seeking competitive proposals for the purchase, delivery, physical installation, and initial configuration of **eight (8) or more wall cabinet mounted and six (6) or more floor rack mounted Uninterruptible Power Supplies (UPS)**. (Reference model: Tripp Lite SmartPro or functional equivalent.) Bidders must provide per-unit pricing for each defined equipment category below to allow the District to adjust final quantities based on budget and site needs. See RFP Document "MDF IDF Status with Supported Gear" for details regarding MDF and each IDF.

2. Equipment Categories & Sizing Tiers Bidders must quote per-unit pricing for the following categories:

- **Category A (Wall-Mounted Cabinets):** Compact design. System voltage (120V or 208V), circuit amperage, and NEMA receptacle configuration will be assessed and formally determined during the mandatory vendor walkthrough. Bids must include all necessary four-post or two-post rack rails and mounting hardware.
- **Category B (Freestanding Cabinets):** Floor-mounted rack design supporting 120V or 208V input power. Exact input voltage, circuit amperage, NEMA receptacle type (e.g., NEMA 5-15P, L5-30P, L6-30P), and breaker capacity will be assessed and formally determined during the mandatory vendor walkthrough. Bids must include all necessary rack-mounting rails and hardware, and proposed systems must support daisy-chained External Battery Modules (EBMs).
- Final voltage, NEMA plug configurations, and circuit details determined during the mandatory walkthrough will be formally addressed and published in the District's Q&A Document on or before the Q&A deadline.

3. Core Technical Specifications

- **Form Factor:** Main UPS chassis must not exceed 2U in height. Additional rack space is permitted for External Battery Modules (EBMs) required to satisfy runtime specifications.
- **Tiered Runtime Requirements:**
  - **Category A (Wall-Mounted Cabinets)**: The UPS system must deliver a minimum of fifteen (15) minutes of runtime at 80% of the unit's rated Watt capacity (utilizing internal batteries; external modules preferred only if within enclosure weight/depth limits).
  - **Category B (Freestanding Cabinets**): The UPS system must deliver a minimum of thirty (30) minutes of runtime at 80% of the unit's rated Watt capacity (utilizing internal batteries and daisy-chained EBMs as required).

- **Network Management Card (NMC):** Each UPS must include a pre-installed or bundled NMC supporting 10/100/1000 Mbps Ethernet, SNMPv3, HTTPS, SSH, and environmental monitoring sensor ports.
- **Warranty:** Minimum 3-year full coverage warranty on both electronics and batteries.

4. Installation & Services Scope Bids must include comprehensive turnkey implementation:

- Unpacking, physical rack-mounting, and mechanical securing of UPS and battery modules.
- Connecting UPS units to designated utility power sources and neatly dressing output power cabling to protected network hardware (using existing C13/C14 or standard power cords, or vendor-supplied cords where missing)."
- Configuring NMCs with District-provided IP addresses, VLANs, SNMP strings, and administrative credentials.
- Removal, haul-away, and recycling/disposal of existing decommissioned UPS units and batteries.
- Functional testing, power failover validation, and network connectivity verification prior to sign-off.
- Provision of all necessary mounting kits, patch cables, software, and licenses required for immediate operational readiness.

Brands:

Brand names that are included in this proposal request are for descriptive purposes, to indicate the quality, design and utility desired. These specifications are not intended to restrict competition. Brands of equal make or type to those specified are acceptable unless otherwise indicated in this proposal request. Each proposer shall indicate the manufacturer's name and model number of the brands being proposed.

Or Equal:

Whenever any materials, apparatus, equipment or process is indicated or specified by patent or proprietary name and/or manufacturer, the name so indicated shall be deemed and constructed to be followed by the words, “or approved equal or greater”. If an “or equal or greater” is proposed, the proposer will specify what brand, grade, model, etc. of any proposed substitute. The proposer must also provide a specification sheet and picture of the proposed product. The proposer shall clearly state any differences on the proposal sheet, not on an attachment of any kind. Port Aransas ISD shall determine if the substitution is an equal or greater product after reviewing these items.

Substitutions:

Substitutions of brands after the award are not allowed unless prior approval from Port Aransas ISD has been received. Substitutions must be submitted to Port Aransas ISD 30 days prior to substitution. If an item is purchased and later discovered not to meet the original specifications, the vendor shall assume all responsibility and make adjustments as required by the district.

Notice: Lowest Corresponding Price

As required by Section 54.500(f) of Part 47 of the Code of Federal Regulation 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 http://www.usac.org/sl/service-providers/step02/lowest-corresponding-price.aspx for more information on the requirements relating to LCP.

9.0 Port Aransas ISD Responsibilities

Port Aransas ISD will provide access during the process of the installation to allow the vendor and its employees access to the premises at all reasonable hours or at such hours as the school district and vendor may agree.

It is understood that the vendor will not be held accountable for any delays caused/permitted Port Aransas ISD.

If the purchase is being made on an E-rate funded equipment or service and Port Aransas ISD does not receive the full amount of requested E-rate funding, the applicant has the discretion to nullify and cancel the contract.

10.0 Vendor's Responsibilities

The vendor must provide all supervision, labor construction tools, equipment, hardware, wiring materials as specified, transportation, construction, unloading, inspecting, and inventory. Whenever in the RFP the terms "provide," "furnish," "supply," or "install," etc. can be interpreted as requiring the vendor both to furnish and/or install materials, unless specifically notified that provisioning/installation of the materials will be handled by the School District, such tasks will be performed by the vendor.

The vendor will;

- Provide for the installation of all conduits and sleeves through firewalls as required meeting codes,
- Install the wire, cable, and any associated hardware in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications,
- Conduct tests and inspections in the presence of the School District personnel after installation has been completed in order that the School District may be assured that the requirement for the installations are met
- Promptly correct all defects for which the vendor is responsible
- Coordinate all work with the School District's contact. This contact will be designated at a future date, before the commencement of the installation.

Upon completion of the work each day, the vendor must remove all tools, equipment, rubbish and debris from the premises and must leave the premises clean and neat. Vendors may use subcontractors to perform work. However, all responsibilities rest with the vendor. The vendor will provide the School District with complete detailed test results as outlined in this RFP. The test results must be delivered to the School District prior to payment. The vendor shall describe and provide a written document of the appropriate product and/or cable plant warranty periods and conditions. Access to buildings with children will occur with proper notification to Jeff Moss.

Required Background Checks, Fingerprinting, and Safety Certifications

In accordance with Texas Education Code (TEC) §22.0834 and §22.08341, any vendor, contractor, or subcontractor (and their respective employees) who will perform continuing duties related to the contracted services and will have potential or actual direct contact with students must undergo a national fingerprint-based criminal history review before commencing work on Port Aransas ISD property.

- DPS FACT Clearinghouse & FBI Fingerprinting: All covered personnel must be fingerprinted through the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Fingerprint Applicant Services of Texas (FAST) system or the Fingerprint Application Clearinghouse of Texas (FACT). Standard commercial or third-party background checks do not substitute for FBI/DPS fingerprint clearance.
- Disqualifying Convictions: In accordance with TEC §22.085, no employee, subcontractor, or agent of the vendor who has been convicted of a Title 5 felony offense, an offense requiring sex offender registration, or an equivalent offense under federal or state law involving a minor or student, shall be permitted on school property.
- TEA "Do Not Hire" Registry Check: Prior to assigning any personnel to Port Aransas ISD, the vendor must certify that they have checked the Texas Education Agency (TEA) "Do Not Hire" Registry and confirmed that no assigned individual is listed as ineligible for employment in Texas public schools.
- Vendor Certification & Cost: The awarded vendor assumes full responsibility for all costs associated with fingerprinting and criminal history checks. The vendor must provide a signed certification to Port Aransas ISD confirming that all personnel deployed on-site have cleared all statutory background requirements prior to their arrival.
- Identification Badges & On-Site Protocol: All vendor and subcontractor personnel must visibly display district-issued or vendor-issued photo identification badges at all times while on Port Aransas ISD property. Vendors must strictly enforce a policy prohibiting personnel from interacting with students or entering unauthorized instructional areas.
- Right to Refuse Access: Port Aransas ISD reserves the right to deny access to, or require the immediate removal of, any vendor employee or subcontractor deemed unsuitable, non-compliant, or who poses a potential safety risk to students or staff. Non-compliance with these safety provisions constitutes a material breach and grounds for immediate contract termination.