E-RATE Funding Year 2027 (7/1/2027 – 6/30/2028)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

470 No. 270004456

NORTHWEST SUBURBAN SPEC ED ORG

799 W KENSINGTON RD

MOUNT PROSPECT, IL, 60056-1111

Internet Access/Data Transmission

NORTHWEST SUBURBAN SPEC ED ORG currently has:

- 10 Gbps Internet Access to 799 W KENSINGTON RD, MOUNT PROSPECT, IL, 60056-1111
- A 5 Gbps Port at 799 W KENSINGTON RD, MOUNT PROSPECT, IL, 60056-1111
- 2 Gbps connections from the above address to:
    - 520 S Plum Grove Rd, Palatine, IL 60067-6933
    - 201 S Evanston Ave, Arlington Heights, IL 60004
    - 1101 E Miner St, Arlington Hts, IL 60004-6337
    - 7n749 Route 59, Bartlett, IL 60103-1630

It is seeking quotes for each of the following:

- 10 Gbps Internet Access to 799 W KENSINGTON RD, MOUNT PROSPECT, IL, 60056-1111
- 5 and 10 Gbps Port at 799 W KENSINGTON RD, MOUNT PROSPECT, IL, 60056-1111
- 2, 5, and 10 Gbps connections from the above address to each:
    - 520 S Plum Grove Rd, Palatine, IL 60067-6933
    - 201 S Evanston Ave, Arlington Heights, IL 60004
    - 1101 E Miner St, Arlington Heights, IL 60004-6337
    - 7n749 Route 59, Bartlett, IL 60103-1630

Please quote 36-Month Term pricing with automatic renewals for successive periods of one (1) month each, not to exceed twelve (12) months. The Term is to begin 7/1/2027 and end 6/30/2030.

Service Provider must include an option to continue service month to month after expiration of the contract to ensure the Organization is not without connectivity services while transitioning to another provider.

All Connectivity quotes must clearly indicate:

- the type of connectivity (e.g., fiber, coaxial, microwave, etc.);
- whether an E-Rate C1 eligible bundled basic firewall is provided;
- whether an E-Rate C1 eligible domain name service is provided;
- whether an E-Rate C1 eligible dynamic host configuration is provided;
- the Scope of Work for any installation services; and

- whether Children's Internet Protection Act compliance is provided and if so, how is it achieved.

PROCEDURES and BIDDING REQUIREMENTS:

All quotes must clearly delineate ELIGIBLE and INELIGIBLE products/services and their associated costs.

To ensure compliance with E-Rate Program rules of fair and open bidding, all correspondence must be by email to the Technical Contact, Eric Murray at emurray@nsseo.org with copies to the consultants, Gerry Zeller, at gzeller@zellerandassociates.com and Brian Kelly at bkelly@zellerandassociates.com.

Quotes should be delivered via e-mail or e-mail with attachment with the Subject Line: "Response to E-Rate Request for Quotes" to the Technical Contact, Eric Murray, at emurray@nsseo.org with a copy to Gerry Zeller, gzeller@zellerandassociates.com and to Brian Kelly, bkelly@zellerandassociates.com.

Quotes should be received no later than 12:00 pm USA Central Time on the Form 470's Allowable Contract Date.

All quotes must be submitted in a form and manner so as to comply with all applicable laws of the state of Illinois.

If applicable, vendor is to specify the manufacturer's warranty provided as an integral part of an eligible component without separately identifiable cost.

The awarded Service Provider will deliver all equipment to the Applicant's designated secured location.

The Service Provider acknowledges that all pricing and technology infrastructure information in its contract shall be considered as public and non-confidential pursuant to CFR Part 54 Section 504 (2)(i)(ii).

By submitting a bid on the requested products and services herein, the vendor certifies that its proposed prices are consistent with the FCC's Lowest Corresponding Price ("LCP") requirements (Rule (see 47 CFR Part 54 Section 54.500(f)).

By submitting a bid on the requested services herein, the vendor certifies that its equipment and services are compliant with the FCC's Orders. FCC 19-121, and the Code of Federal Regulations, 47 CFR 54.9 which prohibits the use of universal service support to obtain, maintain, improve, modify, or otherwise support any equipment or services produced or provided by any company posing a national security threat to the integrity of communications networks or the communications supply chain. This includes equipment or services provided or manufactured by Huawei Technologies, ZTE Corporation, Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, Dahua Technology Company, AO Kaspersky Lab, China Mobile International USA Inc, China Telecom (Americas) Corp., Pacific Networks Corp., ComNet (USA)LLC, and China Unicom (Americas) Operations Limited or any other "covered company" deemed a national security threat.

The preparation and submission of a quote will be by, and at the expense of, the bidder.

The applicant reserves the right to reject any or all quotes, to make an award other than to the lowest quote, to make an award to a quote for only a portion of goods described in its quote, to make an award for all or some of the applicant's sites or reject a quote which is in any way incomplete or irregular.

The awarding of a submitted quote may be contingent upon the approval of funding from the Schools and Libraries Division of the Universal Service Program.

Quotes must include a written statement that "the quote is firm and will not be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days" after the Schools and Libraries Division issues its Funding Commitment Decision Letter to the applicant's appropriate Form 471 for Funding Year 2027.

Consultant is not involved in the competitive bidding decision making process.

Bidders must provide their service provider's 498 ID# and confirm that they have filed a current FCC Form 473 SPAC for FY2027.

SPAM and/or robotic responses will not be considered valid bid responses. Proposals that do not specifically include site or project-specific details, and/or are not responsive to the goods and/or services requested herein, are generic in nature, or otherwise do not meet the requirements contained in this Form 470 will be considered non-responsive and will be disqualified from consideration.

EVALUTION

Category One

Criteria	% Weight
E-rate eligible recurring and one-time circuit costs	*30*
Prior experience with vendor	25
Proposed contract terms and conditions	15
Ability to support requirements of this RFP	10
Service reliability and dedicated infrastructure	10
E-rate ineligible recurring or one-time costs	5
Complete bid submission[2]	5