IMPACT Institute
Request for Proposals – Internal Connections
470 #270004469

November 12, 2026

IMPACT Institute (the "Applicant") is seeking proposals for a project to supply and install network equipment at its eligible locations. Installation and Configuration Labor should be listed separately from the hardware cost and be completely optional, allowing the school to not proceed with the installation and configuration piece of the bid if they choose. Bidders are advised that this project will be contingent upon the successful obtaining of Category 2 E-Rate funding, and the contract agreement between the district and the successful bidder must recognize that contingency.

The Applicant seeks an agreement that allows it to work with the selected vendor to adjust quantities and/or scale back or cancel the project entirely as needed based upon funding availability and/or the best interests of the Applicant.

Project Scope

The Applicant seeks eligible equipment as outlined in Appendix A. Equipment shall be new, factory-sealed equipment currently available from the manufacturer; the Applicant will not accept proposals of used, remanufactured, refurbished, "B stock," returns, open-box, discontinued, "gray market," or equipment in any other condition other than new and factory-sealed with all original manufacturer warranties.

Installation will be in place of existing equipment and the requested equipment will be integrated into the existing environment. Each bid should include all labor necessary for staging, installation, testing, and documentation of equipment. Equipment staging will consist of (but not be limited to) ensuring firmware version consistency, configuration loading, and hardware preparation for mounting. Software and firmware version for components will be agreed upon at time of deployment, and configurations will be coordinated with the Applicant's staff. Installation by the selected vendor shall include the removal of the existing equipment and placement of the new equipment. Equipment testing should verify access to internal resources and the Internet. Documentation should include configuration and summary reports of installations. Installation can be performed from a ladder in most cases; for a small number of APs, a lift will be required.

Proposals should include pricing for 16 +/- hours of onsite professional training that is manufacturer-specific basic instruction on the use of eligible equipment. The training should be directly associated with equipment installation, and part of the contract or agreement for the equipment being proposed.

Questions

Any questions related to the technical aspects of this document should be directed to Josh Felger at jfelger@impactinstitute.net with a copy to Kristie.martin@adtecerate.com, no later than 1:00 PM EST on November 30, 2026, and any requested site visits should be completed by that date. Answers to any written questions or any additional information, revisions, or clarifications to the RFP will be provided in the form of an addendum to be posted with the FCC Form 470 on the Universal Service (E-Rate) website. It is the sole responsibility of the Service Provider to check for any addenda that may be issued.

Response Format

Responses should include the following, if applicable:

- Applicable items should include all related software and hardware components that enable the functionality of the equipment (including any necessary mounting brackets, software licenses, multi-year licenses, and basic maintenance).
- If applicable, vendor is to specify all fees, shipping charges, taxes, surcharges and contingency fees for eligible equipment.
- If applicable, vendor is to specify the manufacturer's warranty provided as an integral part of an eligible component without separately identifiable cost.
- Any ongoing subscription pricing must be listed separately.

Your response **must** include the following information:

1. Line-item pricing for each item listed in Appendix A. Any discounting applied to your proposal must be reflected at the line-item level.
2. In the case of proposed equivalent products, a thorough technical description of how each product from the manufacturer being bid meets each of the required functionalities of the product listed herein.
3. Information outlining your company's certifications and connections regarding the manufacturer's equipment being bid, and length of time your company has provided equipment from the manufacturer being bid.
4. Two (2) reference sites where your company has performed a similar installation of the equipment being bid, including business name, contact name and contact information. It is preferable that at least one reference should be for a school corporation or library system within 90 miles of the Applicant.
5. Your E-Rate SPIN Number. (You must have a current SPAC form on file with USAC.)
6. A ready-to-execute contract which includes the proposal requirements and the E-Rate contingencies outlined herein.

The Applicant's review of information will be primarily focused on the substance of the details provided in response to the requirements herein including but not limited to technical details, pricing and terms, experience, references, and adherence to the response format provided. Per E-rate rules, the cost of eligible goods and services will be the most heavily weighted evaluation factor.

Proposals must be prepared with specificity with regard to the equipment and/or services listed herein. Bids merely listing a general menu of equipment and/or services available from a vendor, bids appearing to be automatically generated without specificity in relation to the requirements of this RFP, and bids missing substantial information but inviting the applicant to contact the bidder to refine the bid and/or discuss specifics will not be considered valid bid responses and will be disqualified from consideration. This includes any SPAM and/or robotic responses. For more information, please review the USAC E-Rate News Brief of February 15, 2024.

Proposal Delivery

The Applicant reserves the right to reject each and every bid, and to waive informalities, irregularities, and errors in the bidding to the extent permitted by law. This includes the right to extend the date and time for receipt of bids. In the event that a responsible bid is not received or if it is determined that the low bid received is too high, the bid received will be rejected and the project will be cancelled or re-bid.

Bids should be e-mailed to the office of Josh Felger at jfelger@impactinstitute.net with a copy to Kristie.martin@adtecerate.com , by 1:00 PM EST on January 4, 2027.

APPENDIX A

Below is a reference of the type of equipment and capacities (or their equivalent) to be supplied. Bidders should price separately and clearly indicate any ineligible costs for all services and equipment associated with this RFP. If a product includes mixed functionality, please indicate the allocation for each function (i.e. "60% Internal Connections and 40% BMIC"). For any part numbers that have been updated or replaced by the manufacturer, bidders should offer the most similar current part. Installation and Configuration Labor should be listed separately from the hardware cost and be completely optional, allowing the school to not proceed with the installation and configuration piece of the bid if they choose.

Preferred System Integration & Architectural Standards
To ensure compatibility with the district's upcoming network management roadmap, any proposed solution must adhere to the following strict technical parameters.

- **Centralized, License-Free Management:** The entire proposed ecosystem (Firewall, Core/Access Switches, Access Points, and Power Delivery Units) must natively integrate into a single, centralized management platform. This platform must be capable of being self-hosted as a virtual machine or container within the district's on-premises Proxmox VE cluster.
- **Zero-Cost Vendor Subscriptions:** To protect the district's operational budget, the management platform and all associated hardware must feature **$0 recurring mandatory manufacturer software licensing, cloud subscription, or seat-based maintenance fees** for core configuration, firmware updates, or monitoring.
- **Proprietary Feature Parity:** Proposed alternatives must match the specific physical and logical features critical to our deployment design, including:
    - Visual on-device port illumination technology (equivalent to Etherlighting™) for rapid physical patching diagnostics.
    - Native multi-chassis link aggregation (MC-LAG) and stateful high-availability synchronization for core routing/switching layers.
    - Unified ecosystem power management thereby allowing the centralized controller to monitor, cycle, and manage individual outlets on the proposed UPS units.

Qty	Manu	Part Number	Description
2 +/-	Ubiquiti	ECS-Aggregation	1.8 Tbps high-density 100G/25G Layer 3 Etherlighting™ aggregation switch with MC-LAG support for high availability system design
2 +/-	Ubiquiti	EFG	25G Cloud Gateway Firewall with 500+ UniFi device / 5,000+ client support, 12.5 Gbps IPS routing, and complete high availability
9 +/-	Ubiquiti	ECS-48S-PoE	Enterprise-grade 48-port, Layer 3 Etherlighting™ PoE+++ switch with Stacking support and high-capacity 10 GbE RJ45 and 25G SFP28 connections for high availability system design
6 +/-	Ubiquiti	USW-Pro-Max-48-PoE	48-port, Layer 3 Etherlighting™ switch with 2.5 GbE and PoE++ output
28 +/-	Ubiquiti	U7-Pro-XG	Ceiling-mounted 6-stream WiFi 7 AP with 10/5/2.5/1 GbE support
4 +/-	Ubiquiti	UPS-2U-Pro	UniFi-managed 1.92kVA rackmount UPS