

BROADWATER ACADEMY

BEN 25345

Fund Year 2022
Form 470 #220003914

SERVICE SPECIFICATIONS – INTERNET ACCESS

Timeline

Task	Due Date
Form 470 posted in EPC	November 12, 2021
Deadline for vendors to submit questions	November 30, 2021, 11:00AM ET
Answers to questions posted in EPC	December 2, 2021
Deadline for vendors to submit proposals	January 6, 2022, 11:00AM ET

Service Request

Broadwater Academy (Applicant) is requesting proposals for Internet access service to be delivered to 3500 Broadwater Road, Exmore, VA 23350 effective March 1, 2023.

Service Requirements

Applicant currently utilizes one 100 Mbps Dedicated Internet connection which is under contract through February 28, 2023. Applicant requests pricing for a fully-managed dedicated connection, symmetrical bandwidth (upload and download) of minimum 100 Mbps with Service Level Agreement (SLA) guarantees to the specified site upon completion of this contract. Applicant prefers leased lit fiber or a service that is equivalent in quality and reliability and reserves the right to evaluate offers to determine their equivalence to leased lit fiber.

No increased pricing will be allowed during the term of the quoted special construction, NRC, and MRC rate. If an increase in bandwidth is requested during the contract period, the contract does not renew. As bandwidth needs are steadily rising, respondents are free to price higher tiers of bandwidth than what is requested to demonstrate their future scalability. Service providers are requested to submit offers for incremental bandwidths from 100 Mbps up to 1 Gbps, in 100 Mbps increments. Offers for month-to-month or contracted service will be considered.

All offerors must also provide, at minimum, a block of 5 consecutive IP addresses for the applicant.

Service providers must be able to provide service effective March 1, 2023 with a proposed test date set for February 15, 2023.

Service providers submitting proposals for contracted service are requested to provide offers for an initial contract term dated March 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026 (40-months) to align with future E-rate funding years.

Should service activation be delayed, the initial contract term end date shall not extend beyond June 30, 2026. All contracts must allow for bandwidth increases up to 1 Gbps throughout the term of the contract. Contracts offers should include **2 optional one-year renewals** when agreed to in writing by both parties. All offers must include all costs associated with delivering the service to the applicant, including but not limited to installation charges, special construction costs, leased managed router (if available), plus any other related charges.

Questions

Questions which may arise as a result of this solicitation should be addressed to Melissa Zaruba, E-rate Consultant, at mzaruba@e-ratecentral.com and Reid Hall, Director of Technology, at rhall@broadwateracademy.org. Inquiries must be received no later than 11:00AM, November 30, 2021. Contact initiated by an Offeror concerning this solicitation with any other applicant representative, not expressly authorized elsewhere in this document, is prohibited. Any such unauthorized contact may result in disqualification of the Offeror from this transaction.

Proposal Instructions

Proposals must be submitted by the deadline for guaranteed inclusion in the evaluation.

Proposals should be emailed to ALL the following recipients:

- mzaruba@e-ratecentral.com
- rhall@broadwateracademy.org

Proposal submissions should cite the associated Form 470 number and applicant name.

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

- monthly service fees
- managed router/modem lease fees (if required for service to function)
- one-time construction, installation, and/or connection charges
- estimated taxes, fees, and/or surcharges

Proposals that do not provide definitive costs for the services requested (including recurring and/or one-time charges) will be considered non-responsive and will not be included in the evaluation.

Proposals that include generic/encyclopedic price lists will be considered non-responsive and will not be included in the evaluation.

Proposals requiring applicant-owned hardware in order to function must provide specifications and, if available, an estimated cost for necessary hardware.

Proposals should include the service provider's terms and conditions.

Other

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.

Respondents shall document the ability to participate in the E-Rate program by supplying their current SPIN (Service Provider Identification Number) as part of their proposal.

Proposals for multi-year contracts and contracts with optional renewals will be considered but are not required.

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

Service providers proposing equipment whose prices may increase depending upon new U.S. government tariffs imposed on foreign 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.

Service providers proposing to temporarily loan equipment 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 that its equipment and services are compliant with the FCC's recent 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 posing a national security threat to the integrity of communications networks or the communications supply chain.

As required by E-rate rules, all proposals in response to this Form 470 must offer the Lowest Corresponding Price (LCP). See <https://www.usac.org/e-rate/service-providers/step-2-responding-to-bids/lowest-corresponding-price/>.