

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - FY24 E-Rate

Category 1 - Basic Internet Access

Bow School District
55 Falcon Way
Bow, New Hampshire 03304

Contact:
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Anticipated Date	Activity
10/20/2023	FCC Form 470 publication date
11/18/2023	Replies Due/ Opening
12/5/2023	Award
7/1/2024	Service Start Date

Summary

In anticipation of eligibility for Category 1 E-Rate funding, the Bow School District requests proposals for Internet Access.

About the District

Bow School District has three (3) schools which are eligible for E-Rate funding. Current enrollment in the district is approximately 1,680 students. Presently, Internet access is delivered to the High School, where it is aggregated and redistributed to all three schools via 10Gb fiber.

Components

The Bow School District is seeking a 3 year agreement for internet services, for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027 with options to renew up to two additional years. Please submit a pricing schedule supporting bandwidths up to 2 Gbps.

Example:

- 1000 Mbps Dedicated Internet
- 1200 Mbps Dedicated Internet
- 1400 Mbps Dedicated Internet
- etc.

General Requirements:

1. Fully Managed Direct Internet services delivered by any means necessary at 55 Falcon Way; Bow, NH
2. Minimum of 1000 Mbps bi-directional bandwidth with incremental pricing options up to 2 Gbps speeds
3. Preference may be given to vendors that offer the option of contract amendments to increase speeds up to 5 Gbps within the contract period.
4. Preference may be given to vendors that offer two one-year voluntary extensions to the contract period.
5. Vendors will state in writing how they will assure effective throughput at subscribed bandwidth.
6. Technical support shall be available by person-to-person contact Monday through Friday during the hours of 5:00 AM through 6:00 P.M. Proposal must state in writing how this service is provided.
7. Vendor agrees to bill E-Rate discounts on bills once they receive a Form 486 Notification Letter from USAC. If not, no late charges may be billed.
8. All terms and conditions associated with acceptance of the bid should be included with the bid. Changing the terms and conditions after acceptance of the winning bid may be grounds for bid dismissal.
9. It is expected that all costs be included in the bid and any ineligible costs be allocated out as separate line items within the bid. Pricing must be all inclusive for a turn-key fully managed internet solution, including all networking equipment required for services. Bids that impose additional costs after bid submission may be grounds for bid dismissal.
10. Vendors must have a valid SPIN at the closing of the competitive bidding period.

Other Conditions

All questions must be submitted by email, to erate2024@bownet.org

All proposals must be submitted electronically, by email, in PDF format.

Selection will be made by a committee consisting of the Director and Assistant Director of IT and Business Administrator.

Service providers must have all mandatory USAC, FCC, and E-Rate forms filed and up to date on time and on a yearly basis as required.

ALL Providers must file a yearly SPAC form and must be able to produce their certified SPAC Form with USAC.

Include your Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN) on the cover sheet of the response. This RFP is intended to cover E-Rate-funded Category 1 projects only. Should the district not be approved for Category 1 E-Rate funding, vendor selection shall be nullified.

The Bow School District reserves the right to postpone or cancel this RFP or reject any and all proposals for any reason. Proposers should submit their best proposals initially, since negotiations will not take place.

The Bow School District is not liable for any costs incurred by proposers in the preparation of proposals or for any work performed in connection therein. A proposer may submit a modified proposal to replace all or any portion of a proposal submitted up until the proposal submission deadline. The school district will only consider the latest version of the proposal. Late proposals and late modifications will not be considered for evaluation. Proposers may withdraw their proposals from consideration at any time before the proposal deadline. To withdraw a proposal, the proposer must provide the Bow School District with written notification. Following the award of this contract to the successful bidder, the Bow School district may, in its sole discretion, negotiate various changes in the scope of the project including changes in materials or methods used in the execution of the job. These changes shall not require the rebidding of the project.

All Requests for Proposals submission materials become the property of the Bow School District.

Criteria:

(30%) Total Price, clarity and cost effectiveness of solution

(25%) Technical suitability of the product to the needs of the district

(20%) Quality and completeness of the proposal

(25%) Reputation of the firm amongst New Hampshire school districts, and/or district's prior experience with the firm