

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP # 290-1617-Cabling&Infrastructure

GRAINGER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
(K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT)

CONTRACT(S) FOR
Network Cabling & Infrastructure

James Atkins
Director of Technology

Request for Proposal Specifications

Purpose and Scope

ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS: Grainger County Schools will not accept alternate proposals (those not equal to specifications) unless authorized by the Request for Proposal.

AWARD: Award will be made to the most responsive, responsible proposer(s) meeting all specifications and which present the product that is in the best interest of Grainger County Schools. The evaluation criteria is listed herein.

COOPERATIVE PURCHASING: Proposers must indicate whether or not it is permissible for other School Districts in Tennessee to purchase these items or services at the same price. Freight charges can be adjusted to reflect differences in delivery cost. Indicate any additional delivery charges or minimum orders for purchases by other entities.

DECLARATIVE STATEMENT: Any statement or words (i.e.: must, shall, will, etc) are declarative statements and the vendor must comply with the condition. Failure to comply with any such condition may result in the proposal being non-responsive and disqualified.

NEW MATERIAL: Unless specified otherwise in the proposal package, the vendor ***must*** provide new supplies. New, as used in this clause, means previously unused materials. Material includes but is not limited to, raw material, parts, items, components, and end products. Vendor submission of other than new materials may be cause for the rejection of their proposal. ***Delivery of refurbished equipment after this proposal is awarded will be considered a breach of contract.***

REMANUFACTURED EQUIPMENT: Vendors are advised that remanufactured or refurbished equipment will ***not*** be accepted for this proposal. ***Delivery of refurbished equipment after this proposal is awarded will be considered a breach of contract.***

INTENT: The intent of this Request for Proposal is to obtain a vendor(s) to provide Network Cabling and other associated infrastructure and services. The manufacturer(s) proposed must have designed and manufactured the quoted equipment for a minimum of five years. No 3rd party or rebranded products will be accepted. All products must be OEM (original equipment manufacturer). All products proposed must be compatible with the current installed base of electronics used and serviced by Grainger County Schools (Extreme Networks switching, wireless and network management). While this Request for Proposal is intended to directly support purchases proposed through the E-rate program, the resulting contract will be available to all departments and campuses.

Award will be based on best value. Best value means more than low cost. It includes the initial cost, product quality, vendor support, consideration of installed base, warranty, and other factors detailed herein. Total cost of ownership will be carefully considered.

ADDITION OR DELETION OF GOODS OR SERVICES: Grainger County Schools reserves the right to add or delete goods or services as the need arises. If services are to be added, Grainger County Schools and the vendor will arrive at mutually agreed pricing.

AWARD STATUS: If awarded, Grainger County Schools intends to execute a contract for a period of one-year running from July 1, 2016 thru June 30, 2017. Upon the mutual agreement of the vendor and Grainger County Schools, the award may be extended for four (4) additional years, one (1) year at a time. This may result in a total of five (5) years concluding on June 30, 2021. Some schools may be awarded without others, depending on available funds. In other words, it is not implied that all schools will be included in a contract even though the RFP includes all schools.

PROPOSALS REQUESTED ON BRANDS OR EQUAL: Unit price proposals are requested on products that equal or exceed the quality and performance of the brand listed. References to brand names, trade names, model numbers or other descriptions peculiar to specific brand products are made to establish a required level of quality and functional capabilities, and are not intended to exclude other products of that level.

Comparable products of other manufacturers will be considered if proof of comparability is contained in their proposal. ***Vendors, if proposing other than specified, are to clearly identify the manufacturer and the model number and must provide written, complete justification as to how the product complies with all specifications highlighted within this RFP as well as the complete list of specifications related to the requested products.*** It shall be the responsibility of the proposers to furnish descriptive literature with their proposal such that specifications, catalog pages, brochures or other data as will provide an adequate basis for verifying the quality and functional capabilities of the product offered. Failure to provide this data will be considered valid justification for rejection of the proposal.

COMPLIANCE WITH RFP: All proposals must be in strict compliance with this Request for Proposal. Failure to comply with ***all*** provisions of the RFP may result in disqualification.

EVALUATION CRITERIA: Proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria:

Itemized Product Pricing	30 Points
Discount Pricing Structure	15 Points
E-rate Experience and Compliance	15 Points
K-12 Experience and Capacity	15 Points
Basic Maintenance Cost & Proposal	15 Points
References	10 Points

Grainger County Schools will also consider whether the proposal demonstrates that the proposer can effectively meet the following criteria:

- Does the proposer have the ability, capacity, skill, and financial resources to provide the specified services?
- Does the proposer have the ability to take upon itself the responsibilities set forth in the RFP (and the resultant contract) and produce the required outcomes in a timely manner?
- Does the proposer have the character, integrity, reputation, judgment, expertise, and efficiency required by the contract?

QUANTITIES: Grainger County Schools does not guarantee any quantities of items to be purchased. Purchase orders will be issued on an as needed basis. Much of the funding used for installation is sought through E-Rate funding. Consequently, the utilization of a particular contract may vary significantly from fiscal year to fiscal year. The successful vendor is not guaranteed a specific amount of work during the contract period.

E-RATE PROGRAM COMPLIANCE

In accordance with Federal E-rate guidance, all vendors who provide equipment, materials, or services for which E-rate funding is sought must meet / understand the program rules and regulations.

COMPLIANCE WITH STATE AND LOCAL PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS: In order to participate in the E-rate Program, the Service Provider must comply with all state and local procurement rules and regulations. If the local jurisdiction has restrictions on who can respond to their proposals, for example, the Service Provider must meet those restrictions.

The proposer must agree to comply with all state and local procurement rules and regulations.

FAMILIARITY WITH E-RATE PROGRAM: The Service Providers who participate in the E-rate Program also have a responsibility to educate themselves about the Service Provider program requirements and timelines.

The proposer must indicate that they are familiar with the E-Rate Program and the responsibilities of E-rate Service Providers.

REGISTRATION WITH USAC – FORM 498: Form 498 is a registration form. It is the method by which USAC collects information about the Service Provider. It is the basis upon which a Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN) is issued. The Form is the mechanism by which the Service Provider indicates their legal structure, principal communications business, their general contact, their Schools and Libraries contact and their remittance information.

The proposer must have successfully filed Form 498.

SERVICE PROVIDER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: USAC will assign a Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN) to each company that registers by filing a Form 498. The SPIN is used by USAC as a means of identification and tracking records to your company. Applicants use the SPIN as a means of identifying your company as providing the E-rate eligible services on which they seek discounts.

The proposer must have been issued and provide a Service Provider Identification Number issued by USAC and evidence of current Service Provider Annual Certification [SPAC]. The proposer must provide their SPIN as part of the proposal response.

SLD CONTACT INFORMATION: The Form 498 has space for providing a separate contact for the Schools and Libraries Program. This contact information is used for the person who will

receive correspondence and answer questions regarding the E-rate Program.

The proposer must have filed its contact information with the Schools and Libraries Program and include this information as part of the proposal response.

INELIGIBLE SERVICES: Some items and services may not be eligible for funding through the E-rate program.

Proposer must specify any and all items that are ineligible for E-Rate funding; such items shall generally be cost-allocated and/or invoiced separately, in a manner compliant with the rules of the E-Rate program. No more than 20% of the cost of any project pursuant to this RFP shall be ineligible for E-Rate discounts.

E-RATE DISCOUNTS AND INVOICING: FCC rules require USAC to pay universal service support to service providers and not directly to applicants. However, two invoice methods and program forms exist. Service providers may submit a Service Provider Invoice (SPI) Form 474 to USAC seeking payment for services or the billed entity may submit the Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement (BEAR) Form 472, which must also be signed by the service provider. Service providers may provide applicants with discounted bills and submit the SPI to request payment from USAC for the amount of USF support to be paid. Service providers and applicants may jointly submit the BEAR when the applicant has paid the entire cost of services to the service provider. In all cases, USAC pays support to the service provider.

The Grainger County School District requires the Service Provider Invoicing [SPI] mode, with discounts provided to the District, clearly indicated on invoices to the District as such, and requests the opportunity to review all SPI documentation for quality assurance purposes before it is submitted to the SLD for processing.

To receive disbursements from USAC for eligible purchases made through this proposal, service providers must submit the Service Provider Invoice Form (FCC Form 474 or SPI Form) to USAC. The SPI informs USAC of the amount of universal service support that is owed to the service provider for goods and services provided to the applicant. On the SPI Form, the service provider indicates the FCC Form 471 relevant to its request for payment, thereby referencing its underlying contract (when applicable) or tariffed relationship with the entity. The service provider also indicates the date it billed its customer or the last day it performed the relevant work.

Questions regarding invoice payments by USAC to the vendor shall be addressed to USAC through the Invoicing Hotline at (973) 425-7335.

The District nevertheless reserves the right to require Billed Entity Application for Reimbursement [BEAR] invoicing mode on a case-by-case basis. Proposer must indicate willingness to operate using whichever mode of invoicing is requested by the District.

By submitting a proposal, the proposer indicates that they are familiar with the USAC invoicing and payment systems cited above and is prepared to invoice USAC for up to 90% of the payment for products or services provided through the E-rate program.

DOCUMENTATION, SUBMITTALS, AND TIMELINES: Failure to file the appropriate documentation with USAC in a timely manner may result in the denial of funding. Grainger County Schools will not be responsible for the loss of funding that might occur in such a circumstance and will not be required to provide any form of restitution or return installed products.

Further, the proposer shall be aware that the resolution of invoices with USAC may exceed 90 days. In any and all circumstances, Grainger County Schools shall only issue payment for the undiscounted portion of E-rate eligible purchases or ineligible products or services.

By submitting a proposal, the proposer indicates that that they both understand and willingly comply with the above without reservation.

DISTRICT OBLIGATION TO PROCEED WITH PROJECT: District is not obligated to proceed with the project unless and until E-Rate funding has been approved for this project, at approximately the levels anticipated at the time of acceptance/award and Form 471 filing. If a multi-year contract or contract with voluntary extensions is awarded as proposed, this provision is applicable anew in each successive year. However the District reserves the right to proceed with all or any portion of any project, prior to E-Rate award, at the District's sole discretion. Even with E-rate funding, the district may lack sufficient local funds to include all schools. Therefore, some schools may not be included in the final cabling contract for completion.

By submitting a proposal, the proposer indicates that that they both understand and willingly comply with the above without reservation.

SCOPE AND SPECIFICATIONS

REMOVAL OF CURRENT CABLE: If funds allow, we will ask the vendor to remove all current network cabling from the sites. Therefore, the vendor should list the price to remove all cabling as an OPTION for each site. By site, the vendor should include all parts/equipment and provide a quote for that site. In addition, there will be an OPTIONAL ADD-ON quote that will consist of removing current cabling from that site. The vendors will be able to see all current cabling during the mandatory walkthrough.

NETWORK CABLING: The present cabling in all Grainger County Schools buildings is either CAT5 or CAT5E and is more than 15 years old. Throughout this document, "CAT5" shall refer to both. CAT6 shall refer to CAT6A cabling. Vendors shall quote the replacement of all CAT5 cabling with CAT6A cabling. In some locations, additional cabling will need to be pulled to support wireless AC access points in the future. Vendors shall comply with all aspects of the Grainger County Schools wiring standards. A copy of our standards is located at:

<http://images.pcmac.org/Uploads/GraingerCounty/GraingerCounty/Departments/Documents/Categories/Documents/Grainger%20County%20Schools%20wiring%20guidelines.pdf> .

Vendors shall also quote the installation of approximately 15 fiber runs. Fiber is used to connect all distribution frames. Vendors shall quote 10GB fiber runs.

Vendors shall also quote a sufficient number of three (3) foot CAT6A patch cables to replace

existing cabling in wiring closets (see further items below). Also refer to our wiring standards to determine the correct number of each color cable.

It is desirable for each patch panel port jack to be plugged into the corresponding switch port.

Patch panels: in accordance with our wiring standards, all patch panels shall consist of 48, 72, or 96 CAT6A ports. Our preference for wiring closets is: 48,72, or 96 port patch panel, 1U wire management apparatus, and a 48 port switch, 48 port and 24 port, or two 48 port switches. Every cable in the MDFs and IDF's must be clearly labeled as to where it extends on the other end. For example, if the cable in wire management port 1 goes to room 100, then port 1 should be labeled 100A or 100B, depending on which cable it terminated to in room 100 (this is based on the assumption that each classroom has two cable drops installed).

Wall mounted Rack: Vendors shall quote a Wall mounted rack for all MDF's and IDF's unless one is present.

Wire management: Vendors shall quote wiring closet wire management. As mentioned above, all wire management on the front of the frame should be 1U and comparable to Panduit PatchLink cable managers.

Miscellaneous equipment: Wall jacks will need to be installed. Vendors shall quote CAT6A wall plates/jacks and any other hardware needed to replace wall mounted jacks. Vendors should pay particular attention to the relevant section of our wiring standards document mentioned earlier. For computer labs with many computers, raceway will be mounted horizontally on every wall with jacks appropriately spaced so all the computers in that lab can be connected to the network/internet by using appropriately length patch cables. These patch cables must be provided by the vendor. Some of these patch cables may be 20-30 ft long.

Quantity: It is estimated that the project will consist of nearly 2,000 Cat6A drops to classrooms from the MDF/IDF. All of these drops will be terminated in the classroom using appropriate raceway, junction boxes, and jacks. In some cases, the cable drops will extend from the MDF/IDF to a computer lab. As mentioned earlier, raceway with the appropriate number/spacing of Cat6A jacks must be installed in these labs. This will be further discussed and demonstrated/shown during the mandatory walkthrough. It is also estimated that the project will consist of 20-30 fiber drops. The vast majority of these drops will be between the MDFs and IDF's. It is the responsibility of the vendor to include any necessary equipment to attach these fiber links to the Extreme X430 and X440 series switches. This equipment, as with all other equipment/parts, should be listed on the proposal. Specifics will be provided to vendors during the mandatory walkthrough of the schools. Cable trays will need to be installed in all schools except for Grainger High School. The size and location of the cable trays will be specified during the mandatory walkthrough of the schools.

Raceway Installation: Drops unable to be fished through the wall should receive raceway (non-metallic raceways inside of classrooms and metallic raceways in heavy traffic areas i.e. (gymnasiums) that will route from above the drop ceiling to the outlet locations. All necessary covers, end caps and fittings will need to be provided for a complete surface mount raceway. All colors of raceway must be coordinated with the Project Manager.

All network equipment *must* be able to be managed by Extreme Networks NetSight suite in order to protect the significant prior investment of the school district.

CATALOG DISCOUNT FOR NETWORK ELECTRONICS: Vendors shall specify a minimum discount structure that will be offered for any/all comparable products and services listed in their current catalog at the time of purchase, including items listed in the Sections above. This discount structure will also apply to future product line additions from the same manufacturer.

The proposer's discount levels shall apply to single unit quantities. Vendors may indicate any additional discounts that will apply to quantity purchases. The proposer's discount structure will apply for the term of the contract as defined above. Discount pricing of warranty extensions or maintenance must be included in the response for this section.

This discount structure shall be proposed as a "percentage off" of each of the vendor specified categories.

Vendors may propose discounted pricing in numerous methods. Vendors shall clearly indicate which method they are using to propose catalog discount pricing for products not listed elsewhere in this Request for Proposal.

The discount structure must include the entire network product line whether or not the product line was included in the itemized listing.

Vendors may elect to provide either a single uniform minimum discount level or a varied minimum discount structure based on vendor determined product classification(s) or sub-classification(s):

INSTALLATION SERVICES: According to E-rate program rules, installation, activation, and initial configuration of eligible components are eligible if they are part of a contract or bid for those eligible components. Such eligible services may also include basic design and engineering costs and basic project management costs. If these services are provided as an integral portion coincident with installation.

Installation proposals shall include but are not limited to:

- 1) Installation services required prior to deployment
 - a. Assistance with basic design and engineering considerations as necessary
 - b. Preparation of installation materials
 - c. Unboxing of E-rate eligible equipment
 - d. Installation of any required transceivers/modules
 - e. Device/component configuration
 - f. Delivery of E-rate eligible equipment to deployment site
- 2) Installation services to be accomplished at the assigned deployment site
 - a. Disconnection of existing E-rate eligible equipment at deployment site
 - b. Removal of E-rate eligible existing equipment from cabinetry (if necessary)
 - c. Cleaning and preparation of cabinetry prior to installation
 - d. On-site installation of device into network cabinetry
 - e. Connection of patch cables per Grainger County Schools specification
- 3) Services required post-deployment
 - a. Accounting of removed equipment – including site, location, serial

- number, etc.
 - b. Transfer of removed equipment to central distribution site
 - c. Cleaning removed equipment
 - d. Preparation of removed equipment for redeployment or surplus
- 4) Other activities directly associated with installation
- a. Documentation of installation activities
 - b. Basic project management costs
 - c. Other functions necessary to complete and document installations

Installation may be proposed based on the site, or it can be itemized per site. If proposal is based on site, it must include one quote for all parts, labor, equipment, etc. for a turn-key job AND an optional quote for the removal of cabling.

BASIC MAINTENANCE: The E-rate program defines Basic Maintenance as those activities that ensure the necessary and continued operation of eligible internal connection components at eligible locations. In this section, the proposer shall enumerate any activities that are available to facilitate the repair and upkeep of eligible E-rate hardware, provide basic technical support on an annual basis, or facilitate configuration changes. Basic maintenance is eligible for discount only if it is a component of a maintenance agreement or contract for eligible components.

Basic Maintenance will begin with an on-site assessment of the equipment for the purpose of making repairs, performing necessary upkeep, and to facilitate necessary configuration changes.

Basic Maintenance proposals must include but are not limited to:

1. Basic Maintenance Services required prior to deployment
 - a. Assistance with any basic design and/or engineering considerations as necessary
 - b. Preparation of maintenance materials provided by Grainger County Schools
 - c. Installation of any required transceivers/modules
 - d. Device/component configuration
 - e. Delivery of E-rate eligible equipment to deployment site
2. Basic Maintenance Services to be accomplished at the assigned maintenance site
 - a. Disconnection of existing E-rate eligible equipment at maintenance site
 - b. Removal of E-rate eligible existing equipment from cabinetry (if necessary)
 - c. Cleaning and testing of all eligible network components
 - d. Replacement of failed or defective components
 - e. On-site installation of eligible replacement components into network cabinetry
 - f. Replacement of damaged patch cables
 - g. Reconnection of patch cables per Grainger County Schools specification
3. Basic Maintenance Services required post-deployment

- a. Accounting of removed equipment – including site, location, serial number, etc.
 - b. Transfer of removed/defective equipment to a central distribution site
 - c. Cleaning of removed equipment
 - d. Preparation of removed equipment for redeployment or surplus
4. Other activities directly associated with installation
- a. Documentation of Basic Maintenance activities
 - b. Basic project management costs
 - c. Other functions necessary to complete and document Basic Maintenance

Basic Maintenance may be proposed based on the site.

PROPOSAL RESPONSE FORMAT

The items listed below shall be submitted with each proposal along with a complete price list (including % discount off list) and shall be submitted in the order shown. Each proposal shall be submitted in Triplicate. Each section must be clearly labeled, with pages numbered and separated by tabs. Failure by a proposer to include all listed items may result in the rejection of the proposal.

COVER

Documents shall be bound and the cover must have the name of the Request for Proposal, the respondent's company name, and the date of the proposal.

LETTER OF SUBMITTAL

A signed statement from a person authorized to submit the proposal for your company.

CORPORATE EXPERIENCE & CAPACITY

A. General

Provide any information that documents your firm's qualifications to produce the required outcomes, including its ability, capacity, skill, and financial strength.

B. Company Specifics - List the following:

- a. **Company Information** - Company Name, Address, Telephone, Number, Fax Number, and E-Mail Address
- b. **Company History** – Please include a brief Company History
- c. **Key Account & Support Personnel**
 - 1. Provide full name, contact information, and resume of the account manager for this project. Provide information regarding the length of time that this account manager has been in this position. Indicate the length of time that this representative has been responsible for the Grainger County Schools account.
 - 2. Provide full names, contact information, and resumes of all managers and senior-level supervisors who will be involved in the management of the total package of services proposed, as well as the delivery of specific services. Provide information regarding the length of time that each of

manager or senior-level supervisor has been in this position.

3. Provide full name and contact information of proposer's technical contact(s). Document any certifications held by the technical contact(s). Provide information regarding the length of time that each technical contact has been in this position.
 4. Provide full name and contact information of proposer's primary E-rate contact(s). Document any training that this person has completed in regard to the E-rate program. Provide information regarding the length of time that each E-rate contact has been in this position.
- d. **Full-Time Employees** - Number of full time employees by class (i.e. Management, Sales, Technical).
- e. **Branch Support** – Provide the company Name, Address, Telephone Number, Fax Number, and E-Mail of the Branch that will directly serve Grainger County Schools. Include a list of employees serving Grainger County Schools, by employee class.

Emergency Contact - 24-Hour Emergency Name and Telephone Number

E-RATE COMPLIANCE

Proposer must demonstrate that all requirements to achieve the status of an Authorized E-rate Service Provider have been met. Proposer shall respond to all subsections in Section 4. As a part of that response the proposer must specifically:

- a. Certify that all state and local procurement policies have been followed.
- b. Certify that documentable steps have been taken to become familiar with the E-rate Program.
- c. Submit copies of Forms 498 and/or Form 499 (as applicable) or certify that documents will be available at Grainger County Schools' request.
- d. Submit their Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN) and contact information.

REFERENCES

- A. **Major Accounts Information** – Submit the following information regarding a minimum of at least three (3) K-12 accounts for whom the company has provided similar services within the past three years. Local references are preferred. For each account, please include the following information:
- Name of Account
 - Complete Address
 - Date service began and term of service
 - provided Name and phone number of

In accordance with the Tennessee Open Records Law, it is understood that this

information is confidential to the provider. This information will be kept confidential within Grainger County Schools for evaluation purposes only and will not be shared with other potential providers.

- B. Failure to provide complete and accurate client information, as specified above, may result in the disqualification of your proposal, or cancellation of the contract.
- C. Grainger County Schools reserves the right to waive all formalities at any time during the procurement process.

PRICE LIST

The district requests quotes for the following equipment in accordance with the above specifications.

Vendors should provide a quote which breaks out pricing for each building (the columns below) as well as the final (Totals) column. Since the district will need to stage deployment of equipment, pricing indicated by building will allow adequate budgeting. Building abbreviations are as follows:

- Central Office – CO
- Joppa Elementary School – JES
- Rutledge Middle School – RMS
- Rutledge Elementary School – RES
- Grainger High School – GHS
- Rutledge Primary School – RPS
- Bean Station Elementary School – BSE
- Washburn School – WS

Although we will not hold the vendor to these prices, vendors shall prominently quote an *average* cost per drop as well as cost per foot of cable run (including *all* components needed from the wall to the back of the patch panel). The vendor should also estimate the cost of removal of old cable from the schools. These costs assist in budgetary planning.

Instructions for Proposal

A) Compliance with the RFP

Proposals must be in strict compliance with this Request for Proposals. Failure to comply with all provisions of the RFP may result in disqualification.

B) Delivery of Proposals

All proposals are to be delivered before 10:00 A.M., EDT, Thursday, April 14, 2016 to:

**Grainger County School District
Attention: James Atkins
7850 Rutledge Pike
Rutledge, TN 37861**

C) Pre-proposal meeting (mandatory walkthrough of schools)

The district will conduct a mandatory pre-proposal meeting and walkthrough of schools at 9:00 A.M. on Wednesday, March 23, 2016. Our Technology Director will conduct the meeting and will answer any questions vendors may have. After an initial short meeting at the District office, we will visit all 7 schools for a mandatory walkthrough and to answer any specific questions. Vendors will receive a more detailed and specific list of needs on that day, which supersedes this RFP. Vendors will not be transported to the schools. Instead, they will provide their own transportation and follow the technology staff to the locations. If you intend to attend this meeting, you must let James Atkins know of your intent. He may be reached at jatkins@gcs123.net. (no phone calls, please).

Any and/all revisions made to this Request for Proposal prior to due date will be posted on the following websites and will be the responsibility of the proposer to check for any and/all revisions: <http://www.grainger.k12.tn.us>. The original RFP and any addendums will be posted under the Technology Department link.

The District will not accept any proposals received after 10:00 A.M. EDT and shall return or file unopened late proposals.

Proposals will be opened publicly in a manner to avoid public disclosure of contents; however, only names of proposers will be read aloud.

List the Proposal Number (**290-1617-Cabling&Infrastructure**) on the outside of the box or envelope and note "Request for Proposal enclosed."

C) Evaluation of Proposals (Procedure)

The District will first examine proposals to eliminate those that are clearly non-responsive to the stated requirements.

The District reserves the right to withdraw this RFP at any time and for any reason, and to issue such clarifications, modifications, and/or amendments as it may deem appropriate.

Receipt of a proposal by the District or a submission of a proposal to the District offers no rights upon the Vendor nor obligates the District in any manner.

The District reserves the right to waive minor irregularities in proposals, provided that such action is in the best interest of the District. Any such waiver shall not modify any remaining RFP requirements or excuse the Vendor from full compliance with the RFP specifications and other contract requirements if the Vendor is awarded the Contract.

D) Ambiguity, Conflict, or Other Errors in the RFP

If a Proposer discovers any ambiguity, conflict, discrepancy, omission, or other error in the Request for Proposal, it shall immediately notify the District of such error in writing and request modification or clarification of the document.

The Proposer is responsible for clarifying any ambiguity, conflict, discrepancy, omission, or other error in the Request for Proposals prior to submitting the proposal or it shall be waived.

E) Proposals and Presentation Costs

The District will not be liable in any way for any costs incurred by any Vendor in the preparation of its proposal in response to this RFP, nor for the presentation of its proposal and/or participation in any discussions or negotiations.

F) Rejection of Proposals

The District reserves the right to accept or reject in whole or in part any or all proposals submitted. The District shall reject the proposal of any Vendor that is determined to be non-responsive. The unreasonable failure of a Vendor to promptly supply information in connection with respect to responsibility may be grounds for a determination of non-responsibility.

The District reserves the right to reject all proposals and continue with existing service for any and all of the proposed services.

G) Acceptance of Proposals

The District shall accept all proposals that are submitted properly. However, the District reserves the right to request clarifications or corrections to proposals.

H) Requests for Clarification of Proposals

Requests by the District for clarification of proposals shall be in writing. Said requests shall not alter the vendor's pricing information contained in its cost proposal.

I) Validity of Proposals

All proposals shall be valid for a period of 90 days from the submission date.