

# Tippecanoe School Corporation

## Request for Proposals – Firewall

Form 470 # 240001461

October 25, 2023

Tippecanoe School Corporation is seeking proposals for a project to supply network equipment to the district. 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 district 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 district.

### Project Scope

Tippecanoe School Corporation seeks eligible equipment as outlined in on page 3 in **Appendix A**. Equipment shall be new, factory-sealed equipment currently available from the manufacturer. The district 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.

No installation services are requested. The equipment will replace existing equipment and the requested equipment will be integrated into the existing environment. Software and firmware version for components will be agreed upon at time of deployment, and configurations will be coordinated with district staff.

### Questions

Any questions related to the technical aspects of this document should be directed to Devin Arms, Director of Technology at [erate@tsc.k12.in.us](mailto:erate@tsc.k12.in.us) no later than 1:00 p.m. on **November 8, 2023**. No informational meetings or building visits will be scheduled. 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). However only the actual appliance is being requested on this RFP.
- 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, but is not requested in this RFP. Only the appliance is requested.

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. This information must be provided in electronic spreadsheet form.
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 below.
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 district.
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 district'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. Line-item pricing must be provided for each item listed in the bid (any discounting in pricing on the bid must be reflected at the line-item level).

The bidding organization's proposal must be prepared with specificity with regard to the equipment 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 as "responsible" for the purposes of compliance with Title 5 Article 22 of Indiana Code and will be rejected.

### **Proposal Delivery**

Tippecanoe School Corporation 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 e-mailed to the office of the Devin Arms, Director of Technology at [erate@tsc.k12.in.us](mailto:erate@tsc.k12.in.us) by **December 8, 2023**.

## APPENDIX A

Below is a reference of the type of equipment and quantity to be supplied. Bidders should price separately and clearly indicate any ineligible costs for all services and equipment associated with this RFP. For any part numbers that have been updated or replaced by the manufacturer, bidders should offer the most similar current part.

Part Number	Description	Quantity
FG-1000F	Fortinet FortiGate 1000F - security appliance	2 +/-