

1. Page 20 of the RFP, Section F – Point B, states there are 20-50 Extended School Days. Our records indicate there are 20 Extended School Days. Can SELPA please clarify?

*This is a vestige of a prior RFP and should have been removed. There are 20 ESY days at this time.*

2. Page 13 of the RFP, Section N, states " The STANISLAUS SELPA requires that as a condition for awarding a contract the receipt of a renewable annual performance bond naming the STANISLAUS SELPA as obligee or beneficiary in an amount no less than 100% of the contract price." However, page A-14 of the Contract states "Such bond or security shall be in the amount of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) and shall at all times be kept in full force and effect." Please provide clarification regarding the performance bond requirements.

*The bond is for 100% of the contract price.*

3. Is the performance bond of 100% of the contract price based on the entire contract value (3 years) or is it based on the average annual value (1 year)? Please clarify

*It should be based on the entire contract value.*

4. If the intention of the performance bond is 100% of the entire contract value (3 years), would SELPA consider 100% of a one-year (1 year) average?

*It is for 100% of the entire contract value.*

5. Page 13 of the RFP, Section N, states "The cost of such bond shall be stated separately on the proposal form and shall not be included in the Bidder's calculations when submitting the Proposal Price Schedule." However, beginning on page 59 (of 77) in the PDF document, Point 4 states "Cost of the Performance Bond must be included in the Base Rate (5 hour minimum)." Please confirm which method is correct.

*The instructions on page 59 are correct.*

6. Page 39 of the RFP is a Cost Proposal sheet that requests both a mileage rate and an hourly rate for the execution of services, whereas Cost Proposal "A" beginning on page 59 (of 77) in the PDF document, requests an hourly rate only. Please provide confirmation as to whether both mileage and hourly rate proposals are intended to be submitted. Additionally, which of the two costing forms / sheets should we utilize in our bid proposal?

*I apologize for the confusion. The hourly rate is the proposal needed. Can you clarify about the two costing forms for me?*

7. Within the RFP, on page 39, the Cost Proposal labeled "Transportation – Formula II" requests a four (4) hour minimum base rate for the execution of services. Conversely, Cost Proposal "A," starting on page 59 (of 77) of the PDF document, requests a five (5) hours minimum base rate.

Can SELPA please verify which minimum hour base rate is accurate, a 4-hour minimum or a 5-hour minimum?

*I apologize for the confusion. The 5-hour minimum is accurate.*

8. The current contractor utilizes a 4-hour minimum base rate. Can SELPA please confirm if they intend to move to a 5-hour minimum base rate in the new contract?

*Yes, this is correct.*

9. Liquidated Damages page A-15 of Contract: Please clarify what constitutes a "Late Trip?" The Contract states "For purposes of assessing damages under this section, any trips which are more than fifteen (15) minutes beyond start time of the route as per the Stanislaus SELPA schedule shall be considered a "Late Trip".

The following paragraph states "For the purpose of assessing damages under this section, any trips which are more than thirty (30) minutes beyond start time of the route as per the Stanislaus SELPA schedule, shall be considered a "Late Trip."

*It is 15 minutes beyond the start time.*

10. Can the SELPA please confirm that the RFP Submittal Package's Bid Proposal should include within it four (4) cost proposals ("bids")? If this is not correct, please clarify.

*Yes, there should be four cost proposals.*

11. Please confirm that the Patterson Joint Unified School District home-to-school transportation for special needs students is not included in this RFP process.

*Patterson Joint Unified School District is not part of the RFP process.*

12. Will bidders be eligible to bid on this project if they have not been able to attend the in-person pre-bid conference?

*A second bidders conference will be held on 10/30 at 9:00 at the SELPA office. Vendors who attended the first meeting do not need to attend the second meeting. But vendors are required to attend one. We are not allowing virtual participation this go-round.*

13. Is the district open to the use of small, passenger vehicles including sedans, minivans and SUVs to facilitate service delivery?

*Sedans are not an option. The SELPA is open to this – however, the vast majority of services should use school buses. Minivans and SUVs are an acceptable solution as a stop-gap measure. We are concerned that the majority of our transportation needs to provide for wheelchair access.*

14. Can you please clarify if drivers require Commercial Driver Licenses if they drive sedans or minivans (less than 5 passengers) to transport students?

*Sedans are not an option. Drivers should as often as possible have Commercial Drivers Licenses or should be working to complete their Commercial Drivers Licenses. In addition, minivans should as much as possible hold 7 passengers instead of 5.*

15. We utilize a flexible driver and vehicle model which offers the Stanislaus SELPA maximum efficiency and the ability to scale service up or down based on student demand. As such; we don't maintain a local physical facility. However, we will assign a local on the ground field manager to handle day to day operations. Are you open to a flexible model like the one we identified above?

*No, as the RFP states there should be a facility locally to serve the SELPA.*

16. Can you please confirm your current providers and rates?

*Our current vendor is Storer transportation.*

17. Can you please confirm how many vendors you intend to award?

*We intend to award to a single vendor.*

18. Does Stanislaus SELPA also provide transportation for McKinney-Vento students and if so how many were transported last year?

*We do provide transportation for McKinney-Vento students who are eligible for special education transportation. We do not have the information regarding how many students McKinney-Vento students were transported. Districts will often use a different vendor to provide this service if the student resides out of the county.*

19. Can you share the historical Liquidated Damages that you have assessed to your current provider(s)?

*There were no assessed Liquidated Damages during 2023 - 2024. While this is a provision of the contract, our expectation is that we'll have little to no Liquidated Damages.*

20. Are bidders allowed to submit proposed light contract revision language as part of the RFP response?

*Yes.*

21. How many WAVs do you anticipate will be needed for this service?

*The number of WAVs being used in 2024 – 2025 is 15. The number of WAVs in 2023 – 2024 was 13.*

22. Are successful bidders allowed to decline routes?

*No.*

23. Can you please allow the use of verified e-signatures for this submission?

*Wet signatures are required, thank you for asking.*

24. Can you please provide historical and/or estimated information for any small vehicle trips (less than 5 passengers), if applicable:

- Monthly ridership
- Average number of riders per one-way trip
- Number of one-way trips per month
- Average mileage per one-way trip
- Total trip mileage per month

*We do not have this information as small vehicle trips are intended to be a stop-gap measure.*

25. Can you provide a current fleet list?

*I'm not certain what this is asking and so I would need clarification to answer accurately.*

26. Can you provide samples of current invoices?

*Yes, please see the attachments to the email.*

27. Are the drivers and any staff members part of a union? If so, which union?

*They are not members of a SELPA or SCOE union, but any questions as to unionization of Storer employees is information that would need to be obtained from Storer.*

28. Should our daily rate be based on 4 hours or 5 hours?

*The daily rate should be based on 5 hours.*

29. Is there a current driver shortage?

*Yes, many school districts in addition to our current provider have driver shortages. This is a statewide problem in California.*

30. Are 20 passenger ambulatory buses acceptable for this work?

*We can have some 20 passenger ambulatory buses; however, wheelchair accessible vehicles will also be needed.*

31. Can we submit proposed sites for operation since we are currently not performing this work?

*Yes, you can include proposed sites.*

32. Can you provide the current office staffing?

*I need more information before I can answer this. Are you referring to Storer or SELPA staffing or both?*

33. Your request is to submit pricing for an hourly and a mileage cost. In the pricing section, how can we provide an hourly rate as we don't see a page for this?

*I need some clarification on this, on pages 57-62 of the PDF it has the cost proposal sheet for hourly rates.*

34. Are mid-day routes daily, or do they only run a certain number of days per week?

*Yes, there are daily mid-day runs. They can vary depending on the individual student needs at the time.*

35. Are there mid-day routes during the extended year session?

*Yes, all of ESY is a mid-day route at the end of the school day.*

36. Can you provide the current number of monitors covering routes?

*By monitors, do mean aides on the bus?*

37. Can you provide a more accurate number of extended school routes? The RFP lists between 20 and 50.

*I think that the RFP talks about the number of ESY days instead of routes.*

38. Can you provide an average miles per route?

*No, this is highly dependent upon the number of students that have transportation in their IEPs, where the students reside, and where the program of service is located.*

39. The document does not contain pages 52 through 59. Are those pages intentionally left out?

*I apologize for the confusion, these pages are misnumbered. There are no missing pages.*

40. Per the RFP page 1, "Stanislaus SELPA intends to award the Contract in February 2025." Per page 5 of the RFP, "Award of Contract by Board January 24, 2025." Please confirm the date that the SELPA intends to award the contract.

*The intent is to award the contract on January 24, 2025 at the Superintendents Council meeting.*

41. Per the RFP page 11, "Stanislaus SELPA will conduct one or more site evaluations of each proposer who is not eliminated during the Written Proposal Evaluation process." As the site evaluations are to take place December 13-17 before the proposal due date of December 20, when would the Written Proposal Evaluation process take place which may eliminate a proposer?

*We will forego site evaluations of proposers because the dates were changed in the RFP without accounting for this.*

42. Can you please provide the required Bid Label form?

*There is not a required bid label form.*

43. Are wet signatures required for forms? Do they need to be signed in blue ink?

*Wet signatures are required, blue ink is preferred.*

44. Per the RFP page 19, "A. 24 passenger capacity (Ambulatory); B. 6 Non-Ambulatory and 4 Ambulatory passenger capacity (Wheelchair lift equipped)." How many of these types of buses will the Stanislaus SELPA require for this contract?

*This changes from year to year and is dependent on the individual students who need transportation. Thus, this is for the individual contractor to decide in its bids.*

45. Per the RFP page 20, "The number of spare buses shall be sufficient to ensure the continued full and complete provision of transportation services, but in no case shall be less than 15% of the number of regular service buses operated by Contractor." How many and which type(s) of regular services buses will the Stanislaus SELPA require for this contract?

*The 15% is dependent upon the answer and numbers in question #44.*

46. Does the Stanislaus SELPA prefer or require ICS?

*I don't know what the term ICS means, can you clarify what it is and what it is used for?*

47. How many students does the Stanislaus SELPA anticipate needing harnesses?

*This varies from year-to-year. Currently, in 2024 – 2025 we use 84 harnesses, 97 child seats, and 38 STAR seats.*

48. Will the district please provide the basis for pricing? It seems there might be a disconnect in the formula on page 39 of the RFP and Cost Proposal A on page 57. The cost proposal A on page 57 (base, plus excess) is the method we see used most to provide the best and most fair pricing. Is this the one we should use?

*Can you please clarify or restate your question?*

49. On pages 18 and 19 of the RFP it mentions 4 bid proposals with the last 2 adding in another school district. How would this additional school district impact the type or number of school buses called out in the RFP?

*We're asking for four proposals. Two of them should include Newman Crows-Landing School District, which is in the western part of the county and has been served by a different vendor. Two of them do not include NCL.*

50. Will the district please provide an accounting for any revenue losses that the current transportation provider may have experienced in the 23/24 school year? This would be for any school Closures, Failure to Operate Occurrence and/or any other reason that would have resulted in the Contractor not receiving payments as scheduled.

*We do not have this information.*

51. What is the current driver and monitor wages provided by the current contractor?

*We do not have this information.*

52. Will the district provide how many non-CDL vehicles are being used by the current Contractor in lieu of Type A (14 passenger) buses?

*We don't have any non-CDL vehicles and we cannot have anyone transporting who does not possess a California Drivers License*

53. Does the entire fleet of buses that is currently being used have AC? Are they single-compressor or dual-compressor AC units?

*Dual-compressor AC units are in all buses.*

54. Will the district share additional information about the meaning of "minimum school days."?  
7/1/25- last day of summer school 2028. The school year consists of approximately 180 days.  
Contract 3.a) (p.A-2). Each Stanislaus member district is entitled to up to two minimum school days per school year. Contract 3.b)(A-3). This language is unclear.

*I'm not entirely clear about what you are asking. It is 180 days plus 20 ESY days. There will be some days that have minimum days including early out days one day a week.*

55. Page 16 says "Proposal Includes the RFP. This RFP constitutes part of each proposal and includes the explanation of Stanislaus SELPA's needs, which must be met." Is the district asking for Proposers to include a full, unsigned copy of the RFP in the proposal?

*No.*

56. It is understood that forms should not be altered; however, forms do not begin at the top of the page and to present a clean, orderly submission, are proposers allowed to alter the formatting of these pages?

*Yes, thank you for asking. This is fine if the questions or information presented is not altered.*

57. Is there a specific bid label the district would like for Proposers to use?

*No, there is not.*

58. The example of information needed in the references section does not apply to transportation providers. Is there specific information beyond contact information that is required?

*No, just the contact information is required.*

59. In response to certain questions in the Bid Proposal Questionnaire, can Proposers provide information for California only? Or is company-wide information required?

*California-only information is acceptable*