

E-RATE YEAR 2025-2026 RFP

Internal Connections – Wireless Access Point Refresh 2025

Troup County School System - 127310

E-rate Form 470 Application 250003818

Submission Deadline – **December 2, 2024**

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

1. INTRODUCTION

2. KEY DATES

3. SERVICE PROVIDER REQUIREMENTS

4. PROJECT AND CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS

5. BIDS DISQUALIFICATION CRITERIA

6. PROPOSAL EVALUATION

1. INTRODUCTION

Introduction

Troup County Schools is seeking proposals from qualified service providers to refresh its wireless infrastructure at multiple sites in support of its E-rate FY2025 application. This Request for Proposal (RFP) outlines the requirements and guidelines for the proposed network infrastructure upgrade project.

Troup County Schools invites qualified Offerors to submit proposals to provide the necessary goods and services to upgrade the network infrastructure at 20 sites. The proposed project aims to update the network infrastructure, ensuring reliable and efficient connectivity to support Troup County Schools' educational and operational needs.

The contract term for this project is 2 years. However, depending on the timing of the funding award, a contract extension may be necessary to complete the full scope of work at each site.

Proposal Submission

Proposals must be submitted in accordance with the format provided in this solicitation. The completed original proposal must be submitted via e-mail to stansburygw@troup.org prior to 5:00 p.m. local time on **December 2, 2024**.

Questions and Clarifications

Questions and requests for clarification related to the definition or interpretation of this RFP must be submitted in writing via e-mail to stansburygw@troup.org. No questions will be accepted via telephone, and oral explanations or instructions will not be considered binding on behalf of the Troup County Schools. If you have any other concerns or comments regarding this solicitation, please send an e-mail to the address listed above.

2. KEY DATES

Key Dates

The proposed project schedule for the Wireless Network Refresh is as follows:

RFP Published/Form 470 Posted: **October 30, 2024**

Addendum with Replies to Service Provider Questions: **Posted to EPC, as questions are answered**

Service Provider Submissions Due: **December 2, 2024**

Service Start Date: July 1, 2025 (**Contingent on funding approval**)

3. SERVICE PROVIDER REQUIREMENTS

Service Provider Requirements

In order to be considered for the Wireless Network Refresh project, Service Providers must meet the following requirements:

1. SPIN Requirement: The Service Provider must provide a valid Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN) at the time the bid is submitted, and the SPIN must be included in the response documentation.
2. FCC Red Light Display System Status: The Service Provider must have a current FCC Red Light Display System Status of Green.
3. Experience in K-12 Education or City/County Government Markets: The Service Provider must demonstrate a minimum of 5 years of experience in K-12 education or city/county government markets.
4. E-Rate Category 2 Internal Connections Experience: The Service Provider must demonstrate a minimum of 5 years of E-Rate Category 2 Internal Connections experience.
5. Similar-Sized Projects: The Service Provider must reference a minimum of three (3) similar-sized projects where E-Rate Category 2 Internal Connections funds were used on at least two (2) of these projects. The following information must be included for each project:
 - Contact name
 - Contact email
 - Contact phone number
 - Total project dollar amount
 - Project completion time
 - A brief description of the project
6. Manufacturer Certification: The Service Provider must hold a valid and current manufacturer's certification or equivalent for other manufacturers proposed. A copy of the certificate must be included in the proposal.
7. Certified Network Resources: The Service Provider must have Certified Network Resources. The Service Provider may be required by the Troup County School System to provide proof of certification.
8. Invoicing Method: Troup County Schools requires Service Provider method of invoicing.

Please note that failure to meet these requirements may result in the proposal being deemed non-responsive.

4. PROJECT AND CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS

Project And Contract Requirements

This project is dependent on partial funding from the E-rate program. All contracts entered into as a result of the posting of the Form 470/RFP will be contingent upon the approval of discounts from the Universal Services Administrative Company (USAC) and Troup County Schools' acceptance of the funding award. No part of this contract will be valid or executed outside of E-Rate timelines and approvals unless authorized by Troup County Schools `.

Equipment Requirements

- Manufacturers with equivalent functionality can be quoted; however, all options must be compatible with existing infrastructure.
- All equipment and supporting components must be new. Used or refurbished items will not be accepted by Troup County Schools
- A detailed list of equipment required at each site is provided in the attachment.

Proposal Requirements

- All proposals submitted must include a validated bulk upload attachment using USAC's latest template.
- ALL bulk upload Attachments must be submitted individually for each site.
- All ineligible allocations on eligible items must be clearly included in your proposal and in the bulk upload attachment.
- Ineligible items and features must be clearly included in your proposal and in the bulk upload attachment.

Pricing and Contract Terms

- All pricing must include taxes, shipping/handling, and all other eligible fees.
- Manufacturer's multi-year warranty for a period up to three years may be included in the cost of the component.
- Manufacturer's warranty must be valid and verifiable.
- Prices must be held firm for the duration of the contract or until all work associated with the project(s) are complete (including any Universal Services Administrative Company (USAC) approved extensions).
- Estimated Discount is 85% for Troup County Schools.

Implementation and Timeline

- Any implementation that is done prior-to the funding award must be requested and approved in writing by Troup County Schools

Contractor Requirements

- All vendors must comply with Troup County Schools, local, State, and Federal contracting requirements, including but not limited to:
- Prevailing Wage
- Insurance

Notice To Proceed

- This project is contingent on funding from the E-rate program. As such, Troup County Schools will not issue a Notice to Proceed until a copy of the approved Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL) has been received from USAC and a Form 486 "Receipt of Service Confirmation" has been filed.
- Contractor will not be permitted to commence work unless otherwise directed by Troup County Schools until a Notice to Proceed has been issued.
- Troup County Schools will not be responsible for costs incurred by the Service Provider prior-to receiving a Notice to Proceed.

Reservation of Rights

- Troup County Schools reserves the right to award all, none, or select portions of this bid to one or multiple Service Providers.
- Troup County Schools reserves the right to negotiate terms and conditions of the RFP as necessary, to reject any or all proposals, to increase quantities, and to waive any irregularities or informalities in the RFP or in this process.

5. BIDS DISQUALIFICATION CRITERIA

Bids Disqualification Criteria

The following criteria will be used to disqualify bids that do not meet the requirements of this Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Network Infrastructure Upgrade project:

Incomplete or Invalid Bids: Any bid that does not provide a complete solution to the requirements outlined in this RFP will be disqualified. This includes, but is not limited to, bids that do not include all requested services, term of services, ineligible items, and responses to item 21.

SPAM or Robotic Responses: Any bid that is deemed to be a SPAM or robotic response will be disqualified and will not be considered valid.

Partial Bids: Partial bids that do not provide a complete solution to the requirements outlined in this RFP will be disqualified.

Non-Compliant Bids: Any bid that does not meet the requirements outlined in this RFP, including but not limited to, the requested services, term of services, ineligible items, and responses to item 21, will be disqualified.

Award Criteria: Only one bid will be awarded for the Project, or based on the project need, multiple vendors will be awarded. The award decision will be made based on the evaluation criteria outlined in this RFP.

By submitting a bid, the bidder acknowledges that they have read, understand, and agree to the terms and conditions outlined in this RFP, including the bids disqualification criteria.

6. PROPOSAL EVALUATION

Proposal Evaluation

Troup County Schools will evaluate proposals based on the following criteria to determine the most cost-effective and best overall solution for the Network Infrastructure Upgrade project.

Evaluation Criteria:

1. Price (30 points): The proposed price for the Wireless Network Refresh project, including all equipment, installation, and maintenance costs, will be evaluated to ensure it is competitive and reasonable.
2. Compatibility with Existing Infrastructure (20 points): The proposed solution's compatibility with ETF `Troup County School System`s existing infrastructure, including hardware, software, and network architecture, will be evaluated to ensure seamless integration and minimal disruption to current systems.
3. Understanding of Needs (20 points): The proposer's understanding of ETF `Troup County School System`s specific needs and requirements for the Network Infrastructure Upgrade project will be evaluated to ensure the proposed solution meets the district's goals and objectives.
4. Experience and Qualifications (15 points): The proposer's relevant experience and qualifications in providing similar Network Infrastructure Upgrade services will be evaluated to ensure the provider has the necessary expertise to deliver a successful project.
5. Completeness of Response (15 points): The completeness and thoroughness of the proposal, including all required documentation and information, will be evaluated to ensure the proposer has provided a comprehensive and well-planned solution.

Evaluation Process:

1. Proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by a committee appointed by Troup County Schools .
2. The evaluation committee will score each proposal based on the above criteria.
3. The proposer with the highest total score will be considered the most cost-effective and best overall solution for the Wireless Network Refresh project.

4. Troup County Schools reserves the right to request additional information or clarification from proposers during the evaluation process.

Timeline:

Proposals are due by December 2, 2024

Contact Information:

All questions and requests for clarification should be directed to stansburygw@troup.org

At minimum total of 2x 5Ghz capable radios onboard
 At minimum 1x Software Definable Radio capable of 2.4 or 5 Ghz operation
 Controllerless cloud based management with resilient persistent AP-level configuration in the event of cloud inaccessability
 Dual 1Gbps or better ethernet ports
 802.3at PoE powered
 Support for 5000+ Private Pre Shared Keys with keys to be housed in the cloud and not on the local AP's WITH the ability to add remove or change PPSK's without needing to "push" a config change to the AP's
 5+ year warranty with overnight advance-ship and return shipping included RMA's
 Seamless roaming support as users navigate between AP's
 All proposals will include installation and configuration as a separate line item
 1073 Total Access Points

Berta Weathersbee Elementary School	39
Callaway Elementary School	55
Callaway High School	85
Callaway Middle School	58
Clearview Elementary School	57
Ethel Kight Elementary School	59
Franklin Forest Elementary School	52
Gardner Newman Middle School	67
Hillcrest Elementary School	44
Hogansville Elementary School	45
Hollis Hand Elementary School	51
Hope Academy	10
LaGrange High School	137
Long Cane Elementary School	46
Long Cane Middle School	72
Rosemont Elementary School	60
Troup County High School	93
West Point Elementary School	41
Exceptional Education Center	2
	1073