REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

Joint Student Transportation Services

2025–2026 School Year

Issued Jointly by:
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St. Cloud Math and Science Academy – Tammy Bengtson Tammy.Bengtson@scmsastem.com 320-774-2201
Success Academy – St. Cloud - Safiyo Hassan, shassan01@successacademymn.org P: 320-640-3525
Issue Date: 5/5/2025

Proposal Due Date: 5/19/2025

1. Overview

STRIDE Academy, Math and Science Academy – St. Cloud, and Success Academy – St. Cloud jointly invite proposals from qualified transportation providers to deliver comprehensive student transportation services during the 2025–2026 school year. The selected provider will be responsible for transporting approximately 500–700 students across a coordinated two-tiered routing structure.

All three schools operate on a common calendar and will serve as equal partners in contractor selection, service oversight, and decision-making throughout the duration of the agreement.

2. Contract Term

Initial term: August 1, 2025 – July 31, 2026. Approximately 169 Days of Transportaion
Extensions: Renewable annually upon mutual agreement and satisfactory performance.

3. Scope of Services

The selected provider will be expected to:
- Operate daily AM and PM student transportation across two distinct tiers:
- Tier 1: Math and Science Academy – St. Cloud and Success Academy – St. Cloud
- Tier 2: STRIDE Academy (Elementary and Secondary)
- Provide special education transportation services, including lift buses and aides
- Provide midday, activity, and field trip transportation as needed
- Support three separate school sites operating on a common calendar and coordinated schedule
- Maintain open and responsive communication with school liaisons
- Ensure timely, safe, and professional service using a well-maintained fleet

4. Estimated Ridership

Estimated range: 500–700 or more
Student addresses span urban, suburban, and rural routes in the Greater St. Cloud area
Fleet and staffing plans must be sufficient to accommodate all tiers and service needs

5. Tiered Transportation Model

Transportation routes must follow the two-tier system below:

- Tier 1:
  - Schools: Math and Science Academy – St. Cloud & Success Academy – St. Cloud
  - AM Drop-off Target: ~7:15- AM
  - PM Pick-up Target: ~2:20 PM

- Tier 2:
  - School: STRIDE Academy (Elementary and Secondary)
  - AM Drop-off Target: ~8:00–8:15 AM
  - PM Pick-up Target: ~3:00–3:15 PM

Proposals must clearly describe how two-tier routing will be achieved efficiently and reliably.

6. Proposal Requirements

Proposals must include:

- Company background and K–12 transportation experience
- Fleet details (vehicle types, age, features, special education capacity)
- Emergency response plan (facility within 30 minutes of St. Cloud)
- Routing and dispatch capabilities for two-tier scheduling
- Driver qualifications, training, and compliance with all safety requirements
- Invoicing method that allows for route- or school-specific breakdowns
- Completed Rate Sheet (see Section 8)
- References from at least two schools currently or recently served

7. Shared Oversight and Payment

The three schools will jointly review and select the successful transportation provider
Each school will receive a breakdown of services rendered and be billed separately by the contractor
Each school will remit direct payment to the contractor, proportional to their routes and student count
Proposals must allow for flexible, transparent reporting and invoicing

8. Rate Sheet (Required Submission)

Tiered Daily Transportation (approx. 4.5 hours/day):

- Tier Routes
  - Class C/D Bus: $_____/route/day
  - Type III Van: $_____/route/day
- Additional 15-minute increment: $_____

Special Education Routes:

- Bus with Lift: $_____/day

- Type III Van: $_____/day
- Bus Aide: $_____/hour

Field Trip / Activity Transportation:
- Hourly Rate: $_____
- Mileage Rate: $_____
- Minimum Charge: $_____
- Trailer (if applicable): $_____
- Cancellation Fees: [Specify]

Fuel Adjustment Clause:
- Include details for pricing changes based on fuel costs above $3.50/gallon

9. Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation Category	Weight
Competitive Cost and Rate Clarity	30%
Capacity to Implement Tiered Routes	20%
Fleet Quality and Reliability	15%
Safety and Training Programs	15%
Experience with Similar Clients	10%
Proposal Completeness & References	10%

10. Submission Instructions

Proposals must be submitted by email to all school contacts by May 16th to:
STRIDE Academy - Eric Skanson eskanson@strideacademy.org
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Success Academy – St. Cloud - Safiyo Hassan, shassan01@successacademymn.org P: 320-640-3525

Subject Line: Joint School Transportation RFP Submission-[Company Name]

All proposals must remain valid for 60 days following the submission deadline.

11. Rights Reserved

The three schools jointly reserve the right to:
- Reject any or all proposals
- Request clarification or modifications
- Negotiate with finalists
- Cancel or reissue the RFP if needed