

TUNICA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
744 School Street, Tunica, MS 38676
662-363-2811
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)
MUNICIPAL FINANCIAL ADVISORY SERVICES
FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW HIGH SCHOOL

Submission Deadline: November 10, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. Central Standard Time

Submission Methods: Hand-Delivery; email; or U.S. Mail.

1. Background & Purpose

The Tunica County School District (the "District") is requesting proposals from qualified municipal finance firms to provide financial advisory services for the construction of a new high school.

2. Scope of Services

The selected firm will provide, at minimum, the following services:

- a. Evaluate the District's debt capacity, statutory borrowing limitations, existing obligations, credit profile, and ability to finance the proposed high school.
- b. Collaborate with the District, architect, construction manager, and other project professionals to review the capital improvement plan and develop preliminary project-cost, cashflow, and financing assumptions.
- c. Identify and evaluate **all legally available funding sources**, including grants, appropriations, loans, bonds, and blended financing arrangements.
- d. Prepare a funding matrix identifying eligibility requirements, application deadlines, matching-fund obligations, anticipated funding amounts, and likelihood of success.
- e. Compare financing alternatives based on total borrowing costs, repayment terms, tax impact, legal requirements, financial risks, and effects on the District's credit rating.
- f. Develop a recommended multiyear financing plan and implementation schedule, including an assessment of any required voter approval, county participation, or other governmental action.

- g. Advise the District regarding market conditions, debt-service requirements, credit-rating considerations, interest rates, fees, bond terms, and refinancing or prepayment provisions.
- h. Assist the District in selecting and negotiating with underwriters, lenders, placement agents, escrow agents, trustees, verification agents, financial printers, and other financing professionals.
- i. Coordinate the proposed financing with District officials, municipal and county officials, bond counsel, District counsel, accountants, architects, construction professionals, underwriters, insurers, rating agencies, prospective investors, and other interested parties.
- j. Assist in preparing the Preliminary Official Statement, Official Statement, Notice of Sale, debt statement, financing schedules, and other documents required for negotiated or competitive bond and note sales.
- k. Coordinate the printing, publication, electronic posting, dissemination, and advertisement of financing documents and debt offerings in the appropriate media and publications.
- l. Manage or assist with bond and note sales, including receiving and verifying bids, evaluating financing proposals, and recommending an award to the District.
- m. Coordinate the closing of each financing transaction among the District, purchasers, bond counsel, District counsel, the Depository Trust Company, rating agencies, and other transaction participants through the delivery of proceeds.
- n. Assist with presentations to the Board of Trustees, county and municipal officials, and the public regarding the proposed financing plan, debt-service obligations, credit-rating process, market conditions, and anticipated tax impact.
- o. In coordination with the District's legal and accounting professionals, assist the District with applicable federal, state, and local requirements, including continuing disclosures, material-event notices, arbitrage reporting, and other post-issuance obligations.
- p. Perform other financial advisory services reasonably necessary to secure project funding, complete the timely and efficient issuance of debt, and support compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

3. Anticipated Schedule*

<u>Milestone</u>	<u>Date / Time (CST)</u>
RFP issued	October 8, 2026
Questions about RFP Due (email)	October 16, 2026 (by 2:00 p.m.)
Responses to RFP Questions /Addenda posted (as needed)	October 22, 2026
Proposals Due	November 10, 2026 (by 4:00 p.m.)
Interviews (at District's Option)	TBD
Anticipated Board Decision	December 14, 2026
Anticipated Issuance of Notice to Proceed	Upon Board Approval

*Dates are subject to change at the District's sole discretion.

5. Requests and Submission Instructions

A full copy of the RFP may be found on the Tunica County School District website: www.tunicak12.org under TCSD Documents and Forms.

Proposals must be received by November 10, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. Central Standard Time. The District reserves the right to reject late proposals on that basis alone.

If via hand-delivery, submit SIX (6) sealed hard copy to:

RFP – Municipal Financial Advisor Services – New High School; Dr. Frederick Robinson; Tunica County School District; 744 School St.; Tunica, MS 38676.

If via email, submit ONE (1) electronic PDF via email to robinsonfre@tunicak12.org with subject line “RFP – Municipal Financial Advisor Services – New High School.”

If via U.S. Mail, submit SIX (6) sealed hard copy to:

RFP – Municipal Financial Advisor Services – New High School; Dr. Frederick Robinson; Tunica County School District; P.O. Box 758; Tunica, MS 38676.

Proposals should not exceed twenty (20) pages (excluding covers, tabs, resumes, and required forms).

6. Proposal Content

- a. Cover Letter: State Firm's interest in serving as financial advisor for the District's new high school and provide authorized contact information.
- b. Understanding & Approach: Provide "Narrative" describing your Firm's approach to the Scope of Services, including unconventional financing options.
- c. Team & Qualifications: The proposer must be currently registered as a municipal advisor with both the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board. Each professional who will provide municipal advisory services must be properly qualified under applicable MSRB rules, including possession of the Series 50 qualification; and the proposer must identify its Series 54-qualified municipal advisor principal.
- d. Relevant Experience: Provide relevant information for up to five (5) new school projects or similar K-12 bond financial projects (include client, scope, budget, and reference contact information).
- e. Work Plan & Schedule: Provide timeline for Major Tasks and Deliverables.
- f. Cost Proposal: State a firm, all-inclusive price for each type of proposed issuances, including all out-of-pocket expenses, to render said services. If your fees vary based on the amount of each bond or note issued, please provide the formula or criteria that would be used to raise or lower your fees, depending on the actual amount of the bonds or notes to be issued.
- g. Legal/Required Forms: Provide Non-collusion statement, E-Verify affidavits.
- h. Certificates of Insurance, and any required State forms.

7. Evaluation Criteria

- a. Qualifications and relevant experience in providing financial services concerning high school and/or K-12 projects (30%).
- b. Quality of approach/methodology and understanding of District needs (20%).
- c. Proposed team and capacity to perform the work on schedule (20%).
- d. Past performance and references (20%).
- e. Fees for Financial Advisor Services and overall value (10%).

8. Terms & Conditions

- a. The District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, to waive informalities, and to negotiate with the highest-ranked firm.
- b. All costs associated with preparing a response to this RFP are the sole responsibility of the respondent.
- c. The selected firm must comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
- d. The District may issue addenda or modifications to clarify, correct, or change this RFP. Respondents are responsible for ensuring they have received and responded accordingly to all such addenda or modifications.
- e. Any contract award is contingent upon Board of Trustees approval.

9. Questions

All questions must be submitted via email to robinsonfre@tunicak12.org no later than October 16, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. CST. Responses or addenda will be provided as needed.

Appendix A – Required Forms (Templates)

A1. Non-Collusion Affidavit (insert firm letterhead and notarization as required).

A2. E-Verify Affidavit (Mississippi compliant).

A3. Certificate of Insurance (evidence of general liability, automobile, workers' compensation, and professional liability insurance).

Equal Opportunity: The Tunica County School District is an equal opportunity employer and encourages participation by small, minority-owned, and women-owned businesses.