

ERATE 470
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
FOR:
CAMPUS-WIDE TELECOMMUNICATIONS
SERVICE and INTERNET ACCESS MAINTENANCE
FOR E-RATE FUNDING YEAR
JULY 1, 2022-JUNE 30, 2023

BACKGROUND

The information in this Request For Proposal (RFP) is provided in conjunction with USAC Schools and Libraries Division Forms 470 and 471, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Universal Service Fund (E-Rate) discounts. The E-Rate program provides discounts for certain telecommunications products and services, including data communications, Internet access, and in some cases, internal connections.

Please do not contact Pee Dee Academy with general questions about E-Rate, or to offer ineligible services, or services not requested on this RFP. Responders must have a valid Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN) and have a relationship in good standing with the USAC/SLD.

For more information about the E-Rate program please refer to the USAC/SLD website at <http://www.sl.universalservice.org>.

SCOPE AND HISTORY OVERVIEW

Pee Dee Academy is a private K-12 school comprised of an Elementary School and High School. The school is located between Mullins and Marion, South Carolina.

Pee Dee Academy believes in providing every student with equal opportunity in using technology to enhance the learning experience, and that the effective use of technology is a life-long skill. These skills will be used to facilitate continued learning and better prepare the students to be successful in the work force.

Pee Dee Academy is committed to incorporating technology into classroom instruction and the curriculum as a learning tool and to improve communication skills at all levels. We are also committed to educating our students and staff in the effective and responsible use of technology.

OBJECTIVE

Pee Dee Academy seeks to maintain its current level of Internet access services, seeking discounts on eligible charges.

This RFP seeks vendor proposals for the following services:

Basic Maintenance Agreement/Technical Support Contracts for Existing Equipment

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Responses to this RFP should be submitted via email to jsnipes@peedeeacademy.org and must be received no later than 28 days from the date of posting the Form 470 on the SLD website.

All responses should reference the Form 470 number that you are responding to and should clearly indicate your currently valid SPIN number and FCC Registration number (if applicable). Vendors may respond to all or any individual part of the services requested by this RFP. Description of products and services should provide sufficient detail and be submitted in a form suitable for use with a Form 471.

Telecommunication providers must also be eligible telecom providers (carriers) and must also have a current Service Provider Annual Certification (SPAC) on file with USAC/SLD. Proposals from vendors not meeting this criteria will not be considered.

Please send all inquiries regarding this RFP via email only to:
jsnipes@peedeeacademy.org

SERVICE PROVIDER EVALUATION CRITERIA

Pee Dee Academy wishes to take advantage of E-Rate funding discounts.

The successful bidder(s) will be responsible for qualifying in the Federal E-Rate program. Items not eligible for E-Rate shall be itemized in the bid.

With respect to the above services for which competitive proposals are being sought, Pee Dee Academy will evaluate proposals from qualified vendors, taking into consideration the following factors, but not limited to the extent allowed by regulations of the USAC Schools and Libraries Division (USAC/SLD):

- Cost
- Vendor reputation
- Vendor financial stability
- Timely availability
- Timely proposal submission and responsiveness
- Realism of estimates and soundness of technical approach

- Quality of the proposal document including adequate detail for Item 21 Attachments
- Completeness of solution to the extent to which goods and services meet the needs of Pee Dee Academy
- Other relevant factors that may impact the ability of Pee Dee Academy to acquire and maintain vendor's goods and services

Cost is required to be the primary criteria, but other factors will also be taken into consideration.

Any contracts awarded as a result of this RFP would be binding upon both parties contingent upon SLD approval of Form 471 at no less than the anticipated E-Rate discount for this billed entity and the receipt of an approved Funding Commitment Decision Letter.

The applicant reserves the right to deny any or all proposals associated with this RFP, even with SLD funding approval. Vendors may submit either a turnkey solution for all services or for individual services, as multiple vendors may be awarded.