

Montgomery County Board of Education

Bid 12-1222: WAN and Internet Services – Technology Support Services

MPS Consolidated Bid Response to Compliant Questions

1. **Bid Inquiry:** Would like to verify that BID#12-1222 is replacing BID#8-1222

MPS Response: Yes, Bid #12-1222 replaced Bid #8-1122

FW:[AL]Montgomery County School District
Reynaldo.Arteaga@charter.com

2. **Bid Inquiry:** Please confirm # 32 on BID# 12-1222 is correct. \$1B?

MPS Resonse: No, the amount stipulated in the bid for General Liability Insurance Coverage is incorrect. The correct amount is \$1,000,000.00 USD.

FW:[AL]Montgomery County School District
Reynaldo.Arteaga@charter.com

3. **Bid Inquiry:** Concerning the fiber runs, it states fiber will be terminated, certified, labeled, ran, etc. We need a strand count to quote as termination, certification, etc. of 6 fiber strands takes more labor than 2 strands please clarify.

MPS Response: We would like 4 strands of fiber terminated, initially. If other strands are needed during this contract, they will be available to be used without unnecessary down time or the possibility of damaging other equipment in tight spaces

FW: Erate Bid Question
tstewart@howard.com

4. **Bid Inquiry:** *Question on #9. The successful bidder shall not, without the written consent of Montgomery Public Schools, enter into any contract with any other party for the purpose of rendering any services or consign its obligations to the terms and specifications as prescribed herein.*

We may choose to utilize third party vendors (contractors) to provide services to help us fulfill this RFP. This could range from cabling to actual last mile service. How do we gain permission from the School System to utilize the relationships?

MPS Response: Third party vendors must be identified in the BID for the portion of the service(s) they will be rendering

Subject:Questions for Bid No. 12-1222
jrussell@cspire.com

Montgomery County Board of Education

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5. **Bid Inquiry:** 43. *Contract Term. A contract shall be awarded for a 12 month period (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024) contingent upon approval of E-rate funding on an annual basis, with Montgomery Public Schools having the option of four one-year extensions and one additional three month extension as needed to complete work applied for and funded by the E-rate program when allowed under E-rate program rules and Alabama Bid Law: Option Year 1 - July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025; Option Year 2 - July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026; Option Year 3 - July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027; Option Year 4 - July 1, 2027 to June 30, 2028. The renewal options shall be executed at Montgomery Public Schools' discretion and as mutually agreed upon by the successful bidder, provided pricing remains the same as originally agreed upon, Bidder continues to meet all requirements as specified herein, Montgomery Public Schools continues to be funded through the E- rate program, and when executing the Options or extensions does not violate State of Alabama Bid laws or E-rate guidelines.*

There are costs of construction in building direct fiber to schools. Is the intent of the system to bundle build costs into the recurring fiber fee's or to pay up-front costs for any proposed construction?

MPS Response: MPS reserves the right to make the decision when the contract is awarded.

Subject:Questions for Bid No. 12-1222

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6. **Bid Inquiry:** 51. *Bid Inquiries Deadline. All inquiries (Technical and Non-technical) regarding this solicitation shall be submitted via E-mail to procurement@mps.k12.al.us by 4:30 PM, CST, Friday, December 2, 2022. 51.1 Any inquiry received after the specified deadline or by any other means will not be accepted or given any type of consideration as it pertains to a MPS Response.*

Is there a person to contact regarding this project should additional questions arise after the 12/2 question submission? An email or phone contact? We understand the no solicitation rules during an RFP process, but as we build maps, pricing, and responses there may be additional questions that we need clarity on.

MPS Response: Line item 51 in the question was pulled from the original bid that was canceled. Bid 12-1222: WAN and Internet Services – Technology Support Services, stipulates January 3, 2023 at 2:00 PM CST as the deadline for submitting questions.

All bidders were allowed the opportunity to walk through all locations to gather any necessary data according to Section 4.4 in the bid.

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7. **Bid Inquiry:** *3.10 Installment Payment Option for Leased Fiber WAN One-time Construction/Special Construction Charges* If Vendor's quoted pricing includes one-time/special construction charges for the leased fiber WAN services, the Customer requests Vendors allow the Customer to pay the Customer's non [1]discounted share of these charges in installment payments over the period of up to three (3) years. Bidders are required to state their agreement or disagreement with this request in the Bid Response Form and identify any special terms, conditions, and interest rates charged, if any, for such an arrangement.

Can construction costs be allocated within the monthly fees for providing services or would the school system prefer upfront payment for construction with a 3-year financing option?

MPS Response: MPS reserves the right to make the decision when the contract is awarded.

Subject: Questions for Bid No. 12-1222

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8. **Bid Inquiry:** Are there physical NIDs/managed routers required at each end point location?

MPS Response: MPS has a layer 3 device at all sites except the Arboretum. The provider would need to put those networks on their device(s).

Subject: Questions for Bid No. 12-1222

jrussell@cspire.com

9. **Bid Inquiry:** Can the 20Gb circuit be distributed from the C Spire cloud to all locations, vs being dropped at a physical location?

MPS Response: It is up to the provider to put together a complete functional infrastructure that is in line with the specification(s) specified in the BID.

Subject: Questions for Bid No. 12-1222

jrussell@cspire.com

10. **Bid Inquiry:** Can we use a hosted cloud based firewall?

MPS Response: It is up to the provider to put together a complete functional infrastructure that is in line with the specification(s) specified in the BID.

Subject: Questions for Bid No. 12-1222

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11. **Bid Inquiry:** The RFP states that you have 2 data centers, however I only see 1 data center at 1718-B Britton Lane.

MPS Response: We have 1 Data Center but we have 2 WAN circuits onsite due to our current infrastructure design

Subject: Questions for Bid No. 12-1222

jrussell@cspire.com

12. **Bid Inquiry:** The RFP states the data center will need diverse routes, so will this need to be 2 separate circuit with 2 different handoffs?

Are there any requirements on the hardware being diverse or can we terminate both circuits into the same equipment?

MPS Response: Due to MPS currently having 2 WAN Service Providers, both circuits were brought back to the Data Center. That enabled redundancy to a certain point; however, if your design is has 1 WAN Services provider you may not need it

Subject: Questions for Bid No. 12-1222

jrussell@cspire.com

13. **Bid Inquiry:** Are the current IPs that need to be carried over owned by the customer?

MPS Response: The provider will need to provide a minimum of 62 (/26 subnet) continuous IPv4 addresses.

Subject: Questions for Bid No. 12-1222

jrussell@cspire.com

14. **Bid Inquiry:** For Item #34 “All services shall be rendered within 30 days “After Receipt of Order” (ARO) unless otherwise specified herein. Bidder shall indicate delivery, installation, and/or service terms on bid form when applicable.”

Are services rendered within 30 days “After Receipt of Order” or are they due at least 48 hours prior to July 1, 2023 (see section 3.6 Implementation Timeframe)?

MPS Response: Services must be completed 48 hours before July 1, 2023

Subject: Questions for Bid No. 12-1222

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15. Bid Inquiry: On page 33, item #7 says to list “Multi-vendor References”. What are these?

MPS Response: Third-party Vendors that will be utilized should be listed along with the service(s) they will provide.

Subject: Questions for Bid No. 12-1222

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Montgomery Public Schools

/S/Marvin Rudolph

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