

DISTRICT-WIDE WIRELESS UPGRADE AND CABLING: INTERNAL CONNECTIONS E-RATE YEAR 18 - RFP NO. 14-15-103

Below is the list of questions received and clarifications. The color version of the campus maps are incorporated with this addendum and are available on the District web site as Attachment A and B of Addendum 1.

Question: Page 19 of the RFP discusses Acceptance testing. Who will perform the acceptance testing?

Clarification: Refer to Page 23 of RFP, Vendor responsible.

Question: Will any equipment need to be removed to accommodate new equipment? If so, what and where?

Clarification: District will take care of removal of existing equipment

Question: In Attachment A, what is the WAN connectivity speed, SFP requirement, and hardware specifications for the new 2921 routers? Do the routers require any other applications to be supported?

Clarification: C2921-CME-SRST/K9 - The District will supply the FXO cards and licensing for fallback. We will be using the RJ-45 ports for connectivity. We will do the configuring.

Question: In Attachment A, what is the LAN connectivity speed and SFP requirements for the core switches?

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Question: In Attachment A, what is the LAN connectivity speed and SFP requirements for the 2960X switches?

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Question: In Attachment A, what is the LAN connectivity speed and SFP requirements for those school locations lacking a core switch to be purchased?

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Question: In Attachment A, what is the WAN connectivity speed and SFP requirements for the Cypress since it has no router required?

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Question: In Attachment A, what is the fiber jumper requirement from the 2960X switches to the existing fiber cabling for uplinks to the core switches?

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Question: In Attachment A, what is the fiber jumper requirement from the core switches to the existing fiber cabling for uplinks to the routers?

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Question: In Attachment A, what is the fiber jumper requirement from the core switches to the existing fiber cabling for downlinks to the 2960X switches?

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Question: Attachment A, B, and C contains a PDF and Excel version of each. Is it required to fill out and submit both versions of the proposal forms?

Clarification: Either Form.

Question: Can you clarify the part number for the Core Switch you are asking for:
WS-C3750X-24S-S - 24 Port GE SFP switch with the IP Base license or
WS-C3750X-24S-E - 24 Port GE SFP switch with the IP Services license

Clarification: WS-C3750X-24S-S - 24 Port GE SFP switch with the IP Base license

Question: Do you require SFP transceivers for the 3750 switch? They are not included and are sold separately. If so, how many are required? This switch has SFP ports and does not contain copper Ethernet ports.

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Question: The WS-C2960X-24PD-L switch has 2 x 10G SFP+ unlink ports that can support either 1 GbE or 10 GbE transceivers. How will these switches be connected to the MDF switch. Single or Multiple connections? 1G? 10G? The 24 ports on the 3750X switch only supports 1G SFPs.

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Question: The 3750X switch has an option to add a Network Module. There are two modules available. There is a 4-port 1Gbe module and a 2-port 10Gbe module. Are these required?

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Question: The C2960X switches have an optional Stack module. Do you require these on any of the switches? The FlexStack-Plus module is hot swappable and can be added to any Cisco Catalyst 2960-X or Catalyst 2960-XR with a FlexStack-Plus slot. Cisco FlexStack-Plus and Cisco IOS Software offer true stacking, with all switches in a stack acting as a single switch unit. FlexStack-Plus provides a unified data plane, unified configuration, and single IP address for switch management

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Question: What is the existing wireless infrastructure manufacturer?

Clarification: Aruba

Question: What model of APs are currently installed

Clarification: IAP 105, and IAP 225

Question: What model of wireless controller(s) is/are currently being installed?

Clarification: No hardware controllers. Virtual Controller.

Question: Attachment A of the RFP shows the cost of required network equipment, please clarify where bidders should propose the below costs:

Installation

Clarification: Enter the installation costs on Attachment B and C.

Configuration

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Sale Taxes

Clarification: Add a separate line for tax on Attachment A.

Final Bonds

Clarification: Incorporate the costs of final bonds into the installation charges on Attachment B and C.

Question: Attachments B and C require the installation of 2 WAPs in each room. Please clarify if this requirement includes:

Mounting the WAP

Clarification: Yes

Patching (Connect patch cords from data outlet to WAPs)

Clarification: Yes, if installing AP's

Configuration

Clarification: No configuration of AP's or switches

Testing and Acceptance

Clarification: Yes, testing and acceptance per RFP page 19 item number 49 and page 23 under "Scope of Work" items 1 and 2.

Question: I could not find in the RFP the requirement to provide and install the following items, please advise if these will be provided by the school district or others.

Clarification: The vendor will provide Cat 6 patch cords if they install the wireless access points. The vendor will provide the surface mounted raceways for all exposed cables. The District will provide all FO patch cords, 10G SFP+ or GBIC, MDF / IDF Cabinets, Conduit and Electrical.

Question: What is the District E-Rate discount?

Clarification: 80%

Question: Is there a list of existing IAPs and their locations?

Clarification: They are indicated on the campus maps with pink ovals. The color version of the campus maps are incorporated with this addendum and are available on the District web site.

Question: Will you need any exterior APs?

Clarification: Not at this time.

Question: Will you require 1 year or 2 year warranty? What is the required warranty?

Clarification: No, the work and all hardware should be included in the one (1) year of required maintenance and support at the level stated per page 23, item 10 of the RFP.

Question: How many APs on each IDF?

Clarification: From two (2) to approximately twenty (20).

Question: Will the new APs run to the existing IDF?

Clarification: Yes

Question: Is path provided if additional is needed?

Clarification: Yes

Question: Where are the IDFs located?

Clarification: They are indicated on the campus maps with some in classrooms, some on the end of the wing, and some are in custodial closets. The color version of the campus maps are incorporated with this addendum and are available on the District web site.

Question: Is District looking at security, active shooter, cameras, etc.?

Clarification: No, not at this time.

Question: Would the District entertain doing a 10% contingency fund?

Clarification: No

Question: Do you have a Local Bond?

Clarification: Yes, Measure CC.

Question: How much of it is dedicated to the wireless infrastructure?

Clarification: None at this time.

Question: Will you be opening the bids and reading them aloud?

Clarification: No.

Question: Do you have a timeline/deadline for the installation?

Clarification: The District has approximately 5 years to complete the work after awarded the funds.

Question: We noticed Attachment A is the same on both projects, both equipment, schools, and quantities listed are the same. Can you please clarify why both are the same and how do you intend on awarding the CMAS and E-Rate project?

Clarification: The District will chose this path to give the District multiple options to purchase the equipment and/or install data drops based on the District's best interest.

Question: Is the majority of the current equipment Cisco?

Clarification: Yes, the majority of network equipment is Cisco, the majority of wireless access points are Aruba.

Question: How would any remediation be handled such as Asbestos?

Clarification: That would be handled separate from this RFP.

Question: If you get a great quote on this RFP would you use CMAS aside from E-Rate?

Clarification: Yes, if it is in the best interest of the District.

Question: Do you know the estimated amount of E-Rate funds that the District will receive?

Clarification: Our E-Rate funding will be about 1.5 million.

Question: Is there a current standard for drops currently in place?

Clarification: The District does not have a standard in place, there have been several projects over the years adding network infrastructure and each were handled separately. There is at least 1 drop in all of the classrooms. Some campuses were modernized and additional drops were added.

Question: Do you allow multiple bids per vendor? Differing options for install?

Clarification: "No Vendor may submit more than one proposal" per page 10-11, item 9 on the RFP.

Question: When are you planning on moving forward with this project?

Clarification: Not until after E-Rate notification.

Question: Are you using leased lines or fiber to your remote sites?

Clarification: The District is using dedicated leased lines between our sites and district.

Question: Do you have any centralized management of networking devices and IAP's?

Clarification: The District has Airwave and snmp software for monitoring, but no centralized management.

Question: Are you looking into Clearpass?

Clarification: The District is currently using Clearpass for user authentication.

Question: Are you using Clearpass as your MDM?

Clarification: No, the District is using Airwave.

Question: Are the routers you specified being used for POTS lines?

Clarification: Yes, the District is currently using POTS lines.

Question: The total number of IAP's for a site doesn't match the requested number of IAP's?

Clarification: The District is adding to the existing wireless network and using existing IAP's. The RFP is for additional IAP's needed.

Question: How invested are you in Aruba Products?

Clarification: The District currently has about 500 Aruba IAP's with wireless coverage at every site.

Question: Are all the ceilings the same?

Clarification: No. Some are drop ceiling and some are hard lid.

Question: What percent of the rooms are drop ceiling?

Clarification: The majority of classrooms are drop ceiling, approximately 50%.

Question: Is everything 1Gb and Fiber?

Clarification: No, but most sites have 1Gb or Fiber. The campus maps indicate fiber in blue, copper in green and Coaxial in red.

Question: What spacing are you expecting for the AP's?

Clarification: Preferably splitting the room in thirds, but some rooms will be different and will need to be decided per room.

Question: Do we have access to the crawl space above the hard lid classrooms?

Clarification: Yes, there will be access from one end of the building.

Question: Will patch panels need to be installed?

Clarification: If existing patch panels are unusable, District will provide the required patch panel.

Question: Do you have a specific vendor you want for the connections? i.e. patch panel?

Clarification: No specific vendor, but they must meet the minimum industry standards approved in advance of installation by the District.

Question: Are we assuming there is a path available to each IDF?

Clarification: Yes, we are assuming that there is a path available, but if not the District will provide.

Question: We using J-hooks and conduit?

Clarification: The District does require suspension of the horizontal cables, page 24, item 8 in the RFP states "All horizontal cables must be supported every 4 to 5 feet in accordance with TIA/EIA standards. Hangers and or tie straps must be provided. Cable will not be tied directly to bar joist. Hangers and tie straps must be plenum rated." Any industry standard suspension including J-hooks is acceptable. Conduit is acceptable, but not required.

Question: Cat 5 or Cat 6 cabling?

Clarification: Cat 6 per page 23, item 3 of the RFP

Question: What about multipurpose rooms, cafeterias or admin. buildings?

Clarification: This RFP is for classrooms only.

Question: Is everything running to IDF's or classrooms?

Clarification: They are running to the current IDF for the existing drops in the classroom.

Question: If IDF cabinet is available but current patch is outside the cabinet, will we be running into the cabinet?

Clarification: If a cabinet is available, the cables should be run to the cabinet.

Question: With the drops being flush mount to ceiling, are the cables run in wire molding?

Clarification: Cables to AP's will be patched into drop (exposed) then immediately run back up into ceiling over to where AP's will be mounted to minimize cable showing in classroom. Wire molding will be installed in areas this is not possible.

Question: If we are only running two drops for the AP's do you still want drops in the ceiling with the cable exposed and run back into the ceiling.

Clarification: Yes, we want to keep them accessible from the classroom.

Question: New patch panels will need to be installed because all existing is Cat5?

Clarification: If existing patch panels are unusable, District will provide the required patch panel.

Question: Does it need to be rated cables to be run underground for the portables, and plenum for attic space?

Clarification: Cat 6 plenum cable per page 23, item 3 of the RFP.

Question: Are we assuming that all classrooms at Las Palmas are the same?

Clarification: No, there are portable classrooms with drop ceilings and classrooms with hard lid ceilings.

Question: Which classrooms are portables?

Clarification: Approximately 17% of the classrooms are portables throughout the District.

Question: What about the hard lid ceilings and the tiles being broken or knocked loose? They often fall and have been up a long time.

Clarification: Any ceiling tile broken or damaged during installation will be replaced by vendor.

Question: Are there drawings available that are to scale?

Clarification: No, the campus maps are close to scale but not everything is accurate.

Question: TELECOMMUNICATIONS RFP no. 14-15-104 is listed in the RFP documentation for DISTRICT-WIDE WIRELESS UPGRADE AND CABLING: Internal Connections RFP No. 14-15-103. Should this be included in our proposal response for RFP No. 14-15-103? Or, should this section be ignored completely for RFP No. 14-15-103? Please clarify.

Clarification: Yes, you can ignore the reference to the Telecommunications RFP 14-15-104, it is a completely separate bid. I advertised both RFPs together in the same advertisement.

Question: Item 27. E-Rate In-eligible Costs, on page 16 of the RFP documentation, instructs us to include a complete bill of materials, including manufacturer make, model, quantity, unit price, extended price, installation and sales tax. Any E-rate ineligible costs must be submitted on a separate bill of materials. The District's RFP Proposal Forms and Spreadsheets provided do not allow for us to include a complete bill of materials, including manufacturer make, model, quantity, unit price, extended price, installation and sales tax. Will the District provide us with new forms? Or, should we include our own spreadsheets to include these details and the E-Rate ineligible costs? **NOTE:** USAC is supposed to be posting their new and desired Item 21 Attachment Template on their website by January 14. This template is new and is now mandatory per USAC moving forward for E-Rate YR18 and beyond. Maybe the District should wait until this new template is posted for us to use. Just a suggestion.

Clarification: Within one (1) week of award, the awarded Service Provider must provide the District a bill of materials using a completed USAC "Item 21

Template". Subsequent schedules of values and invoices for each site must match Item 21 Attachment or subsequent service substitutions.

Question: Item 10. Details maintenance and support. Is this just for the Aruba wireless access points and Cisco routers and switches listed on the Attachment A spreadsheet? Can you please provide more details to this requirement?

Clarification: No, the work and all hardware should be included in the one (1) year of required maintenance and support at the level stated per page 23, item 10 of the RFP.

Question: The Technical Specifications do not include the District's preferred standard for a cable and component manufacturer. Can you please indicate the preferred cable and component manufacturer standard?

Clarification: The District does not have a specific manufacturer, but please refer to page 23, item 3:

- All cable, unless otherwise specified, is to be
- a. category 6, 4 pair UTP with appropriate jacket;
 - b. jacket is to be labeled as verified category 6,
 - c. UL rated,
 - d. Plenum rated.
 - e. Tested and certified all cable data connections to 1000 Mbps. All patch cables are to be factory manufactured.

Question: Has the District considered an equal to the Aruba Access Points listed in Attachment A? If so, can you please provide the manufacturer that has been accepted by the District as an equal?

Clarification: The District has provided a standard and will assess any substitute manufacturers on a case by case basis.

Question: Will the District accept proposals with optional bids for another wireless solution?

Clarification: No.

Question: It was mentioned during the mandatory job walk that we should account for using all existing cable pathways throughout all areas and sites. Can you please confirm this to be true?

Clarification: The District intends to use the existing cable pathways. If an additional pathway is needed the District will provide.

Question: It was mentioned during the mandatory pre-bid conference that a CMAS proposal was requested in addition to the proposal form provided. I also noticed on the Districts website that there is a separate CMAS ERATE RFO for Aruba and Cisco products. Is it a requirement that we provide the District with both types of proposals for this project? Or, is the CMAS ERATE RFO a completely separate proposal that has no bearing on the RFP No. 14-15-103 response?

Clarification: Yes, the CMAS ERATE RFO is separate from RFP 14-15-103. You can send a proposal for one, both of them.

Question: Considering the time frame between the District's response to the contractor's RFIs (January 9) and the due date of proposal (January 13), will the District extend the proposal due date to allow for more time in preparing our proposals?

Clarification: No.

Question: In Attachment A, WS0C3750X-24-S switches are called out. Those switches are offered in an IP Base or IP Services software configuration. Which alternative is desired?

Clarification: IP Base.

Question: If any programming for the access points, switches or routers is desired can you provide a specific scope of work outlining what type of setup is desired?

Clarification: We will do all configurations

Question: WILL NEW CAT-6 PATCH PANELS BE REQUIRED? IF SO, HOW MANY 48-PORT AND/OR 24-PORT CAT-6 PATCH PANELS ARE REQUIRED FOR EACH SITE?

Clarification: If existing patch panels are unusable, District will provide the required patch panel.

Question: AT EACH WAP END-POINT SHOULD WE PROVIDE A JACK, FACEPLATE AND PATCH CORD OR DO YOU PREFER A CAT-6 MOD PLUG ON END OF CABLE FOR DIRECT CONNECTION TO WAP?

Clarification: The District requires a manufactured Cat-6 cable for the connection from the data drop to the wireless access point.

Question: ARE CAT-6 PATCH CORDS REQUIRED AT THE WAP AND AT THE PATCH PANEL? IF SO, HOW MANY AND WHAT LENGTH SHOULD WE PROVIDE?

Clarification: Yes, the vendor will provide all Cat 6 patch cords if they install the wireless access points. The length of the cables will vary per specific installation requirements ranging from 1 to 15 feet. Please refer to page 23, item 3:

All cable, unless otherwise specified, is to be

- a. category 6, 4 pair UTP with appropriate jacket;
- b. jacket is to be labeled as verified category 6,
- c. UL rated,
- d. Plenum rated.
- e. Tested and certified all cable data connections to 1000 Mbps. All patch cables are to be factory manufactured.

Question: WILL ALL WORK BE PERFORMED DURING 1ST SHIFT?

Clarification: No, work times may vary depending on class and District schedules.

Question: HOW WILL SITE ACCESS BE PROVIDED? WILL KEYS BE PROVIDED TO CONTRACTOR FOR EACH SITE?

Clarification: There will be a District representative available for access to all sites.

Question: HOW MANY WALL MOUNTED WAP'S ARE REQUIRED? SHOULD WE PROVIDE A WALL MOUNT BRACKET AS REQUIRED?

Clarification: Very few if any will be required, but if it is required the District will expect a wall mount bracket.

Question: WILL ANY CONDUIT WORK BE REQUIRED OR CAN WE ASSUME EXISTING CONDUITS HAVE ADEQUATE SPARE CAPACITY FOR NEW CAT-6 CABLING? IF CONDUIT IS REQUIRED HOW SHOULD WE PRICE OUT THIS OPTION FOR BIDDING PURPOSES?

Clarification: If additional conduit is required, the District will provide.

Question: WILL ANY NEW SLEEVE/WALL PENETRATIONS BE REQUIRED OR CAN WE ASSUME EXISTING SLEEVING HAS ADEQUATE SPARE CAPACITY FOR NEW CAT-6 CABLING? IF SLEEVING IS REQUIRED HOW SHOULD WE PRICE OUT THIS OPTION FOR BIDDING PURPOSES?

Clarification: All sleeve/wall penetrations should be adequate. If required, the District will provide.

Question: WILL ANY SURFACE MOUNTED RACEWAY BE PROVIDED? IF SURFACE RACEWAY IS REQUIRED HOW SHOULD WE PRICE OUT THIS OPTION FOR BIDDING PURPOSES?

Clarification: All installations should not have exposed cable whenever possible, raceway will be used if the cable is exposed. Less than 2% of classrooms might

require raceway. The vendor will provide raceway where needed. Incorporate the price of the raceway in your total installation cost.

Question: CAN WE ASSUME ALL EXISTING MDF/IDF RACK/CABINETS HAVE SUFFICIENT SPARE CAPACITY FOR NEW PATCH PANELS? IF NOT, HOW SHOULD WE PRICE OUT THIS OPTION FOR BIDDING PURPOSES?

Clarification: If existing patch panels are unusable, District will provide the required patch panel.

Question: WILL ANY WAP ENCLOSURES BE REQUIRED? IF SO, PLEASE PROVIDE QUANTITY AND TYPE?

Clarification: No enclosures will be required.

Question: The Aruba IAP 225 has qty 2 Ethernet ports, but can function using one. Is it a requirement that each AP has both ports patched into the network?

Clarification: No.

Question: The specified Aruba IAP 225 is capable of operating without a physical Aruba controller in an "Instant cluster". Is this the intended use at all sites or is there an existing physical controller that the APs will connect to?

Clarification: The intended use of the Aruba IAP 225 is in an instant cluster with no physical controller.

Question: Page 24, Line Item 14: Install APs on the wall or in the ceiling per the District's direction. Are we assuming on the wall if it's hard lid and in the ceiling if it's drop?

Clarification: No, the District expects all APs to be ceiling mounted unless not possible.

Question: Is the vendor responsible for providing 1G SFP Transceivers? If so, how many and what type of fiber is running between the Cisco 2960X switches and Cisco 3750X switch core at each site?

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Question: Are Transceivers required for sites without a vendor-provided 3750X switch core? If yes, how many and what type?

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Question: Are any 10G SFP+ Transceivers required for this bid?

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Question: Is any stacking of switches required for 2960X switches? If yes, how many?

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Question: Does the District require any additional modules, components, or licensing for the Cisco2921 Core Router?

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Question: How is the core router connected to the LAN network (copper or fiber connection)? Are SFPs required for this connection?

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Question: How is the core router connected to the WAN network (copper or fiber connection)? Are SFPs required for this connection?

Clarification: Not relevant, District will provide.

Question: Are we to provide patch cords in the classrooms and telecommunication closets?

Clarification: Yes, the vendor will provide all Cat 6 patch cords if they install the wireless access points. The vendor will provide the surface mounted raceways for all exposed cables.

Question: It is our understanding that Cat6 Plenum cable will be required for this project, however, is Cat6 Riser cable an option? Please confirm.

Clarification: No.

Question: Please confirm whether or not the District would like a 2/4 port faceplate installed and terminated next to the APs.

Clarification: Yes, the District would like a 2/4 port faceplate installed, but in the center of the room not at each access point.

Question: Please confirm whether or not the data faceplate will be required to be placed above the ceiling grid or placed on the surface of the ceiling.

Clarification: The data face plate should be installed on the surface of the ceiling (exposed), not above the ceiling grid.

Question: Will raceway be expected to be installed on the surface of the ceiling or will the District prefer the cable be exposed?

Clarification: All installations should not have exposed cable whenever possible, raceway will be used if the cable is exposed.

Question: Are we to assume that all areas where work will be taking place will be asbestos free?

Clarification: All of our schools were built prior to 1981, so it can be assumed that asbestos containing materials were used during the construction of our schools. Our asbestos management plan is located in the administration office at each school for public review. The Maintenance department will be available to inform awarded vendor of all known areas with asbestos. The District will arrange for asbestos abatement as needed prior to the commencement of work.

Question: Does the District have a pre-approved list of equivalent manufacturers for this request? If so, where can this be found?

Clarification: No.

Question: Per the RFP Index of Proposal Documents (page 4) we are required to execute and return the Debarment and Suspension Certificate as part of our proposal response, yet the form is not listed/named on the RFP Response Outline (page 6). Should this form be completed and included within Section I –

Clarification: Yes, please add the Debarment and Suspension Certificate in Section I.

Question: How many existing Aruba access points does the District currently have?

Clarification: The District currently has about 500 Aruba IAP's with wireless coverage at every site.

Question: Will any of the existing Aruba access points still be remaining after the new ones being proposed are installed?

Clarification: Yes.

Question: Is the requirement that all cable going through underground conduit be outside plant (OSP) rated?

Clarification: There will be very few occurrences where underground conduit will be required. If underground conduit is required, the District will provide the cables.

END OF ADDENDUM