



**IDEA Headquarters**  
2115 W. Pike Boulevard  
Weslaco, Texas 78596  
**Phone** 956.377.8000  
**Fax** 956.447.3796

## Request For Proposals Addendum

### Addendum #1:

- **Vendor Questions: 8-EC1-0124 WAN Service for Louisiana – Form 470 #240001095**

Date: 10/16/23

**Q&A at 48 min: 40 sec.**

<https://www.usac.org/e-rate/learn/webinars/>

**Question #1:** Can you discuss the eligibility of a Software Defined Wide Area Network?

**Answer:** Generally, the SD WAN functions and components are actually considered eligible under Category 2, under MIBS, due to the management and operations ability that it brings to a WAN. There are cases where the service provider is providing a finished service bundle that includes an ancillary SD WAN functionality, it can be eligible under Category 1 if it turns out to be selected as the most cost effective of the options of the bids they receive. If there is a separate charge for the SD WAN functionality or components, during the review process we will review (1) the eligibility of the services that it is supporting. Also, in that case where when you do have those two circuits, we will be asking in terms of redundant or failover types of situations to make sure that is not what is going on there. So, you should be ready to support that. If there is a separate charge related to SD WANs functions or components, we will review that under Category 1 in terms of for eligibility. If the functions of the equipment are deemed to be Cat 2, then at that it will not be eligible under that Category 1 funding request. Generally, if the SD WAN functions are being provided as ancillary to a service bundle they can be considered eligible. If there is a separate broken out charge it will be reviewed for eligibility for Category 1, but generally that will probably end up falling under Category 2.

**Question #2:** Will IDEA Public Schools consider SD WAN as a solution?

**Answer:** Proposals should be submitted for the services requested. IDEA will review any SD WAN proposals submitted as a second option. If submitting an SW WAN option, please identify any changes that would be classified as Category 2.



End of Addendum

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