

# RESTRICTED



## Request for Proposals (RFP)

#RFP 10-ECSM-0124 for E-Rate Cat 2 Consortium Texas

Form 470 #240002673

Issued by:

IDEA Public Schools

2115 W Pike Blvd

Weslaco, TX 78596

Proposal Closing Date:

**2:00 PM CST**

**December 4, 2023**

IDEA Public Schools, a Texas public charter school system, is accepting Proposals from qualified and experienced Vendors/Contractors to provide Firewall as a Service (FWaaS) Cloud solution if these items are applicable. The "District" needs these devices configured and maintained for the E-Rate period. (For a list of specific equipment, model numbers, and quantities, see scope of work.)

IDEA Public Schools ("IDEA") reserves the right to revise and amend the specifications prior to the date set for the receipt of Proposals. Respondents are requested to clarify any ambiguity, conflict, discrepancy, omission or other error(s) in this RFP in writing and at least 10 (ten) business days in advance of the submission deadline. Revisions or amendments, if any, will be made by issuing an errata or addenda that is posted to IDEA's website. Every effort will be made to also send the errata or addenda issued to the parties known to have been furnished a complete copy of this RFP. It is the responsibility of each Respondent, prior to submitting the Proposal, to check IDEA's website to determine if an errata or addenda was issued and, if so, to obtain such errata or addenda.

Inquiries and requests for information affecting the solicitation must be submitted in writing and shall be directed to <https://forms.gle/njcEC7wiTX77mSvSA> no later than **10 days before the bid deadline of November 24, 2023 at 3:00 PM CST**. A copy of the question and response will be uploaded into the [EPC](#) RFP section of this Form 470. All interested parties may access this RFP package online at the following address: <https://ideapublicschools.org/our-story/finance-budget/>

All proposals must be received no later than **the bid deadline stated on Form 470**. A completed signed bid proposal must be emailed to [Tyler Munis Self Service](#). Any Proposal received later than the specified time will be disqualified. IDEA Public Schools prefers to work with Vendors capable of providing the needs for the entire project within a Region or Phase as indicated on the attached spreadsheet. Therefore, Vendors must submit a complete proposal for all regional items. **No partial bids will be considered or accepted.**

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## PART I – GENERAL INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

### Introduction and Purpose

IDEA Public Schools (“IDEA”) is a Texas nonprofit corporation and a tax-exempt organization pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Pursuant to Chapter 12, Subchapter D of the Texas Education Code and its Contract for Charter with the Texas State Board of Education, as renewed by the Commissioner of Education, IDEA is an open-enrollment charter holder, governmental entity and public school system. IDEA prepares Texas students from underserved communities for success in college and citizenship. IDEA is a growing network of 123 high-performing charter schools located throughout Texas in the Austin, El Paso, Houston, Permian Basin, Rio Grande Valley, San Antonio, and Tarrant County regions. Although IDEA’s growth is rapid, it is also carefully planned. Schools begin with select grade levels and eventually reach full scale as a Pre-K-12 campus as grade levels are added to accommodate the students’ advancement.

IDEA’s mission is College for All. IDEA serves primarily low-income students in underserved areas of both rural and urban communities. Over 80% of IDEA students are considered low-income and one of every three students is the first in their family to go to college. Since the first graduating class in 2007, 100% of seniors have been accepted and matriculated to a college or university every year for fourteen consecutive years. Thanks to a rigorous path to college that begins in Pre-K, IDEA students attend selective universities throughout the country, win national awards and scholarships, and complete college at a rate six times the national average for low-income students.

*Note: While IDEA’s affiliates serve students in other states, this Request for Proposals and any subsequent contract is only for goods or services provided to IDEA’s Texas-based charter school and campuses.*

### Objectives

Utilizing the Request for Proposals (RFP) method of procurement, IDEA Public Schools (“District”) is seeking a qualified vendor (VENDOR) for Firewall as a Service (FWaaS) cloud solution for purchase and maintenance throughout the E-Rate period. The applicant must meet the Tenants Zero Trust Architecture or equivalent, as outlined in the NIST 800-207 Special Publication.

The new service is planned to begin in April 1, 2024, which represents the expiration of the current service and/or the establishment of new service. Seeking proposals for 40 months (4 months E-Rate ineligible and 36 months E-Rate eligible).

#### 1) Funding Authority

IDEA will utilize State and Federal funds to finance any purchases of goods and/or services through the contract(s) awarded to the successful Vendor(s)/Contractor(s) through this RFP, including any purchase orders issued under said contract(s)

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## 2) Rationale for RFP

Upon consideration of the requirements for the procurement under this RFP, IDEA determined that the RFP was the appropriate purchasing method for the following reasons:

- (a) The selection of the successful respondent will not be made primarily on the basis of price.
- (b) The purchasing requirements cannot be described by detailed specifications.
- (c) IDEA requires that each respondent provide innovative solutions to address the purchasing requirements set forth in this RFP.
- (d) IDEA anticipates negotiating or desires to negotiate the final award under this RFP to ensure that the goods and/or services sought do, in fact, address the purchasing requirements.

**Note:** Only USAC vendors qualify to bid. Any potential bidder will need to create an account via USAC portal in order to qualify. Please use this link and instructions. <https://www.usac.org/e-rate/service-providers/>

## 3) Proposal Submissions

- a) Proposal Response Requirements. Proposals should be prepared in such a way as to demonstrate a straightforward, concise delineation of capabilities that satisfy the requirements of this RFP. To qualify for evaluation, a Proposal must have been submitted on time and must materially satisfy all mandatory requirements identified in this RFP. Respondents must follow the format instructions detailed below in preparing and submitting a Proposal. Each Respondent is responsible for ensuring that IDEA has the appropriate company name, authorized representative, and contact information on file for the purpose of receiving notices, changes, addenda or other critical information relating to this RFP.
- b) Eligible Respondents. Respondents who can meet the technical specifications for quality and other terms of this RFP, who are not debarred and/or suspended from conducting business with IDEA by federal and state funded agencies and have the right to transact business in Texas are invited to respond. A prospective Vendor/Contractor must affirmatively demonstrate responsibility and good standing. Submitting a Proposal represents to IDEA that Vendor/Contractor meets the following requirements:
  - Possesses or is able to obtain adequate financial resources to perform under this RFP.
  - Can comply with the required scope of this RFP.
  - Has a satisfactory record of integrity and ethics.
  - Is otherwise qualified and eligible to receive an award.
  - Is in good standing with the applicable national or state agencies and associations.
- c) Required Format. To be considered, the Proposal must be prepared according to the stated specifications and specifications and should include the following information and content. Failure to include these items may result in disqualification. For details, see **Part III, Section 2, Proposal Requirements.**

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- d) Submission of Proposals. Proposals shall be submitted via the web-based software portal, [Tyler Munis Self Service](#). A signed, submitted Proposal submitted via Tyler Munis constitutes an offer to perform work and/or deliver the products specified in this RFP. Proposals shall be received no later than **2:00 PM CST on Monday, December 4, 2023**, along with the requisite signature pages, required attachments, and certification forms. Proposal envelopes received by mail must be clearly marked with this RFP number and title and addressed as indicated in this RFP. Late Proposals will **not** be accepted. Faxed or emailed Proposals will **not** be accepted. Deviations from any terms, conditions and/or specifications, although discouraged, shall be conspicuously noted in writing by the Respondent and shall be included with the Proposal in **Attachment U**.
- e) Use of Brand Names. The use of brand and manufacturer's names is for the purpose of brevity in establishing type and quality of merchandise and is not restrictive. Manufacturer, trade, and/or brand name must be indicated for each article and, when omitted, IDEA will consider Proposal to be as specified. Illustrations and complete description must be included with the Proposal if proposing other than specified.
- f) Incurred Costs. All costs incurred in the preparation and submission of the Proposal shall be borne solely by the Respondent. Where Respondents may be required to perform a presentation, give demonstrations, provide samples and/or technical literature, or participate in any interview process as related to this RFP, all costs shall be borne by the Respondent.
- g) Proposed Costs. Respondent shall provide information on all costs that IDEA may incur related to providing the requested goods and/or services herein. Respondent will provide a complete fee and cost detail supporting all elements of its Proposal. The cost detail must include a narrative for each fee or cost element. If Respondent does not expect IDEA to incur any costs, the Proposal shall state "No costs to IDEA." Costs should be submitted utilizing or referencing **Attachment S**.
- h) Discounts. Although IDEA may take advantage of any discount offered by Respondent for payment in less than thirty (30) calendar days, IDEA shall not consider discounts offered by Respondent during the evaluation of the Proposal submitted. IDEA will only evaluate Proposals based on the criteria set forth in **Part IV** of this RFP.
- i) Tax Exemption. IDEA is exempt from federal excise tax, state, and local tax. Do not include tax in cost projections. Any taxes included in cost projections will not be included in the tabulation of any awards.
- j) Withdrawal of Submitted Proposal. At any time prior to the closing date and time, a Respondent may withdraw a submitted Proposal by submitting a request to withdraw in writing to [solicitations@ideapublicschools.org](mailto:solicitations@ideapublicschools.org). By submitting a Proposal, each Respondent guarantees that the Proposal submitted, including the price(s) detailed therein, shall remain firm for a period of not less than one hundred twenty (120) days from this RFP closing date. No Proposal may be withdrawn during the 120-day period of offering.
- k) Proposal Constitutes Offer. A Proposal submitted in response to this RFP is an offer to contract with IDEA, based upon the terms, conditions, and specifications of this RFP and IDEA's standard terms and conditions. A Proposal does not become a contract unless and until it is accepted by IDEA and approved by its Board of Directors ("Board"), as required by law and policy. Submission of a Proposal shall be construed to mean that the Vendor/Contractor agrees to carry out all conditions set forth in this RFP. By submitting a Proposal, Respondent affirms it has read and understands this RFP and terms and conditions set to govern the contract. Any proposed variation from the specifications, terms, and conditions shall be clearly identified in the Proposal

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(see **Attachment U**). Respondents must describe in detail any proposed variation to the stated specifications, terms, and conditions. Please note that variations are strongly discouraged and may be grounds for rejection at IDEA's sole discretion. Please refer to earlier instructions and **Part I, paragraph 6, RFP Clarification and Questions** below on submitting any questions as to ambiguity, conflict, discrepancy, omission, or other error(s) that may relate to any requested variation in writing. If no changes are indicated, IDEA shall expect to receive the goods and/or services exactly as specified.

- l) RFP and Proposal Constitute Contract. Upon the Board's acceptance of Respondent's Proposal and approval of a contract with Respondent, this RFP and Proposal shall constitute the written, binding contract between the parties (the "Contract" or "Agreement"). IDEA shall not accept any contract or other written agreement from a Respondent submitted as part of its Proposal. IDEA reserves the right to tender its own contract for the goods and/or services solicited through this RFP. If IDEA is willing to consider or needs a contract draft tendered from Respondent, IDEA will request this from Respondent, but contract terms must be consistent with this RFP and IDEA's standard terms and conditions.
- m) Open Records. As a Texas open enrollment charter school, IDEA is subject to the Texas Public Information Act, Tex. Gov't Code §§ 552.001 *et seq* ("TPIA"). Proposals submitted to IDEA in response to this RFP may be subject to release as public information after contracts are executed or the procurement is terminated. If a Respondent believes that its response, or parts of its response, may be exempted from disclosure under Texas law, Respondent is responsible for submitting arguments to the Attorney General identifying which exception(s) to the TPIA are applicable and provide detailed reasons to substantiate the exception(s). Vague or general claims to confidentiality normally are not accepted by the Attorney General. IDEA assumes no obligation or responsibility relating to the disclosure or nondisclosure of information submitted by Respondent.
- n) Conflict of Interest. IDEA and any prospective or actual Vendor/Contractor are required to comply with Texas Local Government Code Chapter 176, Disclosure of Certain Relationships with Local Government Officials. Any Vendor/Contractor that does business or seeks to do business with IDEA must timely complete and submit the Texas Ethics Commission's required Conflict of Interest Questionnaire – Form CIQ referenced in **Attachment H**.
- o) Undue Influence. In order to ensure the integrity of the selection process, Respondent's officers, employees, agents, or other representatives shall not lobby or attempt to influence a vote or recommendation related to the Vendor/Contractor, directly or indirectly, through any contact with IDEA Board members or officials from the date this RFP is released until the award of a fully executed and approved Contract. By submitting a Proposal, Respondent affirms that the Vendor/Contractor has not given, offered to give, nor intends to give at any time hereafter any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, or service to any IDEA representative in connection with the Proposal submitted.
- p) Proposal Errors. Respondents will represent that its Proposal is a true and correct statement and contains no cause for claim of omission or error. Request for withdrawal of Proposal is allowed based on proof of mechanical error; however, the Vendor/Contractor may be removed from consideration or from any approved Vendor/Contract list maintained by IDEA.
- q) False/Misleading Statements. Proposals which contain false or misleading statements, or which provide references which do not support an accurate attribute or capability of Vendor/Contractor, may be rejected. If, in the opinion of IDEA, such information was intended



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to mislead IDEA in its evaluation of the Proposal and the attribute, condition, or capability as a requirement of this RFP, IDEA shall reject the Proposal.

- r) Proposal Signatures. The Proposal must be signed by an authorized representative with proper signatory authority. By submitting a Proposal, Respondent represents and warrants that the individual submitting the Proposal and the documents made part of the Proposal is authorized to sign such documents on behalf of the Vendor/Contractor and to bind the Vendor/Contractor under any contract that may result from the Proposal submission. The signature should indicate the title or position that the individual holds in the entity.
- s) Rights Reserved by IDEA and Restrictions on the RFP Process.
- IDEA reserves the right to cancel or withdraw this solicitation in whole or in part by issuance of a revised or amended RFP or a cancellation of this RFP.
  - IDEA reserves the right to select any Proposal, or combination thereof, it deems the best value and in the best interest of IDEA, regardless of price. See **Part IV** for the evaluation criteria used in this RFP.
  - IDEA reserves the right to award one or more contracts, in parts if not in whole, to a single or to multiple Respondents or to create a pool of approved Vendors/Contractors. See **Part I, paragraph 11, Selection of Vendor(s)**, below. The fact that IDEA may make multiple awards should be taken into consideration by each Respondent and “all-or-none” combinations of goods and/or services will not be considered if not solicited.
  - IDEA reserves the right to reject any and/or all Proposals, to award contracts for individual products or services as may appear advantageous, and to negotiate separately in any manner necessary to serve the best interests of IDEA. IDEA further reserves the right to accept, reject, or negotiate modifications in any terms of a Respondent’s Proposal or any parts thereof.
  - IDEA reserves the right to waive any formalities or technicalities if deemed in the best interest of IDEA. IDEA also reserves the right as sole judge of quality and equality.

**Tentative RFP Timeline-** The schedule for the primary events of this project are as follows. Items 3 through 6 are approximate dates and are subject to change based upon the evaluation process, SLD funding and School Board approval.

<b>RFP Issue Date:</b>	<b>November 4, 2023</b>
<b>Respondent Question Cut-Off Date:</b>	<b>Friday, November 24, 2023, at 3:00 PM</b>
<b>CST Addendum Issue Date:</b>	<b>Wednesday, November 29, 2023</b>
<b>Proposal Closing Date &amp; Time:</b>	<b>Monday, December 4, 2023, at 2:00 PM CST</b>
<b>Evaluation Period:</b>	<b>December 11 – 15, 2023</b>
<b>Board Meeting &amp; Approval:</b>	<b>January 24 - 30, 2024</b>
<b>Initial Proposed Contract Term:</b>	<b>March 31,2024-June 30, 2027</b>

#### 4) RFP Clarification and Questions

Questions must be submitted to <https://forms.gle/njcEC7wiTX77mSvSA> E-mails and phone calls will not be accepted. Q & A will be posted in [EPC](#) as a 470 RFP document no later than **November 24, 2023**. Questions submitted by Respondents before the submission along with any errata or addenda to this RFP, if applicable, answers will be posted on the IDEA website at: <https://ideapublicschools.org/our-story/finance-budget/pcs/bids-rfps/> on the [Tyler Munis Self Service](#) website,

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and [Public Purchase](#). IDEA will not answer questions verbally and any informal oral answers provided by IDEA or its agents shall not be binding. No modification or amendment to this RFP shall be valid unless it is set forth in writing, via a signed addendum or amendment from IDEA.

## 5) Addenda or Errata

Any interpretations, corrections, additions, or changes to this RFP will be communicated to Respondents by the issuance of an addenda or errata. It is the responsibility of Respondent, prior to submitting a Proposal, to determine whether an addenda or errata was issued by checking IDEA's website: [Bid Opportunities & RFPs - IDEA Public Schools](#) or the RFP section of this Form 470 in EPC, the E-Rate portal. All Respondents shall comply with the requirements specified in any addenda or errata issued by IDEA.

## 6) Respondent Responsibility

IDEA expects Respondents to be thoroughly familiar with all specifications and requirements of this RFP. Respondent's failure or omission to examine any relevant form, article, site, or document will not relieve Vendor/Contractor from any obligation regarding this RFP. By submitting a Proposal, Respondent is presumed to concur with all terms, conditions, and specifications of this RFP unless otherwise specifically stated in **Attachment U – Deviations and Exceptions**.

Respondents who have not obtained this RFP directly from IDEA, or who may have downloaded the document from the IDEA website or vendor portal in Tyler Munis, shall be responsible for immediately notifying IDEA of their interest in order to receive all written addenda or errata on a timely basis. A Respondent who does not notify IDEA and submits a Proposal without receipt of all addenda or errata issued may be deemed to have submitted a Proposal not responsive to this RFP.

## 7) Contract Award

Written notice of award mailed or otherwise furnished to the successful Vendor(s)/Contractor(s) results in a binding contract without further action required by either party. IDEA further reserves the right to tender its own contract for products or services. IDEA may not accept, and may reject, any contract or other written agreement submitted by a Respondent as part of its Proposal or offered by the successful Vendor(s)/Contractor(s). If IDEA is willing to consider or needs a contract draft tendered from Respondent, IDEA will request this from Respondent, but contract terms must be consistent with this RFP and IDEA's standard terms and conditions.

## 8) Selection of Vendor(s)

IDEA may award this RFP to multiple Vendors/Contractors or to the Vendor/Contractor IDEA determines, in its sole discretion, provides the best value to IDEA, based upon the evaluation of Proposals. Thus, the result will not be determined by price alone but upon the applicable criteria as listed under **Part IV – Evaluation Criteria** in this RFP.



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## 9) Contract Term

The Agreement(s) resulting from this RFP will be in effect as of a date established by mutual consent of IDEA and selected Vendor(s)/Contractor(s). The initial project term is expected to be **March 31, 2024 to June 30, 2027 with the option to renew**. At its sole discretion, IDEA **may renew this contract for up to an additional two (2) consecutive years** if the services have not been delivered or completed. Each renewal shall be effective for one (1) additional year effective from [term, e.g., July 1 through June 1 of any given year]. IDEA shall convey via written notice to the selected Vendor(s)/Contractor(s) at least thirty (30) days in advance of an Agreement expiration informing Vendor/Contractor of IDEA's intent to renew, non-renew, amend the Agreement, or terminate. If the Vendor/Contractor does not believe that it can renew the contract, the Vendor/Contractor shall provide IDEA with written notice at least ninety (90) days prior to the Agreement's expiration date.

## 10) Criminal Background Checks

Texas Education Code § 22.0834 requires entities that contract to provide services to IDEA Public Schools to either (i) obtain named based criminal history and/or fingerprinting record information regarding "covered employees" or (ii) provide sufficient information for IDEA Public Schools to arrange for the completion of name based criminal history and/or fingerprinting record information regarding "covered employees."

### **Definitions:**

***"Covered Employees":*** Any employee of a vendor who (1) has or will have continuing duties related to the contracted services<sup>1</sup> and (2) has or will have direct contact with students.<sup>2</sup> ***If both of these are met, a national criminal history record review is mandatory for any covered employee. Please note: (IDEA Public Schools will be the final arbitrator on what constitutes direct contact with students)***

*Contractor must coordinate and cooperate with the School to ensure that an appropriate criminal history record information review as required by Texas Education Code § 22.0834 is conducted for Contractor and any of Contractor's personnel who will have continuing duties related to this Agreement and will have direct contact with students.*

Vendor/Contractor will be required to provide a list of personnel who will be assigned to do the work. When requested, this information must be furnished within 48 hours and shall apply to any new personnel due to employee turnover. Vendor/Contractor shall cooperate with IDEA to ensure that all employees and subcontractors assigned to work under a contract have successfully passed a criminal background check prior to assignment. Any person or persons not acceptable to IDEA shall be prohibited from working on the Agreement. IDEA reserves the right to refuse entry onto its school grounds to any individual whose background check does not meet the requirements established by IDEA pursuant to Texas law. Vendor/Contractor shall provide certification that all of its personnel are eligible and that required background checks have been conducted as required by law. **Attachment O.**

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## 11) Insurance Requirements

- a) No Insurance Requirements as to IDEA. As a governmental unit as defined by Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code § 101.001, IDEA has immunity from liability and suit except to the extent such immunity is waived by the Texas Tort Claims Act, Chapter 101, Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code.
- b) The insurance coverages specified in this RFP are the minimum requirements, and these requirements do not lessen or limit the liability of the Vendor/Contractor. The Vendor/Contractor shall maintain, at its own expense, any additional kinds or amounts of insurance that it may deem necessary to cover its obligations and liabilities under this RFP and Agreement.
- c) The successful Vendor/Contractor will at a minimum carry and maintain Workers' Compensation, General Liability, and Property Damage Liability Insurance. Insurance Certificates must be submitted with the Proposal. IDEA reserves the right to review all insurance policies pertaining to this RFP to guarantee that the proper coverage is obtained and maintained by the Vendor/Contractor.
- d) Vendor/Contractor shall keep in full force and effect the following minimum limits of insurance (or higher):
  - i) General Liability: Vendor/Contractor shall maintain Commercial General Liability Insurance, including coverage for bodily injury, property damage, and contractual liability, with the following minimum limits: **\$1,000,000.00** per occurrence and **\$2,000,000.00** general aggregate. The policy shall include liability arising out of premises, operations, independent contractors, personal injury, advertising injury, and liability assumed under an insured contract, and must provide coverage for all claims that may arise from the performance of the Agreement or completed operations, whether by Vendor/Contractor or anyone directly or indirectly employed by Vendor/Contractor. Such policy shall name IDEA as an Additional Named Insured and include a Waiver of Subrogation Clause.
  - ii) Cyber Liability and Technology Professional Liability Errors and Omissions: Vendor/Contractor shall maintain coverage appropriate to Vendor's/Contractor's work under this Agreement, with limits not less than **\$2,000,000.00** per occurrence. Coverage shall be sufficiently broad to respond to the duties and obligations undertaken by Vendor/Contractor in this Agreement and shall include, but not be limited to, claims involving infringement of intellectual property, copyright, trademark, invasion of privacy violations, information theft, release of private information, extortion, and network security. The policy shall provide coverage for breach response costs as well as regulatory fines and penalties, as well as credit monitoring expenses with limits sufficient to respond to these obligations.
    - The policy shall include, or be endorsed to include, **property damage liability coverage** for damage to, alteration of, loss of, or destruction of electronic data and/or information "property" of IDEA in the care, custody, or control of Vendor/Contractor.
    - **Cyber liability coverage** in an amount sufficient to cover the full replacement value of damage to, alteration of, loss of, or destruction of electronic data and/or information "property" of IDEA that will be in the care, custody, or control of Vendor/Contractor.

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Such policy shall name IDEA as an Additional Named Insured and include a Waiver of Subrogation Clause.

- iii) Workers' Compensation: Vendor/Contractor shall obtain and maintain Workers' Compensation Insurance in an amount consistent with statutory benefits outlined in the Texas Workers' Compensation Act.
- e) Each insurance policy to be furnished by the successful Vendor/Contractor shall include "IDEA Public Schools" as a certificate holder, as Additional Named Insured, and include a Waiver of Subrogation Clause. Please note a certificate of insurance showing named-insured is not adequate to establish this status or fulfill this requirement.
- f) Additionally, each insurance policy shall, by endorsement to the policy, include a statement that a notice shall be given to IDEA by certified mail thirty (30) days prior to cancellation or upon any material changes to coverage.
- g) Vendor/Contractor may not commence services or work relating to the Agreement prior to placement of coverage. Vendor/Contractor shall keep the required insurance coverage in full force and effect at all times during the term of the Agreement, or any extension thereof, during any warranty period, of the Agreement.

## 12) Administrative Procedure for Bidder Complaints

Members of the public having complaints regarding IDEA's purchasing procedures or operations may present their complaints or concerns via telephone to IDEA's Anonymous Ethics and Compliance Hotline, 833-380-1041.

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## PART II – SCOPE OF WORK AND PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

### Scope of Work

The following describes the requirements that the successful Respondent(s) will be required to meet. IDEA will use objective criteria specified in **Part IV** to review Proposals and potentially make multiple awards, if deemed in the best interest of IDEA, in its sole discretion. IDEA Public Schools is seeking a qualified vendor (VENDOR) for Firewall as a Service (FWaaS) cloud solution for purchase. The applicant must meet the Tenants Zero Trust Architecture or equivalent, as outlined in the [NIST 800-207](#) Special Publication. This service may be agent based and installed on each individual workstation for all staff and students at IDEA. We are requesting instructional licenses with all the technical specifications and features provided. ***Agent must include content filtering as an add-on license, erate ineligible.***

### License Specifications

We are requesting 78,118 instructional licenses (10,113 non-instructional licenses must be included for a total of 88,231 licenses) with all the technical specifications and features listed below.

### Technical Specifications (or equivalent)

#### 1.0 General Description:

A. Cloud Native Firewall as a service - iBoss complete edition;

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- B. E-Rate eligibility required-3-year license/subscription;
- C. iBoss FWaaS-Next Generation Firewall-Zero Trust Complete;
- D. iBoss agent & Management Integrated;
- E. iBoss Content Filter integrated;
- F. Dedicated Cloud Resource Allocation;
- G. Global Availability;
- H. Cloud Access Security Broker (Google, Microsoft and others);
- I. NIST-800-207 Policy compliance;
- J. Identity Services (SAML, OAUTH) Integration;
- K. Identity (User, Device, Applications, Services) based policy;
- L. Unified Policy Enforcement/Management;
- M. Private Network Access via Tunnels, SD-WAN;
- N. Multi-Edge Secure Access.

## **Service Level Specifications (or equivalent)**

- A. Service Level Guarantee (Availability and Reliability)
- B. Network Latency
- C. Support Services
- D. Service Credit Procedures

•NOTE• - *E-Rate ineligible Add-ons must be separated - these will be listed separately on the Form of Proposal. If software is appliance or on-prem based, it will not be considered. Must be cloud native software and must be E-Rate eligible software.*

## **IDEA Main Administrative Sites**

1. IDEA Headquarters Rio Grande Valley  
2115 W Pike Blvd, Weslaco, TX 78596
2. IDEA Austin Regional Office  
5816 Wilcab Rd B, Austin, TX 78721

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## Section 1: Overview

### PART III – PROPOSAL SUBMISSION AND REQUIREMENTS

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#### 1) Proposal Submission (*Faxed or emailed Proposals will not be accepted*).

Proposals may be submitted using the [Tyler Munis Self Service](#) website, [Public Purchase](#) or by sending a hard copy to:

IDEA Public Schools  
**Attn. Purchasing Department-RFP 10-ECSM-0124**  
2115 West Pike Blvd  
Weslaco, TX 78596

Proposals sent by mail must be in a sealed envelope marked with the RFP Number and Title and include:

- a) One (1) clearly identified hard copy ORIGINAL of the Proposal.
- b) One (1) copy of the Proposal on FLASH DRIVES, marked with Respondent's name.

**Note:** Only USAC vendors qualify to bid. Any potential bidder will need to create an account via USAC portal in order to qualify. Please use this link and instructions. <https://www.usac.org/e-rate/service-providers/>

#### 2) General Requirements

Vendors providing proposals must provide documentation of their capability, qualifications, certifications, financial stability, and experience in providing the goods and services requested in this RFP. They must provide all documentation requested by RFP. Any proposal or bid that does not include all required documentation will automatically be excluded.

##### 2.1 Bid Process

- a) All responding vendors must be universal service fund (USF) E-Rate vendors with a currently valid service provider identification number (SPIN). Vendors must also be registered with the

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Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and have and provide an FCC registration number (FRN).

- b) All responding vendors must be in good standing with the Universal Service Administration Company (USAC) Schools and Libraries Division and eligible to provide products and services through the discount program. Vendor must put (SPIN) numbers on all documents, such as invoices.
- c) Vendor must have the resources to utilize discount payment methods, and to invoice the district for their portion of the project based upon discount levels and funding approval. Vendor should provide the cost breakdown between the invoices proposed to be provided to the district and the invoices provided to the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD).

## 2.2 Technical Experience

- a) The Vendor should be certified to install, certify, and warranty a Structured Cabling Solution. The solution could incorporate Cat copper cabling, and both multimode and single mode fiber optic cabling, as necessary. All cabling must be plenum rated. Manufacturer certifications for the proposed equipment should be attached to the proposal.
- b) The Vendor should have staff with experience installing, configuring and maintaining "eligible" network electronics. This could include switches, routers, servers, firewalls, phone KSU, etc. Staff certifications should include A+, Network +, CCNA. Attach a copy of certifications with the proposal as well as manufacturer certifications for any equipment proposed should be included.
- c) Vendor will be required to provide a Project Manager as a single point of contact for the overall project. Vendor shall provide a list of the staff members that will be working on the project, along with their experience, qualifications, and certifications.

## 2.3 Vendor References

- a) Vendor shall provide a listing of at least three (3) projects of a similar size, cost, and technical expertise, completed within the last two years. This reference list should include the customer's name, contact name, address daytime telephone number, and a brief description of the completed project. References should be for E-Rate Projects, if possible.

## 3) General Conditions

### Preparation of Bids

- a) Before submitting a proposal, each Vendor is expected to thoroughly examine the actual conditions (if applicable), specifications, general conditions, and all other related contractual documents. Failure to do so will be at the Vendor's risk and will not bar the Vendor's obligation to perform if a contract is awarded pursuant to this Invitation to Bid. Each Vendor must satisfy himself/herself by personal examination and by such other means as he/she may prefer as to the actual conditions and requirements under which the contract will be performed.
- b) It is the total responsibility of the Vendor to return the bid to the place called for, by the deadline. No bid or modifications received after the time specified in this Invitation to bid will be considered for award.
- c) Changes, additions, or any other modifications which are not specifically called for in the bid may cause the bid to be rejected as not being responsive to the Invitation to Bid.
- d) All bids shall be signed in longhand in ink in all indicated areas. Failure to sign bid documents or initial corrections on bid documents may cause rejection of the bid.



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- e) Unless otherwise requested by the District, all items supplied pursuant to this bid shall be new and unused.

## Prices

- a) All prices and notations must be typed or written in ink. Verify all prices before submission, since they may not be corrected after bids are opened. No oral or telegraphic modification will be considered
- b) This RFP is seeking products and services to be secured during the FCC's E-Rate Year 27 Calendar Year 2024 July 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025. Therefore, all prices shall remain firm and in effect from the date of the submission of the bid until September 30, 2025.

## Addenda and Change Orders

- a) All prices and notations must be typed or written in ink. Verify all prices before submission, since they may not be corrected after bids are opened. No oral or telegraphic modification will be considered.
- b) If any Vendor finds discrepancies in, or omissions from, the bid documents, he/she may submit a written or faxed request for clarification or correction thereof. A copy of the request for clarification and the response thereto will be faxed to all Vendors at the fax number given by the Vendor when the Vendor picked up the RFP.

## Renewal of Ongoing Service

- a) The DISTRICT reserves the right to renew ongoing service for telecommunications and wireless service for up to five (5) years following the initial agreement. Such renewal shall be in writing, and subject to availability of funds in subsequent years.

## Actual Conditions

- a) Vendor shall be responsible for examining actual site(s) and certifying all measurements, specifications, and conditions affecting the work to be performed at the site(s).
- b) By submitting a bid, Vendor warrants that they have made such site examination(s) as they deem necessary as to the condition of the site(s), its accessibility for materials, workers, and utilities, and ability to protect existing surface or subsurface improvements.
- c) No claim for allowance of time or money will be allowed as to such matters for any undiscovered conditions on the site(s).

## Delivery / Risk of Loss or Damage

- a) The Vendor is required to absorb all delivery costs. The DISTRICT shall not be liable for any delivery, storage, demurrage, packing, or freight charges involved in the shipment of the item(s).
- b) The Vendor shall be responsible for all transportation, loading, and unloading of materials or equipment associated with the project.

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- c) The Vendor agrees to assume all risk of loss or damage until the project is accepted by the DISTRICT.

## **Taxes**

- a) State and local taxes and all other applicable taxes are to be included in bids.

## **Liabilities**

- a) The Vendor shall be required to agree to save, defend, hold harmless, and indemnify the DISTRICT against any and all liability, claims, and costs of whatsoever kind and nature for injury to, or death of, any person or persons, and for loss or damage to any property occurring in connection with, or in any way incident to, or arising out of, the occupancy, use, service, operations, or performance of work or supply of material under the terms of this contract, resulting in whole or in part from the negligent acts or omissions of Vendor, and subcontractor, or any employee, agent, or representative of Vendor or subcontractor.
- b) The Vendor shall be required to agree to hold the DISTRICT, its officers, agents, servants, and employees harmless from liability of any nature or kind, including the use of any copyrighted or un-copyrighted composition, secret process, patented or unpatented invention, articles, or appliances furnished or used under this bid. The Vendor agrees to defend, at the Vendor's expense, any and all actions brought against the DISTRICT or himself because of unauthorized use of such articles.

## **Default by the Vendor**

- a) In case of default by Vendor, the IDEA Public Schools may procure the articles or services from other sources and may deduct from any monies due, or that may thereafter become due, to the Vendor, the difference between the price named in the contract or Purchase Order and the actual cost thereof to the IDEA Public Schools. Prices paid by the IDEA Public Schools shall be considered the prevailing market price at the time such purchase is made.
- b) Default by the Vendor may be sufficient cause to remove Vendor from the approved Vendor list for subsequent bids.
- c) Periods of performance may be extended if the facts as to the cause of delay justify such extension in the opinion of the Purchasing Agent of the DISTRICT.

## **Attorney Fees / Legal Forum**

- a) In the event that a suit or action is brought by either party to the contract to enforce any of the rights thereunder, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover such attorney fees as the court may adjudge reasonable.
- b) The parties hereby agree that any legal dispute arising from this agreement shall be settled in the appropriate jurisdiction.

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## Assignment of Contract

- a) The Vendor shall not assign the whole or any part of this agreement or any payment due or to become due thereunder, without the written consent of the DISTRICT and all sureties who have executed bonds on behalf of the Vendor in connection with this contract.

## Warranty

- a) In addition to all warranties which may be prescribed by law, all item(s) shall conform to specifications, drawings, and other descriptions and shall be free from defects in materials or workmanship.
- b) The Vendor also warrants that, to the extent the item(s) are not manufactured pursuant to detailed designs furnished by the "District", they will be free from defects in design.
- c) Such warranties for any equipment provided, including warranties prescribed by law, shall run to "District", its successors, assigns, and customers, and to users of the items, for a period of one (1) year, after delivery, or such longer period as may be prescribed by law or by additional agreement.
- d) The "District" wants to secure a cabling infrastructure capable of supporting Technology for several years. Vendors must be certified by the Manufacturer and able to provide a twenty (20) year cabling warranty.

## Award Criteria

- a) The "District" plans to accept the proposal / bid that is the best value for the school district. In making that determination, it will consider the following criteria. The "District" does not purchase solely on the basis of low bid, however, pricing will be the heaviest weighted criteria considered.

## Award of Bid

- a) The "District" will award bids to the highest responsive and responsible Vendor(s). The "District" reserves the right: (1). to award bids received on the basis of the entire list of items; (2). to reject any or all bids, or any part thereof; (3). to waive any informality or irregularity in the bid; and (4). to accept the bid that is in the best interest of the "District", price and other factors listed above.
- b) The "District" may contract with an acceptable party who is one of the three (3) lowest responsible Vendors for the procurement, maintenance, or both, of electronic data-processing systems and supporting software in any manner the "District" deems appropriate.
- c) A Purchase Order or written notice of award mailed, or otherwise delivered, to the Vendor within the time specified shall create a binding contract without further action by either party.

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## **OSHA Compliance / Material Safety Data Sheets**

- a) The article(s) covered in this bid must conform to the safety orders of the Division of Occupational Safety and Health of the State of Texas, and the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act, whichever is more restrictive.

## **Withdrawal of Bid**

- a) Any Vendor may withdraw his or her bid personally or by written request at any time prior to the scheduled due date and time for receipt of bids.

## **Inspection / Acceptance**

- a) All items provided under this bid shall be subject to inspection and test by the "District". All items must meet or exceed bid specifications, and/or, at a minimum, be merchantable per the definition of the Texas Commercial Code. Acceptance shall include (as applicable) complete delivery of all components, installation, training, testing, and other requirements of the contract, as verified by the "District".
- b) In case any supplies or lots of supplies are defective in material or workmanship or otherwise not in conformity with the requirements of this contract, the "District" shall have the right either to reject them or to require their correction. Supplies or lots of supplies which have been rejected or required to be corrected shall be removed, or if permitted or requested by the "District", corrected in place and at the expense of the Vendor promptly after notice, and shall not thereafter be tendered for acceptance unless the former rejection or requirement of correction is disclosed.
- c) If the Vendor fails to promptly replace or correct such supplies or lots of supplies, the "District" either (1) may, by contract or otherwise, replace or correct such supplies and charge to the Vendor the cost occasioned the "District" thereby; or (2) may terminate the contract for default as provided in the clause of the contract entitled "Default
- d) Unless the Vendor corrects or replaces such supplies within the delivery schedule, the "District" may require the delivery of such supplies at a reduction in price which is equitable under the circumstances.
- e) Except as otherwise provided in the contract, acceptance shall be conclusive except as regards latent defects, fraud, or such gross mistakes as amount to fraud.

## **Permits and Licenses**

- a) In connection with the furnishing of materials, articles, or services listed herein, the Vendor and all of his or her employees shall secure and maintain in force such licenses and permits as are required by law.
- b) All operations, materials, handling, transportation, labeling, and production shall comply with all Federal, State, and Local laws.

## **Invoices and Payments**

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- a) Unless otherwise specified, the Vendor shall render invoices in triplicate for materials delivered or services performed under this bid to the "District". All invoices and packing lists must reference the "District" Purchase Order number.
- b) Terms are net 30 days for the portion to be paid by the District following acceptance and satisfactory operation of network equipment and services. The "District" is not responsible for portion and payment terms as set out by the Schools & Libraries Corporation for E-Rate.

## Final Conditions

- a) The complete bid packet may include, as applicable, the Request for Proposal, General Conditions, Specifications, Addenda, or other supplementary information. If the bid is transmitted or received via computer or electronic media, Vendor warrants that the bid submitted is a verbatim copy of hard copy bid on file.
- b) Any of the above shall be interpreted to include all of the provisions of the other documents as though fully set out therein. The Vendor should fully acquaint himself or herself with the conditions and terms affecting the performance of the contract.
- c) Submission of a bid shall be taken as prima facie evidence of compliance with this provision.
- d) The Vendor selected must provide the USAC Bulk Upload spreadsheets for Category Two services.
- e) The Vendor agrees that in the event any provision(s) specified herein are finally held, or determined to be, illegal or void, or as being in contravention of any applicable law, the remainder of the agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

## Additional Required Forms

- a) Respondent shall execute all required certifications and forms attached to this RFP and return the signed originals with the Proposal.

## Additional Documentation (Optional)

- a) Additional documents may be submitted in instances where additional documentation is needed and not already captured.

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## PART IV – EVALUATION CRITERIA

In accordance with IDEA policy, award(s) of a contract(s) resulting from this RFP will be made to the responsible Vendor(s)/Contractor(s) whose Proposal(s) is/are determined, after evaluation by IDEA, to be the best value to IDEA. To qualify for evaluation, a Proposal must have been submitted on time and must materially satisfy all mandatory requirements of this RFP.

### 1) Competitive Selection and Proposal Evaluation

This is a negotiated procurement and as such, award will not necessarily be made to the lowest priced Proposal. Award will be made to the Vendor/Contractor submitting the best responsive Proposal satisfying IDEA's requirements, price, and other factors. If one Vendor/Contractor cannot meet all of

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the requirements outlined in this document, the award may be divided among several qualified Vendors/Contractors.

Proposals will be evaluated on criteria deemed to be in IDEA’s best interest, as reflected in the below evaluation rubric. An evaluation committee will review and evaluate all Proposals based on the factors detailed herein. The committee evaluating the Proposals submitted may require any or all Vendors/Contractors to give an oral presentation or be interviewed to clarify or elaborate on its Proposal. Upon completion of oral presentations, interviews, or discussions, Vendors/Contractors may be requested to revise any or all portions of its Proposal. IDEA’s Board will make the final decision on whether and to whom a contract is to be awarded.

Proposals will be scored according to the following rubric:

<b>% Weight</b>	<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>
50%	<b>E-Rate eligible costs</b> - Calculation as per the proposal ratio to the lowest price received. While buyers should compare prices between different vendors, they should ensure that other technical factors are met first.
20%	<b>Technical Requirements</b> – Does the vendor meet Technical Specifications (or equivalent)? Is the Network firewall security equipment compatible with existing business operations as well as IT Infrastructure.
10%	<b>Service Uptime Reliability</b> - Service Provider’s ability to provide the equipment to perform the required tasks to meet service uptime and reliability specifications.
20%	<b>Risk and Security Compliance</b> – NIST-800-207 Policy compliance
<b>100 %</b>	<b>Total Possible Score</b>

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## PART V – GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

**Assignment:** This Agreement may not be assigned by either party without the prior written consent of both IDEA and Vendor/Contractor. Any attempted assignment of this Agreement by Vendor/Contractor shall be null and void. Any purchase or work order made as a result of this Agreement may not be transferred, assigned, subcontracted, mortgaged, pledged, or otherwise disposed of or encumbered in any way by Vendor/Contractor without the prior written approval of IDEA. Vendor/Contractor is required to notify IDEA when any material change in operations occurs, including but not limited to, changes in distribution rights for awarded products, bankruptcy, material changes in financial condition, change of ownership, and the like, within three (3) business days of such change.

**Compliance with Applicable Law:** To the extent applicable, Vendor/Contractor shall fully comply with all provisions and reauthorizations of applicable state and federal law, including but not limited to the Texas Education Code, the Texas Administrative Code, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Vendor/Contractor shall also fully comply with the policies of IDEA’s Board. IDEA’s Board Policies can be accessed at: <https://ideapublicschools.org/our-story/national-board-of-directors/>.



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**Conflict of Interest:** In accordance with section 176.006 of the Texas Local Government Code, Vendor/Contractor must file, on an annual basis, a Conflict of Interest Questionnaire with IDEA. The Texas Ethics Commission Form CIQ and instructions can be found on the Texas Ethics Commission website at <https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/forms/conflict>. Vendor/Contractor shall also comply with all prohibitions on gifts or benefits, and disclosure of same, under Chapter 176 of the Texas Local Government Code, and other applicable law including federal and state “related party” law and restrictions, nepotism laws, penal code prohibitions and other applicable law and rule. Any violation or failure to disclose any conflicts of interest shall be grounds for IDEA to take action as permitted by law including termination of any Agreement, declaring any Agreement void or other action IDEA determines to be in the best interest of IDEA.

**Contractual Relationship:** Nothing herein shall be construed as creating the relationship of employer or employee between IDEA and the Vendor/Contractor or between IDEA and the Vendor’s/Contractor’s employees. IDEA shall not be subject to any obligation or liabilities of the Vendor/Contractor or its employees incurred in the performance of the contract and order unless otherwise herein authorized. Neither the Vendor/Contractor nor its employees shall be entitled to any of the benefits established for IDEA employees, nor be covered by IDEA’s Workers’ Compensation Program.

**Confidentiality- Name or Information Use:** Vendor/Contractor, and any person acting on its behalf or affiliated with the Vendor/Contractor, shall not use IDEA’s name, trademarks, logos or other information in any public manner or media (including, but not limited to press releases, promotions, advertisements, solicitations, website, blog, video, or social media) without prior written approval of IDEA. Written authorization may be refused or granted at IDEA’s sole discretion.

**Debarment and Suspension:** Neither Vendor/Contractor nor any of its officer, directors, owners, members, employees or agents is listed on the General Services Administration’s List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement or Nonprocurement Programs in accordance with E.O 12549 and E.O. 12689— Debarment and Suspension. This list contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, and Vendors/Contractors declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than E.O. 12549. If Vendor/Contractor or any of its personnel identified is Debarred or Suspended, they must provide immediate notice to IDEA and IDEA may thereafter suspend or terminate the Agreement as it deems appropriate.

**Delivery of Goods/Items:** When the contract is for goods, Vendor/Contractor shall deliver complete orders, unless previously informed to and accepted by IDEA. Any deliveries not made in full are subject to a delay of payment by IDEA. Items shipped to the incorrect location by the Vendor/Contractor will be the responsibility of the Vendor/Contractor to correct. The Vendor/Contractor will be required to cover shipping charges to ship the items to the correct location. IDEA will only deliver the items to the correct location if there was an incorrect shipping address listed on the contract or Purchase Order. A packing slip is required with each shipment. Shipments must include PO # and PMO contact name.

**Enforcement:** If the Agreement is for services, it is acknowledged and agreed that Vendor’s/Contractor’s services to IDEA are unique, which gives Vendor/Contractor a peculiar value to IDEA and for the loss of which IDEA cannot be reasonably or adequately compensated in damages. Accordingly, Vendor/Contractor acknowledges and agrees that a breach by Vendor/Contractor of the provisions hereof will cause IDEA irreparable injury and damage. Vendor/Contractor therefore expressly agrees that IDEA shall be entitled to injunctive and/or other equitable relief in any court of competent jurisdiction to

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prevent or otherwise restrain a breach of this Agreement, but only if IDEA is not in breach of this Agreement.

**Entire Agreement:** The written Agreement resulting from this RFP as well as these standard terms and conditions (and any procurement documents from IDEA) contains the entire agreement of the Parties concerning the subject matter described therein, and there are no other promises or conditions in any other agreement, whether oral or written, concerning the subject matter described herein. These General Terms and Conditions supersede any prior, contemporaneous, or related written or oral agreements between the parties concerning the subject matter described herein or in the Agreement.

**Equal Opportunity:** Vendor/Contractor shall comply with E.O. 11246—Equal Employment Opportunity, as amended by E.O. 11375—Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity, and as supplemented by regulations at 41 CFR Part 60—Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor.

**Execution:** This Agreement may be executed in multiple counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, and all of which, when taken together, shall constitute one and the same instrument.

**Formation and Good Standing:** Vendor/Contractor represents and warrants that it is legally formed, validly existing and/or registered to conduct business in Texas, and to the extent applicable, in good standing under the laws of Texas and of the state of its formation. Vendor/Contractor represents and warrants that it is duly qualified and registered to do business in Texas with the Texas Secretary of State and the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and understands that remaining in good standing with Texas is a condition of the Agreement.

**General Warranty:** Vendor/Contractor represents and warrants to IDEA that the goods and/or services shall perform at a level as intended, are fit for use for their intended purpose, and shall substantially conform in accordance with the specifications stated in the Agreement, in compliance and conformance with any applicable law or ordinance and will be performed in a good, professional, and workmanlike manner. Further, they shall be fit for ordinary use with no material defects, provided that all use of the goods and/or services is for the purposes and in the environment for which they were designed and in accordance with such specifications.

**Gratuities:** IDEA may, by written notice to Vendor/Contractor, cancel this Agreement without liability to IDEA if it is determined by IDEA that gratuities, in the form of entertainment, gifts, or otherwise, were offered or given by Vendor/Contractor (or any agent or representative of Vendor/Contractor) to any director, officer or employee of IDEA (or to any family member of an IDEA employee, officer or director within the third-degree by affinity or consanguinity under Texas law), unless there is an express written statutory exception for same, or the gift is a documented donation to IDEA. In the event this Agreement is cancelled by IDEA pursuant to this section, IDEA shall be entitled, in addition to any other rights and remedies, to recover or withhold the amount or the cost incurred by Vendor/Contractor in providing such impermissible gratuities.

**Indemnification:** VENDOR/CONTRACTOR WILL INDEMNIFY, PROTECT, DEFEND, AND HOLD HARMLESS IDEA AND ITS BOARD, OFFICERS, AND REPRESENTATIVES (COLLECTIVELY THE "IDEA INDEMNITEES") IN THEIR OFFICIAL AND INDIVIDUAL CAPACITIES FROM AND AGAINST ALL DAMAGES, LOSSES, LIENS, CAUSES OF ACTION, SUITS, JUDGMENTS, EXPENSES, AND OTHER CLAIMS OF ANY NATURE, KIND, OR

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DESCRIPTION, INCLUDING ATTORNEYS' FEES INCURRED IN INVESTIGATING, DEFENDING, OR SETTLING ANY OF THE FOREGOING BY ANY PERSON OR ENTITY, ARISING OUT OF, CAUSED BY, OR RESULTING FROM VENDOR'S/CONTRACTOR'S PERFORMANCE UNDER OR BREACH OF THIS AGREEMENT AND THAT ARE CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY ANY ACT OR OMISSION, INCLUDING ANY NEGLIGENT ACT, NEGLIGENT OMISSION, OR WILLFUL MISCONDUCT OF VENDOR/CONTRACTOR, ANYONE DIRECTLY EMPLOYED BY VENDOR/CONTRACTOR, OR ANYONE FOR WHOSE ACTS VENDOR/CONTRACTOR MAY BE LIABLE. THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION WILL NOT BE CONSTRUED TO ELIMINATE OR REDUCE ANY OTHER INDEMNIFICATION OR RIGHT WHICH ANY IDEA INDEMNITEE HAS BY LAW OR EQUITY. ALL PARTIES WILL BE ENTITLED TO BE REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE. VENDOR'S/CONTRACTOR'S OBLIGATIONS CONTAINED IN THIS SECTION SURVIVE TERMINATION OR EXPIRATION OF THIS AGREEMENT AND CONTINUE ON INDEFINITELY, AND CANNOT BE WAIVED OR VARIED.

**Ineligibility for Nonpayment of Child Support:** Pursuant to Texas Family Code § 231.006(d), regarding child support, Vendor/Contractor certifies that it is not ineligible to receive the compensation specified in this Agreement and acknowledges that this Agreement may be terminated, and payment may be withheld if this certification is inaccurate. The Texas Health and Human Services Commission Form 1903, Child Support Certification, must be completed legibly, either handwritten or typed. A duly authorized representative, preferably the duly authorized representative identified, must sign this form. Failure to complete this form pursuant to this and other instruction shall disqualify the Vendor/Contractor from providing goods and/or services to IDEA. See **Attachment I** contained herein.

**Inspection:** Prior to acceptance of any goods and/or services and continuing for a period of thirty (30) days after IDEA's first use of the goods and/or services, IDEA reserves the absolute right to inspect, test, and reject all goods and/or services, in whole or in part, furnished by Vendor/Contractor, to ensure that they comply with the Agreement and/or PO. This right shall exist even if payment has already been made by IDEA to the Vendor/Contractor. Goods or services which, in the sole opinion of IDEA, fail to conform to the required specification(s) or standard(s) may be considered non-conforming. In such event that goods and/or services are considered non-conforming, IDEA may return such goods and/or services at Vendor's/Contractor's risk and expense for replacement or correction, in which case Vendor/Contractor shall use best efforts to replace any non-conforming goods and/or services. IDEA may also accept the non-conforming goods and/or services subject to an equitable price reduction if mutually agreed to among the parties.

**Interpretation of Evidence:** No course of prior dealings between the parties and no usage of the trade shall be relevant to supplement or explain any term used in a contract. Acceptance or acquiescence in a course of performance rendered under a contract shall not be relevant to determine the meaning of the contract even though the accepting or acquiescing party has knowledge of the performance and opportunity for objection. Whenever a term defined by the Uniform Commercial Code is used in the Contract, the definition contained in the Code is to control.

**Law of State to Govern:** This Agreement shall be governed by, and construed and enforced in accordance with, the laws of the State of Texas (without regard to the conflicts or choice of law principles). The Parties irrevocably consent to the jurisdiction of the State of Texas and agree that any court of competent jurisdiction sitting in Hidalgo County, Texas, shall be an appropriate and convenient place of venue to resolve any dispute with respect to this Agreement. In connection with IDEA's defense of any suit against and/or IDEA's prosecution of any claim, counterclaim or action to enforce any of its rights and/or claims under this Agreement, which IDEA prevails as to all or any portion of its defense(s), claims, counterclaims,

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and actions, IDEA shall be entitled to recover its actual attorneys' fees and expenses incurred in defending such suit and/or in prosecuting such claim or action.

**Limitations:** THE PARTIES ARE AWARE THAT THERE ARE CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY LIMITATIONS ON THE AUTHORITY OF IDEA (A PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM AND GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY) TO ENTER INTO CERTAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE AGREEMENT, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THOSE TERMS AND CONDITIONS RELATING TO LIENS ON IDEA'S PROPERTY; DISCLAIMERS AND LIMITATIONS OF WARRANTIES; DISCLAIMERS AND LIMITATIONS OF LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES; WAIVERS, DISCLAIMERS AND LIMITATIONS OF LEGAL RIGHTS, REMEDIES, REQUIREMENTS AND PROCESSES; LIMITATIONS OF PERIODS TO BRING LEGAL ACTION; GRANTING CONTROL OF LITIGATION OR SETTLEMENT TO ANOTHER PARTY; LIABILITY FOR ACTS OR OMISSIONS OF THIRD PARTIES; PAYMENT OF ATTORNEYS' FEES; DISPUTE RESOLUTION; INDEMNITIES; AND CONFIDENTIALITY (COLLECTIVELY, THE "LIMITATIONS"), AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS RELATED TO THE LIMITATIONS WILL NOT BE BINDING ON IDEA EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT AUTHORIZED BY THE LAWS AND CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF TEXAS.

**Modifications:** The contract may only be modified, altered, or changed by a written agreement signed by both IDEA and Vendor/Contractor and their duly authorized agents.

**No Arbitration:** Disputes involving this Agreement, including the breach or alleged breach thereof, may not be submitted to binding arbitration, but must, instead, be submitted to non-binding mediation or heard in a court of competent jurisdiction in the State of Texas sitting in Hidalgo County, Texas.

**Non-Appropriation/Funding Out:** This Agreement is conditioned upon continued funding and appropriation and allotment of funds by the Texas State Legislature and/or the Texas Education Agency pursuant to IDEA's open-enrollment charter. This Agreement is further conditioned on continued allocation of funds by IDEA's Board. If the Legislature and/or the Texas Education Agency fails to appropriate or allot the necessary funds, or the Board fails to allocate the necessary funds at the end of IDEA's fiscal year, then IDEA will issue written notice to Vendor/Contractor and IDEA may terminate this Agreement without further duty or obligation hereunder.

**No Waiver of Immunity:** NOTWITHSTANDING ANYTHING TO THE CONTRARY IN THIS AGREEMENT, VENDOR/CONTRACTOR ACKNOWLEDGES, STIPULATES, AND AGREES THAT NOTHING IN THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE CONSTRUED AS A WAIVER OF ANY DEFENSE AVAILABLE TO IDEA, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY SOVEREIGN, STATUTORY, AND/OR GOVERNMENTAL IMMUNITY AVAILABLE TO IDEA UNDER APPLICABLE LAW.

**Payment Terms:** Unless a prompt payment discount with a payment term of at least ten (10) days is offered and accepted by IDEA, payment terms shall be thirty (30) days net from date of acceptance or receipt of a properly prepared and submitted invoice, whichever is later. In accordance with the Board's accounts payable policy, to receive payment for goods provided and/or services rendered, the Vendor/Contractor must submit a separate invoice, in duplicate, for each purchase order that includes the following:

- a) Fully identifies the Vendor/Contractor, including the Vendor's/Contractor's authorized representative, and said identifying information conforms to that on the purchase order issued by IDEA to the Vendor/Contractor and/or the Agreement.
- b) Includes an invoice number and date.

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- c) Is addressed to IDEA Public Schools, including the proper mailing address for accounts payable and the address to which goods and/or services were delivered.
- d) References the purchase order number issued.
- e) Delineates in sufficient detail the goods and/or services provided to IDEA, including the quantity and unit price of the goods and/or services, and the date that the goods were delivered or the services were rendered.

Payment will not be remitted until all goods provided and/or services rendered are inspected and confirmed received by IDEA.

**Prices:** IDEA accepts Vendor's/Contractor's price(s) as recorded on Vendor's/Contractor's Proposal and reserves the right to cancel the Agreement if the prices are to be increased without a properly negotiated and executed amendment to the Agreement.

**Product Recall:** Vendor/Contractor shall notify IDEA immediately if a product recall is instituted on any good and/or service Vendor/Contractor has delivered or if Vendor/Contractor discovers or becomes aware of any defect in quality or other deficiency in the delivered goods and/or services. This requirement shall survive payment and acceptance of the goods and/or services.

**Purchase Order Required:** Orders/requests may be submitted by telephone, fax, email, or mail. No valid orders/requests will be submitted without an IDEA approved purchase order.

**Record Keeping:** It is the responsibility of Vendor/Contractor to maintain such records as are required by law, IDEA, or as are prescribed by the professional and generally accepted standards of the Texas Education Agency. The books and records related to the contract shall be maintained by Vendor/Contractor, and IDEA shall have the right to inspect and review such records at reasonable times upon request by IDEA.

**Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract or Agreement:** The Vendor/Contractor acknowledges and agrees that any intellectual property, processes, procedures or product developed in furtherance of a contract between the Vendor/Contractor and IDEA belongs to IDEA as work-for-hire and all rights are reserved by IDEA and/or the federal government in accordance with applicable federal law.

**Severability:** In the event that any provision of this Agreement is found to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any jurisdiction, then in lieu of such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision there shall be added automatically as a part of this Agreement a valid, legal, and enforceable substitute provision that most nearly reflects the original intent of the Parties, and all provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect and shall be liberally construed in order to carry out the intentions of the Parties hereto as nearly as may be possible. Such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions contained in this Agreement.

**Tax Exempt:** IDEA is tax-exempt. Vendor/Contractor shall not include taxes on any Proposal, contract, PO, or invoice. IDEA will provide a tax exemption certificate to Vendor/Contractor upon request.

**Termination:** IDEA reserves the right to terminate all or any part of the undelivered portion of any order resulting from the Agreement with thirty (30) days written notice upon default by the

# RESTRICTED

Vendor/Contractor, for delay or nonperformance by the Vendor/Contractor, or if it is deemed in the best interest of IDEA, for convenience.

**Texas Public Information Act:** Vendor/Contractor acknowledges that IDEA is a public school subject to requests for information under the Texas Public Information Act ("TPIA"), Chapter 552, Texas Government Code. Under the TPIA, there are exceptions to requests for disclosure which include, but are not limited to, information confidential by law and certain commercial information and trade secrets. The Texas Attorney General's office makes the final determination whether or not requested information is to be disclosed on a case-by-case basis after reviewing the materials and assertions against disclosure. If proprietary information is requested, the TPIA requires IDEA to provide written notice to the party whose proprietary information may be subject to the request, and that party may also submit information to the Texas Attorney General to establish that disclosure of the information would cause substantial competitive harm.

**Unsatisfactory Performance by Vendor Staff:** If any person employed by Vendor/Contractor fails or refuses to carry out the services detailed in this Agreement or is, in the opinion of IDEA's designated representative(s), incompetent, unfaithful, intemperate, or disorderly, or uses threatening or abusive language to an IDEA student, parent, or representative, or if otherwise unsatisfactory, he or she shall be removed from the work under this Agreement immediately and shall not again provide services to IDEA except upon consent of IDEA's representative(s).

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## PART VI – GENERAL INFORMATION & SUPPLEMENTAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

### General Information

- a) Notice is hereby given that the IDEA Public Schools ("District") will accept bid proposals from qualified Vendors for computer network infrastructure, equipment, labor and materials for internal Internet connections
- b) Bids must be returned on or before the bid deadline stated on the Form 470.
- c) All work pursuant to this contract shall be contingent upon E-Rate funding. In the event of lesser funding, the "District" may accept all or parts of the proposal, at the discretion of the "District". A thirty (30) day written notice will be given to the Vendor in the event of cancellation of this RFP process by the "District". The "District" shall not be responsible for any costs, penalty, or removal charges as a result of this cancellation.
- d) It is the total responsibility of the Vendor to return bids to the "District" by the required date, time, and place.
- e) The "District" reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or any items therein, to waive any irregularities or informalities, and to contract in the best interests of the "District".
- f) While you are allowed to submit "value engineering" alternates, please be certain to adhere to the specifications. The base bid must follow the specifications exactly. No deviations will be allowed. All deviations in your Alternate Response shall be clearly delineated and should be proposed as alternates.
- g) Please note per the "Schools and Libraries" Eligible Services List", CC Docket No. 96-45, page 33 –



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“Contingency Fee – In cases in which the scope of the work makes it difficult to determine the specific costs beforehand, a service provider may include a reasonable contingency fee, but only if

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it is a regular business practice of the service provider.” Vendors may include “Contingency Fee” as a separate line item. This cost will not be included in the total Bid.

- h) Most of the campus projects contained in this RFP may have been bid and already awarded in previous E-Rate application cycles pending funding notification from the Schools and Libraries Division of USAC. The district reserves the right to perform upgrades at any and all of the campuses under any previously awarded contracts and may not elect to proceed with those campuses under this RFP.
- i) The RFP may reference specific equipment (i.e., Cisco, Tandberg, EMC, Panduit etc.). The "District" is standardized on this equipment throughout all campuses and is providing these manufacturer specific part lists as they ensure the maximum interoperability with current District infrastructure. The "District" will consider proposals for equipment or materials that are "approved equal" to the makes and models contained in this RFP. To be considered, bidders are required to provide supporting documentation that demonstrates how each substituted piece of equipment meets or exceeds the performance specifications of the equipment District is seeking.

## SUPPLEMENTAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

**Confidential and/or Proprietary Information:** Vendor/Contractor acknowledges that, in connection with this Agreement, it may have access to or create (alone or with others) confidential and/or proprietary information that is valuable to IDEA. For purposes of this Agreement, “Confidential Information” shall include but not be limited to:

- a) Information relating to IDEA’s financial, regulatory, personnel, or operational matters.
- b) Information relating to IDEA’s clients, customers, beneficiaries, suppliers, donors, employees, volunteers, sponsors, or business associates and partners.
- c) Trade secrets, know-how, inventions, discoveries, techniques, processes, methods, formulae, ideas, technical data and specifications, testing, methods, research and development activities, and computer programs and designs.
- d) Contracts, product plans, sales and marketing plans, and business plans.
- e) All information not generally known outside of IDEA’s business, regardless of whether such information is in written, oral, electronic, digital, or other form, and regardless of whether the information originates from IDEA or its agents.
- f) The term “Confidential Information” does not include the following:
  - i. Information available to the public through no wrongful act of the receiving party.
  - ii. Information that has been published.
  - iii. Information required in response to subpoena, court order, court ruling, or by law.

Vendor/Contractor agrees that it will not, at any time during or after termination of this Agreement, use or disclose any Confidential Information or trade secrets of IDEA to any person or entity for any purpose whatsoever without the prior written consent of IDEA, unless and except as otherwise required by applicable federal or state law or court order.

Vendor/Contractor agrees to release to IDEA all records and supporting documentation related to the Services provided under this Agreement upon completion of the Term hereof.

**Identity Theft Protection:** If Vendor/Contractor will be storing employee or student data as part of the services under the Agreement, the following provisions apply:

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- a) Vendor/Contractor agrees to maintain the confidentiality of “personal identifying information” and “sensitive personal information,” as those terms are defined in Texas Business & Commerce Code § 522.002 by implementing reasonable data security procedures, controls, and safeguards to ensure that such information is protected. Vendor/Contractor agrees that “personal identifying information” and “sensitive personal information” will be collected only as necessary and in conjunction with this Agreement and will be restricted in its distribution and accessibility such that only authorized representatives of Vendor/Contractor who have agreed to maintain the confidentiality of the data may access it. Such information will be properly secured by the use of safeguards such as secure file storage, firewall protection, complex password protection, secure operating systems, anti-virus software, locked physical files and backups, data encryption, and other technology tools. When necessary, “personal identifying information” and “sensitive personal information” will be disposed of through secure means, such as shredding paper files and erasing electronic files.
- b) Vendor/Contractor will not bear responsibility for safeguarding information that is (i) publicly available; (ii) that is not “personal identifying information” or “sensitive personal information”; (iii) that is obtained by Vendor/Contractor from third parties without restrictions on disclosure and is not obviously “personal identifying information” or “sensitive personal information”; or (iv) is required to be disclosed by order of a court or other governmental entity.
- c) Vendor/Contractor stipulates that this Agreement does not convey ownership of “personal identifying information” or “sensitive personal information” provided by IDEA under this Agreement.
- d) If Vendor/Contractor becomes aware of a disclosure or security breach concerning any “personal identifying information” or “sensitive personal information” covered by this Agreement, Vendor/Contractor shall immediately notify IDEA and take immediate steps to limit and mitigate the damage of such security breach to the greatest extent possible. If there is a “breach of system security” where “sensitive personal information” is breached, both as defined in sections 521.002 and 521.053 of the Texas Business & Commerce Code, Vendor/Contractor shall proceed with notification requirements as required therein. The Parties agree that any breach of the privacy and/or confidentiality obligations set forth in this Section may, at IDEA’s sole discretion, result in IDEA’s immediately terminating this Agreement without financial penalty.

**Payment and Performance Bonds:** If required pursuant to Texas Government Code Chapter 2253 related to performing public works, and prior to commencing any work pursuant to this Agreement or any Purchase Order, the Vendor/Contractor shall provide Payment and Performance bonds equal to the total cost of the approved project. This shall be at the sole cost and expense of the Vendor/Contractor. Vendor should Identify any new construction, permits, and easements that will be required. Vendor approach and timing for receiving the permits and easements should be outlined. If awarded the project, this timing and plan should be followed, or the agreement will be violated.

**Privacy of Employee or Student Data:** When educational records and Student Data will be utilized under the Agreement, or Employee data may be involved, the following provisions apply and Vendor/Contractor will enter into a Data Sharing Agreement provided by IDEA:

- a) General Guidelines. The Parties acknowledge and agree that certain federal and state laws protect the privacy interests of students and parents with regard to educational records

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maintained by IDEA, including, without limitation, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”), 20 USC § 1232g. IDEA has determined that Vendor/Contractor has a legitimate educational interest in the educational records, as that term is defined under FERPA, of IDEA’s students who receive the services, and that Vendor/Contractor is the agent of IDEA solely for the purpose of providing services under this Agreement. Vendor/Contractor and its personnel shall maintain the confidentiality of Student Data, as defined below, and comply with the requirements of FERPA and all other applicable law with respect to the privacy of Student Data. Vendor’s/Contractor’s obligations under this Section shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement.

- b) Definition of “Student Data”: “Student Data” includes all Personally Identifiable Information (“PII”) and other non-public information and includes, but is not limited to, student data, metadata, and user content.
- c) Collection and Use of Student Data: Vendor/Contractor will only collect Student Data necessary to fulfill its duties as outlined in this Agreement. Vendor/Contractor will use Student Data only for the purpose of fulfilling its duties and providing services under this Agreement, and for improving services under this Agreement. Vendor/Contractor is prohibited from mining Student Data for any purposes other than those agreed to by the parties. Data mining or scanning of user content for the purpose of advertising or marketing to students or their parents is prohibited.
- d) If Vendor/Contractor has access to Employee PII, it shall protect PII and follow the same data protection and privacy standards as applied for Student Data.
- e) Data De-Identification: Vendor/Contractor may use de-identified Student or Employee Data for product development, research, or other purposes. De-identified Student or Employee Data will have all direct and indirect personal identifiers removed. This includes, but is not limited to, name, ID numbers, date of birth, demographic information, location information, and school ID. Furthermore, Vendor/Contractor agrees not to attempt to re-identify de-identified Student or Employee Data and not to transfer de-identified Student or Employee Data to any party unless that party agrees not to attempt re-identification.
- f) Marketing and Advertising: Vendor/Contractor will not use any Student Data to advertise or market to students or their parents.
- g) Modification of Terms of Service: Vendor/Contractor will not change how Student or Employee Data are collected, used, or shared under the terms of this Agreement in any way without advance notice to and consent from IDEA.
- h) Student Data Sharing: Student Data cannot be shared with any additional parties without prior written consent of IDEA, except as required by law.
- i) Access and Transfer or Destruction: Any Student or Employee Data held by Vendor/Contractor will be made available to IDEA upon request by IDEA. Vendor/Contractor will ensure that all Student or Employee Data in its possession and in the possession of any subcontractors or agents to which Vendor/Contractor may have transferred Student or Employee Data are destroyed or transferred to IDEA when the Student or Employee Data is no longer needed for its specified purpose, at the request of IDEA.
- j) Rights and License In and To Student or Employee Data: The Parties agree that all rights, including all intellectual property rights, shall remain the exclusive property of IDEA, and that Vendor/Contractor has a limited, nonexclusive license solely for the purpose of performing its obligations as outlined in this Agreement. This Agreement does not give Vendor/Contractor any rights, implied or otherwise, to Student or Employee Data, content, or intellectual

# RESTRICTED

property, except as otherwise expressly stated in this Agreement. This includes the right to sell or trade Student or Employee Data.

- k) **Security Controls:** Vendor/Contractor will store and process Student or Employee Data in accordance with industry best practices. This includes appropriate administrative, physical, and technical safeguards to secure Student or Employee Data from unauthorized access, disclosure, and use. Vendor/Contractor will conduct periodic risk assessments and remediate any identified security vulnerabilities in a timely manner. Vendor/Contractor will also have a written incident response plan, to include prompt notification of IDEA in the event of a security or privacy incident, as well as best practices for responding to a breach of PII. Vendor/Contractor agrees to share its incident response plan upon request.

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## PART VII – REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

The attachments listed below are required and should be included with the Proposal.

### **ALL FORMS REQUIRING SIGNATURE MUST BE SIGNED AS INDICATED.**

1. Attachment A – Title Page. This form must be completed and included as the cover sheet for Proposals submitted in response to this RFP.
2. Attachment B – Vendor/Contractor Information
3. Attachment C – Vendor/Contractor Certification
4. Attachment D – Proof of Insurance or Bonding
5. Attachment E – Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace
6. Attachment F – Non-Collusion Statement
7. Attachment G – IDEA Conflict of Interest Form
8. Attachment H – Conflict of Interest Form CIQ
9. Attachment I – Child Support Certification
10. Attachment J – Equal Opportunity and Nondiscrimination
11. Attachment K – Felony Conviction Disclosure Statement
12. Attachment L – Certification Regarding Lobbying
13. Attachment M – Debarment or Suspension Certificate
14. Attachment N – Contract Provisions for Contracts Involving Federal Funds

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15. Attachment O – Criminal History Review of Vendor/Contractor Employees and Certification
16. Attachment P – Reference Sheet
17. Attachment Q – Recent and Ongoing Projects
18. Attachment R – Litigation, Terminations, Claims
19. Attachment S – Proposed Pricing
20. Attachment T – W-9 Form
21. Attachment U – Deviations and Exceptions
22. Attachment V- Independent Contractor Agreement
23. E1- Form Proposal Signature Page – Form A
24. E2- Out of State Certificate - Form B

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Attachment A – Title Page



**A Proposal Submitted in Response to**

**IDEA's Request for Proposals  
#10-RFP-ECSM-0124 for E-Rate Cat 2 Consortium Texas  
For IDEA Public Schools, Inc. Texas**

Submitted By:

---

(Full Legal Name of Vendor/Contractor)

On:

---

(Date of Proposal Submission)



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## Attachment B – Vendor/Contractor Information

Vendor/Contractor Information:

- 1. Vendor/Contractor Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Vendor/Contractor d/b/a (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Employer Identification Number: \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. City, State, and Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Requirements:

Proposal must include name of each person with at least 25% ownership of Vendor/Contractor.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Attachment C – Vendor/Contractor Certification and Signature Page

I, the undersigned authorized representative of Respondent, submit this Proposal and have read the specifications, which are a part of this RFP. My signature certifies that I am authorized to submit this Proposal, sign as a representative for Respondent, and carry out the services solicited in this RFP.

Signature of Authorized Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Authorized Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Role of Authorized Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Vendor/Contractor Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Vendor/Contractor d/b/a (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Web Site Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Attachment D – Proof of Insurance and/or Bonding

*Please provide proof of insurance and/or bonding as detailed in RFP specifications.*

The Vendor shall be required to agree to maintain insurance adequate for protection from claims under Worker's Compensatory Acts, and from claims for damages for personal injury, including death and damage to property, which may arise from operations under the contract. A Certificate of Insurance shall accompany the bid submission. Insurance requirements are as follows:

### Commercial General Liability

General Aggregate	2,000,000
Products/completed operations aggregate	2,000,000
Personal and advertising injury	1,000,000
Each occurrence	1,000,000
Fire Damage	300,000
Medical Expense	10,000

### Commercial Automobile Liability Insurance

Bodily injury (per accident)	1,000,000
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### Worker's Compensation Coverage

Each accident	1,000,000
Disease – Policy Limit	1,000,000
Disease – each employee	1,000,000

A copy of Certificate of Insurance, a certificate of authority to self-insure issued by the commission, or a coverage agreement (TWCC-81, TWCC-82, TWC-83, or TWC-84), showing statutory worker's compensation insurance coverage for the person's or entity's employees providing services on a project is required for the duration of the project. Duration of the project includes the time from the beginning of the work on the project until the contractor's / person's work on the project has been completed and accepted by the school district.

The Vendor shall not allow any subcontractor, employee or agent to commence work on this contract or any subcontract until the insurance required of the Vendor, subcontractor, or agent has been obtained.

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## Attachment E – Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace

*This certification is required by the Federal Regulations Implementing Sections 5151-5160 of the Drug-Free Workplace Act, 41 U.S.C. 701 and Pursuant to 2 CFR Part 182.*

The undersigned Vendor/Contractor certifies it will provide a drug-free workplace by:

- Publishing a policy statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the workplace and specifying the consequences of any such action by an employee.
- Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees of the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace, Vendor’s/Contractor’s policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace, the availability of counseling, rehabilitation and employee assistance programs, and the penalties that may be imposed on employees for drug violations in the workplace.
- Providing each employee with a copy of Vendor’s/Contractor’s policy statement.
- Notifying the employees through Vendor’s/Contractor’s policy statement that as a condition of services to IDEA, employees shall abide by the terms of the policy statement and notifying Vendor/Contractor in writing within five days after any conviction for a violation by the employee of a criminal drug abuse statute in the workplace.
- Notifying IDEA within ten (10) days of Vendor’s/Contractor’s receipt of a notice of a conviction of any employee; and,
- Taking appropriate personnel action against an employee convicted of violating a criminal drug statute or requires such employee to participate in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program.

---

Legal Vendor/Contractor Name

---

Signature of Authorized Representative

---

Date

---

Printed Name and Title of Authorized Representative

# RESTRICTED

## Attachment F – Non-Collusion Statement

The undersigned affirms that he/she is duly authorized to execute this RFP, that this company, corporation, firm, partnership or individual has not prepared this RFP in collusion with any other Respondent, and that the contents of this RFP as to prices, terms or conditions of said RFP have not been communicated by the undersigned nor by any employee or agent to any other person engaged in this type of business prior to the official opening of this RFP.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Vendor/Contractor Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name and Title of Authorized Representative

Vendor/Contractor hereby assigns to IDEA any and all claims for overcharges associated with this RFP which arise under the antitrust laws of the United States, 15 USCA Section 1 and which arise under the antitrust laws of the State of Texas, Business & Commerce Code, Section 15.01.

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## Attachment G – IDEA Conflict of Interest Form

By signature of this Proposal, Vendor/Contractor covenants and affirms that:

- No manager, employee or paid consultant of Vendor/Contractor is a member of the IDEA Board of Directors or an employee of IDEA.
- No manager or paid consultant of Vendor/Contractor is married to a member of the IDEA Board of Directors, IDEA’s Chief Executive Officer, or an employee of IDEA.
- No member of the IDEA Board of Directors, IDEA’s Chief Executive Officer, or employee of IDEA is a manager or paid consultant of Vendor/Contractor.
- Neither any member of the IDEA Board of Directors, IDEA’s Chief Executive Officer, nor any employee of IDEA owns or controls more than 10% in Vendor/Contractor.
- Neither any member of the IDEA Board of Directors, IDEA’s Chief Executive Officer, nor any employee of IDEA receives compensation from Vendor/Contractor for lobbying activities as defined in Chapter 305 of the Texas Government Code.
- Vendor/Contractor has disclosed within the Proposal any interest, fact or circumstance which does or may present a potential conflict of interest.
- Should Vendor/Contractor fail to abide by the foregoing covenants and affirmations regarding conflict of interest, Vendor/Contractor shall not be entitled to the recovery of any costs or expenses incurred in relation to any contract with IDEA and shall further be liable for any costs incurred or damages sustained by IDEA relating to that contract.

---

Legal Vendor/Contractor Name

---

Signature of Authorized Representative

---

Date

---

Printed Name and Title of Authorized Representative

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## Attachment H – Conflict of Interest Form CIQ

This questionnaire reflects changes made to the law by H.B. 23, 84th Leg., Regular Session. This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with Chapter 176, Local Government Code, by a Vendor/Contractor who has a business relationship as defined by Section 176.001(1-a) with a local governmental entity and the Vendor/Contractor meets requirements under Section 176.006(a). By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the local governmental entity not later than the 7th business day after the date the Vendor/Contractor becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006(a-1), Local Government Code. A Vendor/Contractor commits an offense if the Vendor/Contractor knowingly violates Section 176.006, Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a misdemeanor.

Respondent must fill-out the Conflict of Interest Form CIQ and submit with their Proposal.

The Conflict of Interest Form CIQ and instructions can be found at the following link:

<https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/data/forms/conflict/CIQ.pdf>



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<b>CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE</b>		<b>FORM CIQ</b>
<b>This questionnaire reflects changes made to the law by H.B. 23, 84th Leg., Regular Session.</b>		<b>OFFICE USE ONLY</b> Date Received
This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with Chapter 176, Local Government Code, by a vendor who has a business relationship as defined by Section 176.001(1-a) with a local governmental entity and the vendor meets requirements under Section 176.006(a).  By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the local governmental entity not later than the 7th business day after the date the vendor becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006(a-1), Local Government Code.  A vendor commits an offense if the vendor knowingly violates Section 176.006, Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a misdemeanor.		
<b>1</b>	<b>Name of vendor who has a business relationship with local governmental entity.</b>	
<b>2</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Check this box if you are filing an update to a previously filed questionnaire.</b> (The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than the 7th business day after the date on which you became aware that the originally filed questionnaire was incomplete or inaccurate.)	
<b>3</b>	<b>Name of local government officer about whom the information is being disclosed.</b>  _____ Name of Officer	
<b>4</b>	<b>Describe each employment or other business relationship with the local government officer, or a family member of the officer, as described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A). Also describe any family relationship with the local government officer. Complete subparts A and B for each employment or business relationship described. Attach additional pages to this Form CIQ as necessary.</b>  A. Is the local government officer or a family member of the officer receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from the vendor?  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  B. Is the vendor receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from or at the direction of the local government officer or a family member of the officer AND the taxable income is not received from the local governmental entity?  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>5</b>	<b>Describe each employment or business relationship that the vendor named in Section 1 maintains with a corporation or other business entity with respect to which the local government officer serves as an officer or director, or holds an ownership interest of one percent or more.</b>	
<b>6</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Check this box if the vendor has given the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts as described in Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding gifts described in Section 176.003(a-1).	
<b>7</b>	_____ Signature of vendor doing business with the governmental entity	_____ Date

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## Attachment I – Child Support Certification

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission Form 1903, Child Support Certification must be completed legibly, either handwritten or typed. A duly authorized representative, preferably the duly authorized representative identified, must sign this form. Failure to complete this form pursuant to this and other instruction shall disqualify the Proposal. The child support certification form can be found at: <https://www.hhs.texas.gov/regulations/forms/1000-1999/form-1903-child-support-certification>.



**TEXAS**  
Health and Human  
Services

Form 1903  
May 2017-E

### Child Support Certification

#### Section 1

Family Code, Section 231.006, Ineligibility to Receive State Grants or Loans or Receive Payment On State Contracts, prohibits the payment of state funds under a grant, contract, or loan to:

- a person who is more than 30 days delinquent in paying child support; and
- a business entity in which the obligor is a sole proprietor, partner, shareholder, or owner with an ownership interest of at least 25 percent.

Section 231.006 further provides that a person or business entity that is ineligible to receive payments for the reasons stated above shall continue to be ineligible to receive payments from the state under a contract, grant, or loan until:

- all arrearages have been paid;
- the person is in compliance with a written repayment agreement or court order as to any existing delinquency; or
- the court of continuing jurisdiction over the child support order has granted the obligor an exemption from Subsection (a) as part of a court-supervised effort to improve earnings and child support payments.

Section 231.006 further requires each bid, or application for a contract, grant, or loan to include:

- the name and Social Security number of the individual or sole proprietor and each partner, shareholder, or owner with an ownership interest of at least 25 percent of the business entity submitting the bid or application; and
- the statement in Section 3 below.

Section 231.006 authorizes a state agency to terminate a contract if it determines that the statement required below is inaccurate or false. In the event the statement is determined to be false, the vendor is liable to the state for attorney's fees, costs necessary to complete the contract (including the cost of advertising and awarding a second contract), and any other damages provided by law or contract.

#### Section 2

In accordance with Section 231.006, the names and Social Security numbers (SSN) of the individuals identified in the contract, bid or application, or each person with a minimum 25 percent ownership interest in the business entity identified therein are provided below:

Name:	SSN:
Name:	SSN:
Name:	SSN:
Name:	SSN:

#### Section 3

As required by Section 231.006, the undersigned certifies the following:

"Under Section 231.006, Family Code, the vendor or applicant certifies that the individual or business entity named in this contract, bid, or application is not ineligible to receive the specified grant, loan, or payment, and acknowledges that this contract may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate."

Contractor Authorized Representative Printed Name:	Title:
Contractor Authorized Representative Signature:	Date:

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## Attachment J – Equal Opportunity and Nondiscrimination

Vendor/Contractor promotes employment opportunity through a program designed to provide equal opportunity without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, or political affiliation or belief. Additionally, discrimination is prohibited against any beneficiary of programs funded under Title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, on the basis of the beneficiary's citizenship/status as a lawfully admitted immigrant authorized to work in the United States, or his/her participation in any WIA Title I financially assisted program or activity. Vendor/Contractor conforms to all applicable federal and state laws, rules, guidelines, regulations, and provides equal employment opportunity in all employment and employee relations.

### EEO Laws, Rules, Guidelines, Regulations

Vendor/Contractor provides equal opportunities consistent with applicable federal and state laws, rules, guidelines, regulations, and executive orders. Such regulations include:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, which prohibits discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.
- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and its implementing regulations at 29 CFR Part 37 which prohibit discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in any term, condition, or privilege of employment.
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, which prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals because of disability.
- Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended, which prohibits discrimination against individuals 40 years of age and older.
- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, which prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities.
- Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, which prohibits discrimination based on age in programs receiving federal financial assistance.
- Texas Commission on Human Rights Act, as amended, which prohibits discrimination in employment based on race, color, handicap, religion, sex, national origin, or age.
- Equal Pay Act of 1963, as amended, which requires equal pay for men and women performing equal work.
- Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978, which prohibits discrimination against pregnant women.

Vendor/Contractor is committed to promoting equal employment opportunity through a progressive program designed to provide equal opportunity without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, or political affiliation or belief. Vendor/Contractor takes positive steps to eliminate any systematic discrimination from personnel practices. Vendor/Contractor recruits, hires, trains, and promotes into all job levels the most qualified persons without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability status. Staff at all levels is responsible for active program support and personal leadership in establishing, maintaining, and carrying out an effective equal employment opportunity program.

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Legal Vendor/Contractor Name

---

Signature of Authorized Representative

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Date

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Printed Name and Title of Authorized Representative

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## Attachment K – Felony Conviction Disclosure Statement

Pursuant to Texas Education Code Section 44.034, Notification of Criminal History of Vendor/Contractor, “A person or business entity that enters into a contract with a school district must give advance notice to the district if the person or an owner or operator of the business entity has been convicted of a felony. The notice must include a general description of the conduct resulting in the conviction of a felony.” Additionally, in accordance with this state law, “A school district may terminate a contract with a person or business entity if the district determines that the person or business entity failed to give notice as required [...] or misrepresented the conduct resulting in the conviction.” In this event, “The district must compensate the person or business entity for services performed before the termination of the contract.” Section 44.034 “does not apply to a publicly held corporation.”

I, the undersigned agent for the legal entity named below, certify that the information concerning notification of felony conviction has been reviewed by me and the following information furnished is true to the best of my knowledge.

VENDOR/CONTRACTOR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE NAME (PLEASE PRINT): \_\_\_\_\_

- Vendor/Contractor is a publicly held corporation; therefore, this reporting requirement is not applicable.
- Vendor/Contractor is not owned or operated by anyone who has been convicted of a felony.
- Vendor/Contractor is owned or operated by the following individual(s) who has/have been convicted of a felony, as disclosed below:

Name of Individual(s): \_\_\_\_\_

General description of the conduct resulting in the conviction of a felony:

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Individual: \_\_\_\_\_

General description of the conduct resulting in the conviction of a felony:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signed

# RESTRICTED

## Attachment L – Certification Regarding Lobbying

Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction and is imposed by section 1352, Title 31, U.S. Code. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Any person who fails to file the required certifications shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

- 1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an office or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, or an officer or employee of Congress, an employee of a Member of Congress, or any Board Member, officer, or employee of IDEA in connection with the awarding of Federal contract, the making of a Federal grant, the making of a Federal Loan, the entering into a cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- 2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, an employee of a Member of Congress, or any Board Member, officer, or employee of IDEA in connection with this Federal grant or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form –LLL, “Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying”, in accordance with its instructions.
- 3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the awarded documents for all covered sub-awards exceeding \$100,000 in Federal funds at all appropriate tiers and that all sub-recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

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Legal Vendor/Contractor Name

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Signature of Authorized Representative

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Date

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Printed Name and Title of Authorized Representative

# RESTRICTED

## Attachment M – Debarment or Suspension Certificate

Federal Executive Order (E.O.) 12549 “Debarment” requires that all Vendors/Contractors receiving individual awards, using federal funds, and all sub-recipients certify that the organization and its principals are not debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded by any Federal department or agency from doing business with the Federal Government. By signing this document, you certify that your organization and its principals are not debarred. Failure to comply or attempts to edit this language may disqualify your bid. Information on debarment is available at <https://sam.gov/content/home>.

This certification is required by Uniform Guidance Federal Regulations implementing Executive Orders 12549 and 12689, pursuant to 2 CFR Part 200.214 and 2 CRF Part 180.

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that both it and its principals:

1. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency;
2. Have not within a three-year period preceding this contract been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State, or Local) transaction or contract under a public transaction, violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification, or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
3. Are not presently indicated for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity with commission of any of the offense enumerated in Paragraph (2) of this certification; and,
4. Have not within a three-year period preceding this contract had one or more public transactions terminated for cause or default.

Where the Vendor/Contractor is unable to certify any of the statements in this certification, Vendor/Contractor shall attach an explanation to this certification form.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Vendor/Contractor Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name and Title of Authorized Representative



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## Attachment N – Contract Provisions for Contracts Involving Federal Funds

With respect to the use of federal funds for the procurement of goods and services, 2 CFR 200.326 and Appendix II to 2 CFR 200 require the inclusion of the following contract provisions.

1. Remedies for Contract Breach or Violations. Contracts for more than the simplified acquisition threshold currently set at \$250,000 must address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where contractors violate or breach contract terms and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate.
2. Termination for Cause and Convenience. All contracts in excess of \$10,000 must address termination for cause and for convenience by IDEA including the manner by which it will be affected and the basis for settlement.
3. Equal Employment Opportunity. Except as otherwise provided under 41 CFR 60, all contracts that meet the definition of “federally assisted construction contract” in 41 CFR 60–1.3 must include the equal opportunity clause provided under 41 CFR 60–1.4(b), in accordance with Executive Order 11246, “Equal Employment Opportunity” (30 FR 12319, 12935, 3 CFR 1964– 1965 Comp., p. 339), as amended by Executive Order 11375, “Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity,” and implementing regulations at 41 CFR 60, “Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor.”
4. Davis-Bacon Act. When required by Federal program legislation, all prime construction contracts in excess of \$2,000 awarded by IDEA must include a provision for compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 3141–3144, and 3146–3148) as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR 5, “Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Covering Federally Financed and Assisted Construction”). In accordance with the statute, contractors must be required to pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the prevailing wages specified in a wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor. In addition, contractors must be required to pay wages not less than once a week. IDEA must place a copy of the current prevailing wage determination issued by the Department of Labor in each solicitation. The decision to award a contract or subcontract must be conditioned upon the acceptance of the wage determination. IDEA must report all suspected or reported violations to the Federal awarding agency. The contracts must also include a provision for compliance with the Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act (40 U.S.C. 3145), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR 3, “Contractors and Subcontractors on Public Building or Public Work Financed in Whole or in Part by Loans or Grants from the United States”). The Act provides that each contractor or subrecipient must be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the construction, completion, or repair of public work, to give up any part of the compensation to which he or she is otherwise entitled. IDEA must report all suspected or reported violations to the Federal awarding agency.
5. Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act. Where applicable, all contracts awarded by IDEA in excess of \$100,000 that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers must include a provision for compliance with 40 U.S.C. 3702 and 3704, as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR 5). Under 40 U.S.C. 3702 of the Act, each contractor must be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard work week of



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40 hours. Work in excess of the standard work week is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than one and a half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the work week. The requirements of 40 U.S.C. 3704 are applicable to construction work and provide that no laborer or mechanic must be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.

6. Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract or Agreement. If the Federal award meets the definition of “funding agreement” under 37 CFR 401.2 (a) and the recipient or subrecipient wishes to enter into a contract with a small business firm or nonprofit organization regarding the substitution of parties, assignment or performance of experimental, developmental, or research work under that “funding agreement,” the recipient or subrecipient must comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 401, “Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements,” and any implementing regulations issued by the awarding agency.
7. Clean Air Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. Contracts and subgrants of amounts in excess of \$150,000 must contain a provision that requires the contractor to agree to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401–7671q) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251–1387). Violations must be reported to the Federal awarding agency and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
8. Energy Efficiency Standards and Policies. Mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the state energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6201).
9. Debarment and Suspension. A contract award (see 2 CFR 180.220) must not be made to parties listed on the governmentwide Excluded Parties List System in the System for Award Management (SAM), in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR Part 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR Part 1989 Comp., p. 235), “Debarment and Suspension.” The Excluded Parties List System in SAM contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549.
10. Byrd Anti-Lobbying. Contractors that apply or bid for an award of \$100,000 or more must file the required certification. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Each tier must also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier.
11. Procurement of Recovered Materials. IDEA and its contractors must comply with section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The

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requirements of Section 6002 include procuring only items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired by the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000; procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.

**Vendor/Contractor agrees to comply with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances, as applicable. It is further acknowledged that the vendor certifies compliance with all provisions, laws, acts, regulations, etc. as specifically noted above.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Vendor/Contractor Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name and Title of Authorized Representative

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## Attachment O – Criminal History Review of Vendor/Contractor Employees

Texas Education Code § 22.0834 requires entities that contract with school districts or charter schools to provide services to obtain named based criminal history and/or fingerprinting record information regarding “covered employees.”

### **Definitions:**

*“Covered Employees”*: Any employee of a Vendor/Contractor or subcontractor who (1) has or will have continuing duties related to the contracted services and (2) has or will have direct contact with students. IDEA Public Schools (the “School”) retains the discretion to determine what constitutes direct contact with students.

*“Disqualifying Criminal History”*: Any conviction or other criminal information designated by the School, including one or more of the following offenses:

1. A felony or misdemeanor offense that would prevent a person from obtaining certification as an educator under Texas Education Code § 21.060, including:
  - a. Crimes involving moral turpitude;
  - b. Crimes involving any form of sexual or physical abuse or neglect of a student or minor or other illegal conduct with a student or minor;
  - c. Crimes involving felony possession or conspiracy to possess, or any misdemeanor or felony transfer, sale, distribution, or conspiracy to transfer, sell, or distribute any controlled substance defined in Chapter 481, Texas Health and Safety Code;
  - d. Crimes involving school property or funds;
  - e. Crimes involving any attempt by fraudulent or unauthorized means to obtain or alter any certificate or permit that would entitle any person to hold or obtain a position as an educator;
  - f. Crimes occurring wholly or in part on school property or at a school-sponsored activity; and
  - g. Felonies involving driving while intoxicated.
2. A felony offense under Title 5, Penal Code.
3. An offense on conviction of which a defendant is required to register as a sex offender.
4. An offense under the laws of another state or federal law that is approved equal to an offense under items (2) and (3) above where, at the time the offense occurred, the victim of the offense was under 18 years of age or was enrolled in a public school.
5. Any other offense that the School believes might compromise the safety of students, staff, or property.

All Vendors/Contractors must work with the School to comply with the requirements of Texas Education Code § 22.0834 prior to beginning services to the School.

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## CRIMINAL HISTORY REVIEW OF VENDOR/CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEES CERTIFICATION

**Please complete the information below:**

I, the undersigned agent for the legal entity named below certify that [check one]:

None of the employees of Vendor/Contractor and any subcontractors are “covered employees” as defined above. If this box is checked, I further certify that Vendor/Contractor has taken precautions or imposed conditions to ensure that the employees of Vendor/Contractor and any subcontractor will not become covered employees. Vendor/Contractor will maintain these precautions or conditions throughout the time the contracted services are provided.

*Or*

Some or all of the employees of Vendor/Contractor and any subcontractor are “covered employees.” If this box is checked, I further certify that:

1. If Vendor/Contractor receives information that a covered employee subsequently has a reported criminal history, Contractor will immediately remove the covered employee from contract duties and notify the School in writing within three business days.
2. Upon request, Vendor/Contractor will provide the School with the name and any other requested information regarding covered employees so that the School may obtain criminal history record information on the covered employees.
3. If the School objects to the assignment of a covered employee on the basis of the covered employee’s criminal history record information, Vendor/Contractor agrees to discontinue using that covered employee to provide services to the School.
4. All covered employees hired after January 1, 2008 have completed the required background check process prior to performing any duties related to the School or having any direct contact with students.

I understand that non-compliance with this certification by Vendor/Contractor may be grounds for contract termination and/or barring disqualified persons from performing the work.

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Legal Vendor/Contractor Name

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Signature of Authorized Representative

---

Date

---

Printed Name and Title of Authorized Representative

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## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING COMPLIANCE WITH CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECK REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, Texas Education Code (“TEC”) § 22.0834 requires Vendors/Contractors providing services to IDEA Public Schools (“IDEA”) to facilitate a national criminal history record information review for any Vendor/Contractor or subcontractor employees who (1) have or will have continuing duties related to the Agreement and (2) have or will have direct contact with students (“covered employees”) prior to beginning contract services pursuant to the Agreement; and

WHEREAS, Vendor/Contractor provides contract services to IDEA; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Texas Government Code (“TGC”) § 411.0845, the Texas Department of Public Safety (“DPS”) maintains the Criminal History Clearinghouse (“DPS Clearinghouse”) to provide fingerprint criminal history record information, including national criminal history record information made available through the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”), to approved persons and entities; and

WHEREAS, due to recent changes in DPS protocols, Vendor/Contractor no longer has access to the national criminal history record information maintained as part of the DPS Clearinghouse; and

WHEREAS, IDEA is able to access the national criminal history record information portion of the DPS Clearinghouse through the DPS Local Education Entity (“LEE”) Fast Pass option;

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties agree as follows:

1. IDEA will provide access to its LEE Fast Pass to Provider in the event that Vendor/Contractor and/or any of Vendor’s/Contractor’s or subcontractor’s employees is a “covered employee” under TEC § 22.0834, provided that Vendor/Contractor provides IDEA with sufficient documentation needed for IDEA to facilitate a national criminal history record information search through the DPS Clearinghouse.
2. IDEA will obtain national criminal history information review reports through the DPS Clearinghouse for Vendor/Contractor and/or any of Vendor’s/Contractor’s or subcontractor’s employees that is a covered employee, and will notify Vendor/Contractor if Vendor/Contractor and/or any of Vendor’s/Contractor’s or subcontractor’s employees have a disqualifying criminal history; provided, however that IDEA will not provide DPS Clearinghouse results to Vendor/Contractor.
3. Vendor/Contractor shall reimburse to IDEA a fee of \$45 for each of Vendor’s/Contractor’s employees who are processed through IDEA’s LEE Fast Pass.
4. The Parties agree to work expeditiously to complete fingerprinting for Vendor/Contractor and/or Vendor’s/Contractor’s or subcontractor’s employees, and this MOU shall expire when all applicable fingerprint results have been received and reviewed by IDEA. In no event shall this MOU remain effective for more than 30 days beyond the effective date of this MOU without mutual written extension by both Parties.

### ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO:

#### IDEA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#### VENDOR/CONTRACTOR

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Attachment P – Reference Sheet

Please list a minimum of three (3) verifiable references of clients/organizations (governments, charter schools or ISDs) that have used your services. IDEA would prefer some of the references to be new customers in the last year, and Texas clients/organizations are preferred:

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
Customer/Client School or Organization/Entity Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person Phone Number Email Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Project Scope

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dates of Contract

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Customer/Client School or Organization/Entity Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person Phone Number Email Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Project Scope

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dates of Contract

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3. \_\_\_\_\_  
Customer/Client School or Organization/Entity Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Street Address	City	State	Zip
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\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person	Phone Number	Email Address
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\_\_\_\_\_

Project Scope

\_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Contract

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
Customer/Client School or Organization/Entity Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Street Address	City	State	Zip
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\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person	Phone Number	Email Address
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\_\_\_\_\_

Project Scope

\_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Contract



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## Attachment Q – Recent and Ongoing Projects

Respondent shall list any projects completed in the past **three** years that are similar to the scope of work in this RFP. If additional space is required, attach additional pages hereto.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
Customer/Client School or Organization/Entity Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person Phone Number Email Address

Brief Project Scope: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Customer/Client School or Organization/Entity Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person Phone Number Email Address

Brief Project Scope: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
Customer/Client School or Organization/Entity Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person Phone Number Email Address

Brief Project Scope: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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4. \_\_\_\_\_  
Customer/Client School or Organization/Entity Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person Phone Number Email Address

Brief Project Scope: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
Customer/Client School or Organization/Entity Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person Phone Number Email Address

Brief Project Scope: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_  
Customer/Client School or Organization/Entity Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person Phone Number Email Address

Brief Project Scope: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## Attachment R – Litigation, Terminations, Claims

Respondent shall list any project completed in the past **five years** where litigation was filed by Customer/Client or Organization/Entity against Respondent, the contract was terminated by Customer/Client or Organization/Entity before expiration of term, or insurance claims were reported against Respondent's insurance by Customer/Client or Organization/Entity.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
Customer/Client School or Organization/Entity Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person Phone Number Email Address

Brief Description of Event or Issues: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Customer/Client School or Organization/Entity Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person Phone Number Email Address

Brief Description of Event or Issues: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
Customer/Client School or Organization/Entity Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person Phone Number Email Address

Brief Description of Event or Issues: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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4.

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Customer/Client School or Organization/Entity Name

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Contact Person	Phone Number	Email Address
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Brief Description of Event or Issues: \_\_\_\_\_

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5.

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Customer/Client School or Organization/Entity Name

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Contact Person	Phone Number	Email Address
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Brief Description of Event or Issues: \_\_\_\_\_

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6.

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Customer/Client School or Organization/Entity Name

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Contact Person	Phone Number	Email Address
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Brief Description of Event or Issues: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Attachment S – Proposed Pricing

Respondent shall provide pricing / price schedule referencing: “ATTACHMENT “S” in its submitted Proposal.

### FORM OF PROPOSAL CLOUD NATIVE FIREWALL AS A SERVICE PLATFORM

**Instructions:** Bidder shall submit unit price and software developer/manufacturer product information for the specified items as listed. Unit price shall be the full unit price (USAC obligation + SBAC obligation), not accounting for the SPI billing method. The portion of the E-Rate eligible items listed below that shall be the basis of the District issued purchase order shall be determined by the USAC funding letter (extended amount of E-Rate eligible item, less USAC "discount"). Unit prices shall be inclusive of product, packaging, delivery, labor, insurance, profit, and all other services that are necessary for the proper execution and performance of contract, no other charges or surcharges shall be applicable to this contract unless specifically permitted herein. Unless otherwise permitted and expressly stated herein, prices offered shall be firm and fixed for the term of the contract.

<b>ERATE eligible SKU (or equivalent)</b>					
Item #	Description	Est Qty.	U/M	Unit Cost	Extended Amount
1	iboss Complete FWaaS Education Bundle 3 Year license, Mfg #IB-ZT-COMplete-FWaaS-3Y;	78,118	Each	\$	\$
2	iboss FWaaS Design and Implementation Services, Mfg#: 14700-FWaaS-DESIGN-PRO-SERVICES	12	Hours	\$	\$
ERATE Ineligible SKU (or equivalent)					
1	iboss Complete FWaaS Education Bundle 3 Year license, Mfg #IB-ZT-COMplete-FWaaS-3Y; (non-instructional)	2,500	Each	\$	\$
3	iboss 3-year content filtering license add-on for FWaaS 3-year #iboss Content Filtering Add-On for FWaaS-3Y;	10,113	Each	\$	\$
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$</b>



“ATTACHMENT S” is available for download on [IDEA’s website](#).

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## Attachment T – Respondent’s W-9

The W-9 is an official form furnished by the IRS **for employers or other entities to verify the name, address, and tax identification number of an individual receiving income.** The information taken from a W-9 form is often used to generate a 1099 tax form, which is required for income tax filing purposes.

Respondent must fill-out the W-9 and submit with its Proposal. The W-9 form and instructions can be obtained at the following link: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf>



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## Attachment U – Deviations and Exceptions

If the undersigned Vendor/Contractor intends to deviate from the specifications listed in this RFP, all such deviations must be listed on this page (and attachments as necessary), with complete and detailed conditions and information included or attached. IDEA will consider any deviation in its RFP award decisions, and IDEA reserves the right to accept or reject any Proposal based upon any deviations indicated below or in any attachments or inclusions. ***Please note that deviations and variations are strongly discouraged and may be grounds for Proposal rejection at IDEA's sole discretion.***

In the absence of any deviation entry on this form the Vendor/Contractor assures IDEA of its full compliance with the terms and conditions, specifications, and all other information contained in this RFP.

- The Respondent, named below, hereby declares and represents that it will fully comply with the terms, conditions, specifications, and other requirements set forth in this RFP without deviation and exception.
  
- The Respondent, named below, hereby declares and represents that it will fully comply with the terms, conditions, specifications, and other requirements set forth in this RFP except as follows:

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*(For additional deviations and exceptions, refer to additional pages attached herewith.)*

Legal Vendor/Contractor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Authorized Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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## Form A E.1 Proposal Signature Page

<b>Bid Name:</b> E-Rate Cat 2 Consortium Texas		
<b>Bid Number:</b>		
<b>Contract Start Date:</b> 03/01/2024	<b>Contract End Date:</b> 06/30/2027	
<p>The undersigned authorized representative of the bidding company indicated below hereby acknowledges:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. That he/she is authorized to enter into contractual relationships on behalf of the bidding company indicated below, and</li><li>2. That he/she has carefully examined this Request For Proposal, the accompanying RFP Forms (whether in printed or electronic form), and the General Terms and Conditions and Item Specifications associated with this RFP.</li><li>3. That he/she proposes to supply any products or services submitted under this Request For Proposal at the prices quoted and in strict compliance with the General Terms and Conditions, and Item Specifications associated with this RFP.</li><li>4. That if any part of this bid is accepted, he/she will furnish all products or services awarded under this bid at the prices quoted and in strict compliance with the General Terms and Conditions, and Item Specifications associated with this RFP</li></ol>		
Name of Bidding Company	Authorized Signature	Date
Printed Name of Authorized Representative	Title	
Address		
City, State, Zip	Phone	
<b>Form A</b>		

# RESTRICTED

## Form B E.2 Out of State Certification

### IDEA Public Schools

As defined by Texas House Bill 602, a "nonresidential Vendor" means a Vendor whose principal place of business is not in Texas but excludes a contractor whose ultimate parent company or majority owner has its principal place of business in Texas.

I certify that my company is a "Resident Vendor":

Company Name (Please Print)

I certify that my company qualifies as a "Nonresident Vendor": (NOTE: You must furnish the following information:)

Indicate the following information for your "**Resident State**": (The state your principal place of business is located in)

Company Name

Address

City

State

Zip

A. Does your "resident state" require Vendors whose principal place of business is in Texas to underbid Vendors whose resident state is the same as yours by a prescribed amount or percentage to receive a comparable contract? ("Resident State" means the state in which the principal place of business is located.)

Yes  No

B. What is the prescribed amount or percentage? \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ %

**Certification:** I certify that the information provided above is correct.

Signature of Authorized Representative

Name (Please Print)

Title

Form B

# RESTRICTED

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## Part VIII: APPENDICES

The appendices included in this section contain information relevant to this RFP and to the preparation of a responsive Proposal.

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## Appendix A: Vendor E-Rate Service Provider Number Requirement

IDEA would like to inform all interested vendors of the following: Service providers will be required to have an E-Rate Service Provider Number (SPIN) to access the Form 470 and to provide responses to this bid request. A SPIN may be obtained by contacting E-Rate's Customer Service, 888-203-8100."

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**END OF IDEA PUBLIC SCHOOLS RFP**