

## Request For Qualifications Addendum Addendum #1: Vendor Questions & Answers

Date: Friday, March 13, 2026

### **RFQ #29-SPEDOH-0626 Ohio Special Education Instructional and Related Services**

To: All Prospective Vendors

The following vendor-submitted questions were received in response to the referenced solicitation. Responses are provided below for the benefit of all prospective respondents.

**Question 1:** If we were awarded in last year's RFQ, do we need to rebid on this RFQ?

**Answer:** No, as long as you have an active contract with IDEA, there is no need to submit another bid.

**Question 2:** When awarded the solicitation to provide services, who would be the contact within the district to inquire about open roles for professions related to the RFP?

**Answer:** We will provide that information once awarded.

**Question 3:** Is there a rate cap for each of the requested professions? If so, could the district please share the applicable rates

**Answer:** We don't have a rate cap, but expect the rates to be within the market rate.

**Question 4:** What is the anticipated number of openings by profession for services related to this bid?

**Answer:** At this time, we are uncertain about the specific services required for each campus. If awarded, the Regional Special Education Leader will contact you to outline the services needed. However, the details will not be clear until we approach the start of the next school year.

**Question 5:** We are seeking to understand how many vendor-supplied contractors (such as Speech-Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, etc.) are currently being provided to the District by other vendors.

**Answer:** Ohio currently has 45+ vendors for Special Education Instruction and Related Services. For a more detailed breakdown, please reach out to [information.request@ideapublicschools.org](mailto:information.request@ideapublicschools.org).

**Question 6:** Who are the current vendors, and what are their bill rates for requested services?

**Answer:** We are unable to share that information at the time, but you can email [information.request@ideapublicschools.org](mailto:information.request@ideapublicschools.org) for more information.

**Question 7:** Are the same services solicited in Ohio and Florida?

**Answer:** Yes, the only difference is the state requiring service.

**Question 8:** When providing staff resumes and certificates are we allowed to redact their names?

**Answer:** Yes, redacting the names is fine with IDEA.

**Question 9:** What's the anticipated number of full-time positions you anticipate for each discipline?

**Answer:** At this time, we are uncertain about the specific services required for each campus. If awarded, the Regional Special Education Leader will contact you to outline the services needed. However, the details will not be clear until we approach the start of the next school year.

**Question 10:** On average, how many contractors have you utilized over the past three school years?

**Answer:** Over 100+ vendors.

**Question 11:** Please confirm vendor responses to the RFQ may be through EITHER Public Purchasing OR Hard Copy?

**Answer:** You may submit electronically via Public Purchase or you may submit a hard copy via mail.

**Question 12:** Can we select the job roles we want to bid for? If not all?

**Answer:** Yes, please indicate your response on Attachment G.

**Question 13:** Is pricing fee per service, or hourly that includes payment for paperwork time?

**Answer:** We typically see hourly rates per service.

**Question 14:** Is there an anticipated headcount for the job roles?

**Answer:** At this time, we are uncertain about the specific services required for each campus. If awarded, the Regional Special Education Leader will contact you to outline the services needed. However, the details will not be clear until we approach the start of the next school year.

**Question 15:** Do we need to resubmit for 26-27 SY if we were just awarded for 25-26

**Answer:** No, as long as you have an active contract with IDEA, there is no need to resubmit. However, if your scope of services has expanded and are not included in your current contract, please resubmit.

**Question 16:** Can you provide historical pricing and incumbent details?

**Answer:** We are unable to disclose that information at this moment, however, please feel free to reach out to [information.request@ideapublicschools.org](mailto:information.request@ideapublicschools.org).

**Question 17:** Is this primarily/exclusively push-in staffing services or could prospective vendors operate a subset of classes/programming?

**Answer:** Both.

**Question 18:** Will IDEA Public Schools accept Docusign signatures in lieu of wet signatures?

**Answer:** Yes, IDEA will accept both.

**Question 19:** What is the anticipated number of full time and part time positions for each role?

**Answer:** At this time, we are uncertain about the specific services required for each campus. If awarded, the Regional Special Education Leader will contact you to outline the services needed. However, the details will not be clear until we approach the start of the next school year.

**Question 20:** Who are the current vendors providing services?

**Answer:** We are unable to share that information at the time, but you can email [information.request@ideapublicschools.org](mailto:information.request@ideapublicschools.org) for more information.

**Question 21:** Are your current vendors meeting your needs?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question 22:** How long have the incumbent suppliers held this contract?

**Answer:** It varies from vendor to vendor. For previous RFQs, they've had a 3-year contract with an option for an additional two (2) one (1) year renewals. For this current RFQ, we are offering a one (1) year contract, with an additional four (4) year renewals.

**Question 23:** Will IDEA Public Schools utilize its own contract, the vendor's contract, or the RFP as the agreement?

**Answer:** IDEA will use its own contract (including the RFP), but a vendor can submit their own contract if they prefer.

**Question 24:** What are the current hourly bill rates for vendors providing similar services?

**Answer:** We are unable to share that information at the time, but you can email [information.request@ideapublicschools.org](mailto:information.request@ideapublicschools.org) for more information.

**Question 25:** Does IDEA Public Schools have a cap on the hourly rate for these services?

**Answer:** We don't have a rate cap, but expect the rates to be within the market rate.

**Question 26:** Will IDEA Public Schools accept a rate range or a flat rate (i.e. - \$75-80/hr. versus \$75/hr.)

**Answer:** IDEA prefers a flat rate.

**Question 27:** Do you require resumes and license verifications of potential contracted candidates to be included in our submission?

a) If so, can we provide sample resumes with personal information redacted?

**Answer:** Yes, resumes and license verifications of potential candidates are required. Personal information cannot be redacted.

**Question 28:** How will the vendors be notified of an award?

**Answer:** They will be notified via email.

**Question 29:** Do you anticipate awarding one or multiple vendors?

**Answer:** It depends on how many submissions we get, but more than likely multiple vendors.

**Question 30:** Is the vendor expected to have a clinic or local office?

**Answer:** No.

**Question 31:** Will assigned candidates have access to materials, supplies, equipment, evaluation kits, and protocols provided by your schools?

**Answer:** No.

**Question 32:** Will assigned candidates have access to computers/laptops and printers?

**Answer:** No.

**Question 33:** Will IDEA Public Schools reimburse for mileage traveled between school campuses on the same day?

**Answer:** IDEA will not reimburse for mileage.

**Question 34:** Are clinicians required to directly bill Medicaid for reimbursement or do they just complete paperwork for IDEA Public Schools to submit to Medicaid for reimbursement?

**Answer:** Clinicians complete paperwork for Idea and will not independently submit for Medicaid reimbursement. They will still need an NPI number for the IDEA to bill.

**Question 35:** Is IDEA Public Schools open to utilizing Clinical Fellows? If so, are we required to provide supervision?

**Answer:** We accept Clinical Fellows and can typically find supervision.

**Question 36:** Will IDEA Public Schools accept and consider submissions from staffing agencies?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question 37:** Is IDEA Public Schools open to the using teletherapy?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question 38:** Would you allow supervision of RBTs from a School Psych, SW, or LCSW?

**Answer:** No.

**Question 39:** Can you provide the name and contact information for the individual who will be coordinating these services at your district?

**Answer:** We will provide that information once awarded.

**Question 40:** Would IDEA Public Schools consider the utilization of a Managed Services Provider (MSP) to manage and stabilize your vendors and competing rates across all contracts for this opportunity?

**Answer:** No.

**Question 41:** Will IDEA allow a piggybacking arrangement from your RFP award RFQ#30-SPED-0625 in TX for your Ohio staffing needs?

**Answer:** No, RFQ #30-SPED-0625 Texas only applies to Texas.

**Question 42:** Can the district clarify the anticipated number of positions by discipline (e.g., School Psychologist, SLP, OT, etc) for the initial contract term?

**Answer:** At this time, we are uncertain about the specific services required for each campus. If awarded, the Regional Special Education Leader will contact you to outline the services needed. However, the details will not be clear until we approach the start of the next school year.

**Question 43:** Are these positions primarily in-person, virtual/teletherapy, or hybrid?

**Answer:** In person.

**Question 44:** Can the district provide average and maximum caseload expectations by discipline?

**Answer:** At this time, we are uncertain about the specific services required for each campus. If awarded, the Regional Special Education Leader will contact you to outline the services needed. However, the details will not be clear until we approach the start of the next school year.

**Question 45:** Are contractors responsible for completing initial evaluations, re-evaluations, or both?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question 46:** What documentation platform does the district utilize (e.g., IEP management system), and will access/training be provided?

**Answer:** V3 Frontline/ESPED and access/training will be provided.

**Question 47:** Are contractors required to attend staff meetings, professional development, or district trainings?

**Answer:** Contractors may be asked to attend meetings.

**Question 48:** What is the anticipated start date for the majority of positions?

**Answer:** Beginning of school year. It varies per region.

**Question 49:** Is the contract based on a 10-month school calendar, a 12-month calendar, or variable based on role?

**Answer:** Varies by role.

**Question 50:** Are extended school year (ESY) services included in this RFP?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question 51:** How are school holidays, teacher workdays, and student non-contact days handled for contractor billing?

**Answer:** They may bill for documentation potentially, but would have to have approval from IDEA's Regional Programs Director.

**Question 52:** What are the district's background screening and fingerprinting requirements, and what is the estimated processing timeline?

**Answer:**

**Ohio:**

**Background Checks:** Contractor must comply with the requirements of Ohio Revised Code to criminal records checks on Contractor's representatives who will have continuing duties under this Agreement and will have routine interaction with a child or regular responsibility for the care, custody, or control of a child. No employee, agent, representative, volunteer, applicant for employment, or other person associated with Contractor who has been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor prohibited by R.C. 3314.41 shall be permitted to perform services for IDEA

GC. Contractor shall certify that it will ensure that this requirement is met. Fingerprinting records and records of compliance with Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3314 will be available to IDEA GC for inspection and review during normal business hours of Contractor and upon request of IDEA GC or governmental authorities.

For the timeline it varies by workload. For more information, please email Risk Management Vendor Background Checks [riskmanagementvendorbackgroundchecks@ideapublicschools.org](mailto:riskmanagementvendorbackgroundchecks@ideapublicschools.org)

**Question 53:** Who will provide day-to-day supervision for contracted staff?

**Answer:** It varies by position.

**Question 54:** What is the district's performance evaluation process for contracted providers?

**Answer:** It varies by position.

**Question 55:** Are minimum weekly hour guarantees required?

**Answer:** No.

**Question 56:** What is the district's standard payment timeline (e.g., Net 30, Net 45)?

**Answer:** Net 30.

**Question 57:** Are rate adjustments permitted during the contract term due to inflation or market changes?

**Answer:** No.

**Question 58:** Will travel between multiple school sites be reimbursed?

**Answer:** IDEA will not reimburse for mileage.

**Question 59:** Does the district anticipate awarding to a single vendor or multiple vendors?

**Answer:** It depends on how many submissions we get, but more than likely multiple vendors.

**Question 60:** If multiple vendors are awarded, how will assignments be distributed (e.g., rotation, best value, first-come submission)?

**Answer:** First available.

**Question 61:** Are there incumbent contractors currently serving in these roles?

**Answer:** It depends on the region.

**Question 62:** Will blinded sample resumes for active candidates satisfy the requirement to submit individual profiles, certifications, and licenses?

**Answer:** No.

**Question 63:** Is IDEA receptive to excluding professional liability coverage from the additional insured requirement?

**Answer:** The additional insured clauses are under the general liability coverage, not under the professional liability. The coverage determination is based on the over size of the business and rational behind the vendor request. It's a case by case scenario.

**Question 64:** Are laptops required for all contracted positions? If so, approximately how many providers will need vendor-issued laptops?

**Answer:** Laptops are required. It depends on the regional need for staff.

**Question 65:** Is IDEA willing to agree to Net 30 payment terms?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question 66:** Is the customer receptive to the prospect of mutual termination rights?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question 67:** How will proposed revisions or exceptions affect the final award decision?

**Answer:** If revisions or exceptions are too extreme, IDEA may terminate the final award decision.

**Question 68:** Will IDEA consider proposed contract revisions or exceptions?

**Answer:** Yes, but IDEA does not encourage contract revisions or exceptions.

**Question 69:** When can we expect to receive the applicable contract template for review?

**Answer:** After award, which should be around early May.

**Question 70:** What is the expected number of FTEs IDEA expects to utilize under this contract and what positions?

**Answer:** At this time, we are uncertain about the specific services required for each campus. If awarded, the Regional Special Education Leader will contact you to outline the services needed. However, the details will not be clear until we approach the start of the next school year.

**Question 71:** Can IDEA clarify the scope and expectations for 1:1 nursing services? Do any students currently require tracheostomy or ventilator care?

**Answer:** It depends on the specific students. They may but we are uncertain about the specific services required for each campus. However, the details will not be clear until we approach the start of the next school year.

**Attachments:**

- IDEA Public Schools Pre-Qualification Meeting Slides

**END OF ADDENDUM**

**IDEA Public Schools  
Request for Qualifications (RFQ)**

**For**

**29-SPEDFL-0626 Florida and 30-SPEDOH-0626 Ohio  
Special Education Instructional and Related Services**

Pre-Qualification Meeting

Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 10:00 AM CST

Humberto Hinojosa, Procurement Analyst



## Recording

This meeting will be recorded and transcribed for future reference

Please type your name, title, phone number, email address, and organization in the chat

# Pre-Qualification Agenda

- Welcome
- Agenda & Solicitation Overview
- Statement of Qualification Submission & Selection
- Project Scope and Overview
- Q&A
- Wrap-up



# Point of Contact (POC)

All inquiries regarding this solicitation should be directed to IDEA's:

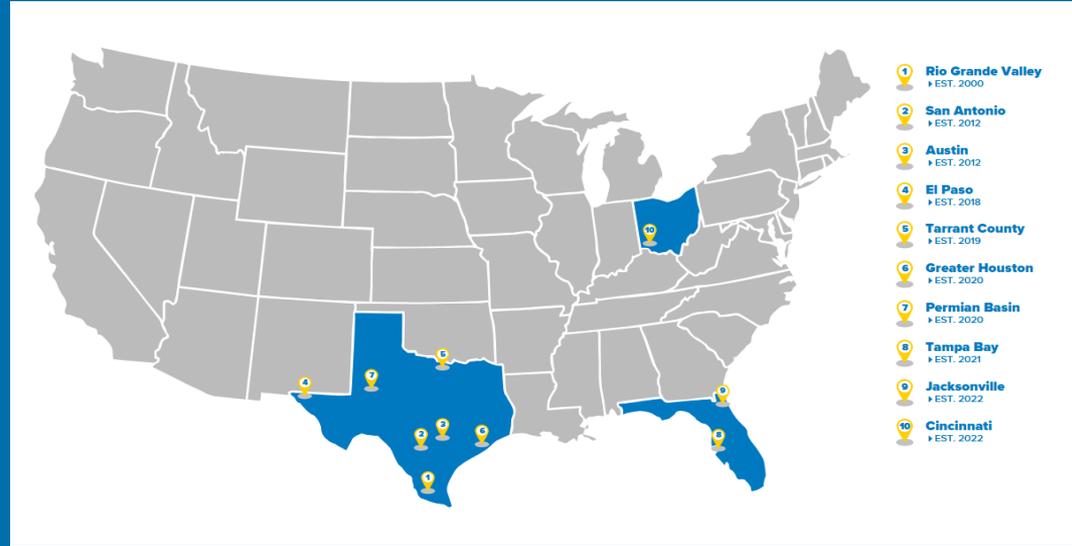
Procurement Department

[solicitations@ideapublicschools.org](mailto:solicitations@ideapublicschools.org)



# Disclaimer

This Document serves to aid interested vendors doing business with IDEA. This Document does not constitute legal advice or bind IDEA in any manner. Anything stated at this pre-submittal conference is not intended to change any terms and/or conditions stated in the advertised solicitation document. Any authorized changes will be made in writing in the form of an Addendum issued by IDEA's Procurement Department.



# Solicitation Overview

IDEA is requesting the following Special Education Instructional and Related Services in **Florida and Ohio for in-person services** for the 2026-2027 school year:

- Adaptive Physical Education (APE) Teacher
- Assistive Technology Evaluations (Autism)
- Auditory Impairment/Deaf Ed Teacher
- Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)
- Brailist
- Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant (COTA)
- Educational Diagnostician
- Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW)
- Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)
- Nursing
- Occupational Therapist
- Orientation and Mobility Teacher
- Physical Therapist
- Registered Behavior Technicians
- School Psychologist
- Sensory Evaluations (Autism)
- Speech Language Pathologist
- Speech Language Pathologist Assistant (SLPA)
- Special Education Teacher
- Special Education Co-Teacher (Paraprofessional)
- Visual Impairment Teacher

***The detailed scope of work can be found on page 6 in Part II – BACKGROUND AND SCOPE OF SERVICES.***

# RFQ Tentative Timeline

## Request For Qualifications Timeline

*All dates and times are tentative and subject to change.*

First Advertisement & RFP Issue Date:	Wednesday, February 18, 2026
Second Advertisement Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2026
Pre-Qualification Meeting:	Thursday, February 26, 2026 @ 10:00 AM CST
Respondent Question Cut-Off Date:	Friday, March 06, 2026, no later than 5:00 PM CST
Questions Response from IDEA:	Friday, March 13, 2026
<b>Qualifications Due by Date &amp; Time:</b>	<b>Monday, March 30, 2026, NO later than 2:00 PM CST</b>
Anticipated Evaluation Period:	April 01, 2026 – April 10, 2026
Anticipated Board Meeting & Approval:	June 2026
Initial Proposed Contract Term:	July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027
Renewal option #1:	July 1, 2027 - June 30, 2028
Renewal option #2	July 1, 2028 – June 30, 2029
Renewal option #3	July 1, 2029 – June 30, 2030
Renewal option #4:	July 1, 2030 - June 30, 2031

# Required Statement of Qualifications Format

Respondents must follow the format instructions detailed on page 17 in *Part III – Statement of Qualification Requirements* when preparing and submitting a Statement of Qualification. Each section must be clearly marked.

- I. Cover Letter
- II. Table of Contents
- III. Respondent(s) Individual Profile, Certifications, and Licenses
- IV. Approach to Services and Methodology
- V. Required Forms (Attachments A – I)
- VI. Rate Sheet for services provided

**⚠ Failure to follow all the proposal's organizational requirements may result in disqualification.**

# Submittal Procedures

**Due: Monday, March 30, 2026 @ 2:00 PM CST**

Statement of Qualifications may be submitted using the [Public Purchase](#) website or by sending a hard copy to:

IDEA Public Schools Headquarters in C/O IDEA Florida, Inc.  
Attn: Procurement Department  
2115 West Pike Blvd Weslaco, TX 78596  
956-377-8000

**Statement of Qualifications must be in a sealed envelope marked with the RFQ Number and Title (#29-SPEDFL-0625 Florida Special Education Instructional and Related Services)** and include:

- One (1) clearly identified hard copy ORIGINAL of the Statement of Qualifications response.
- One (1) copy of the Statement of Qualifications on FLASH DRIVE, marked with the Respondent's name.

**Note: Submissions via fax or email will not be accepted.**

**⚠ RFQ submissions must follow the format instructions detailed on page 17 in Part III – Statement of Qualification Requirements when preparing and submitting a statement of qualification. Each section of the proposals must be clearly marked.**

# Evaluation Criteria



<b>35 Points</b>	<b>Respondent's Level of Expertise</b> The Respondent demonstrates the requisite qualifications and expertise as specified in <i>Part II - Background and Scope of Services</i> to perform the services requested.
<b>25 Points</b>	<b>Respondent's ability to comply with the RFQ</b> The Respondent has completed and signed all required documentation in Attachments A–I and demonstrates the ability to comply with all <i>Part III – Statements of Qualifications Requirements</i> , including: <b>I.</b> Cover Letter <b>II.</b> Table of Contents <b>III.</b> Respondent(s) Individual Profile, Certifications, and Licenses <b>IV.</b> Approach to Services and Methodology <b>V.</b> Required Forms (Attachments A – I) <b>VI.</b> Rate Sheet for services provided
<b>15 Points</b>	<b>Respondent's ability to provide in-person services</b> The Respondent demonstrates the ability to provide in-person services, as documented in <i>Attachment G – Geographic Coverage</i> .
<b>15 Points</b>	<b>Respondent's ability to provide own tech, testing kits, and equipment</b> The Respondent demonstrates the ability to supply its own technology, testing kits, and equipment, as documented in <i>Attachment H – Respondent Questionnaire</i> .
<b>10 Points</b>	<b>Respondent's Experience</b> The Respondent has demonstrated experience providing similar services to K–12 public schools within the past five (5) years, as documented in <i>Attachment I – Reference Sheet</i> .
<b>100 Points</b>	<b>Total Possible Score</b>



**ANY QUESTIONS?**

# Closing

If you haven't already, please type name, title, contact information, and organization in the chat

**Good luck**