

E-RATE YEAR 15 (2012-2013) RFP  
Internet Access - Fiber connectivity  
for  
Monson-Sultana Joint Union Elementary School District

470 Application #: 224880000997036

Submission Deadline: February 17th, 2012 12:00p.m. (noon)

Monson- Sultana Joint Union Elementary School District wishes to take  
advantage of E-Rate funding discounts.

To that end, Monson-Sultana Joint Union Elementary School District (DISTRICT) is seeking proposals for the upcoming Year 15 round of E-Rate (July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013). The District is seeking a multi-year contract to provide for Internet Access - Fiber Connectivity. Contract term is July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2017.

#### Provider Criteria and Contract Requirements

The successful bidder(s) will be responsible for participating in the Federal E-Rate program.

Prices must be held firm for the duration of the contract or until all work associated with the project(s) are complete (including any SLD approved extensions)

This project is dependant on partial funding from the E-rate program. No part of this contract will be valid or executed outside of E-Rate time lines and approvals.

- Applicant expects the Service Provider to make themselves thoroughly familiar with any rules or regulations regarding the E-rate program.
- All contracts entered into as a result of this RFP will be contingent upon the specific funding of the E-Rate FRN tied to that contract at the percentage discount rate applied for.
- The maximum percentage the Applicant will be liable for is the pre-discount amount minus the funded amount as shown on the ERATE form 471 Block 5. The Service Provider will be responsible for invoicing the Schools and Libraries Division for the funded amount.
- NO billing or connectivity that is covered by this contract can take place before the contract start date of July 1, 2012.
- All work must be completed or services delivered by the vendor within the E-Rate funding year authorized by a Funding Commitment Decision Letter

(FCDL), unless an extension of time is applied for and granted by the Schools and Library's Corporation for a specific FRN in a given year.)

- The DISTRICT is responsible for the annual filing of Form 471 for E-Rate funding for successive years of the contract period under the SLC's rules for multi-year contracts.
- In the event of questions during the E-Rate audit process, the successful service provider is expected to reply within 3 business days to questions associated with their proposal.
- The contractor is responsible for providing a valid SPIN (Service Provider Identification Number) at the time the bid is submitted.
- The contractor must provide a valid FCC Registration Number.
- All work is subject to the 100% approval of the project or purchase by the FCC and SLC under the E-rate discount program of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.
- Vendor will be responsible for procuring the discounted amount of the contract cost from the SLD within the allowable service provider invoicing window. The form 472 Bear form reimbursement process will not be used by the District.

### Proposal Evaluation

It is anticipated that a contract will be made with the provider whose proposal is determined to be in the most cost effective and in the overall best interest of the MONSON-SULTANA SCHOOL DISTRICT. The main evaluation considerations are price, industry experience, and qualifications. A copy of the complete bid evaluation matrix used by the district is available on request.

### Scope of Contract:

1. The district is seeking to change from its present copper based ATM/IMA and T1 internet connectivity technology (currently provided by various subsidiaries of AT&T via the Cal-Net II State Master Contract Agreement), to FIBER, beginning with Erate year 15 (2012-2013).
  - a. It is expected that the existing copper based technology and the new Fiber connectivity will overlap to a very brief degree during the transition from one connectivity type to the other. It is desired that there be an absolute minimum of downtime during the change out of

technologies and it will be the contractor's responsibility to coordinate between the old and new services to that end.

2. Selected vendor will provide a fiber connection between the DISTRICT and an Internet Service Provider's (ISP) provisioning point. (ISP is provided under a separate RFP).
3. If the service (fiber connectivity) will begin on or shortly after July 1 of the funding year, the service provider, in some cases, may need to undertake some construction and installation prior to the beginning of the funding year.
  - a. Within the limitations indicated below, the infrastructure costs of the service provider can be deemed to be delivered at the same time that the associated Priority 1 service (fiber connectivity) begin. That is, if services begin on July 1, then the delivery of service provider infrastructure necessary for those services can be considered as also delivered on July 1.
  - b. There are four conditions that must be met in order for USAC (E-Rate) to provide support in a funding year for Priority 1 infrastructure costs incurred prior to the funding year.
    - i. Initiation of installation cannot take place before selection of the service provider pursuant to a posted Form 470 and in any event no earlier than six months prior to July 1 of the funding year.
    - ii. The Priority 1 service (fiber connectivity) must depend on the installation of the infrastructure.
    - iii. The underlying Priority 1 service cannot have a service start date prior to July 1 of the funding year.
    - iv. No invoices can be dated prior to July 1 of the funding year.<sup>1</sup>
4. The fiber connection must initially be capable of providing for a minimum 100Mbps connectivity to the ISP provisioning point; with the inherent capacity to upgrade the contracted bandwidth in the future to 1Gbps over the fiber as bandwidth becomes available.
5. The fiber connectivity is to include the connections and equipment necessary at each endpoint to integrate into the ISP and DISTRICT existing routers.
  - a. The equipment necessary to accomplish connectivity is a part of the lease and shall remain the property of the service provider.

<sup>1</sup> See: <http://www.usac.org/sl/applicants/step06/priority-1-components-timeline-installation.aspx>

- b. Service provider must provide all service and support for repairs of the fiber connectivity and for maintenance of the end point terminations including configuration of routers at both termination points. Service provider must maintain a service presence (response) within 50 miles of the District.
- c. It is understood that mission critical functions of the DISTRICT are carried out over the fiber connectivity provided. In the event of failure of the connectivity, the service provider must be able to provide 24/7/365 ability to restore the connection in a reasonable time and manner.
- d. The service will be billed monthly and will be pro-rated from July 1, to the actual service start date, if applicable. The term of the contract is: July 1, 2012 thru June 30, 2017.

Proposals must be submitted in writing.

Submission Deadline: February 17th, 2012 12:00 pm.

Deliver by email, hand or common carrier to:

Monson-Sultana Joint Union Elementary School District

P.O. Box 25

10643 Avenue 416

Sultana, CA 93666-0025

Attn: Vicki Worthley, Director of Technology     [admin@msschool.org](mailto:admin@msschool.org)

Late proposals will not be accepted.

All requests for information (RFI) should be made via e-mail to Vicki Worthley at [admin@msschool.org](mailto:admin@msschool.org). Be aware that all parties will be copied on all questions and responses.