

Request for Proposal: Firewall

December 9, 2021

Nebraska City Public Schools
1700 14th Ave
Nebraska City, NE 68410

Erate Identifier: Cat2.2022Firewall

Table of Contents

Overview.....	3
1.1 Product Specifications	3
2.1 Pricing and Payment Structure.....	4
3.1 Evaluation Process	4
4.1 Discrepancies and Omissions	4
5.1 Contingencies.....	4
6.1 Vendor Questions and Clarifications	5
Appendix A.....	6
Appendix B.....	7

Overview

Nebraska City Public Schools is seeking proposals for, or highly equivalent to, CIPAFirewall device; model number H6180. See Appendix A for further information on part numbers and quantities requested.

All proposals which are highly equivalent to or exceed specifications of the CIPAFirewall will be considered.

Vendors will have 24 hours after vendor selection is announced to raise any questions. Questions will be addressed via the web site posting answers to all questions. The District will have the final authority to the resolution of all questions.

All bidding vendors must be Erate eligible, have an updated Form 473 (SPAC) on file to provide the services requested; bidding vendors must provide their Service Provider's Form 498 ID (formally known as SPIN) as part of this RFP response. **Vendors are required to state if any proposed equipment and/or services are ineligible for Erate funding as part of their proposal documentation.**

Proposals are due in either hardcopy or in electronic form (PDF format) on or before **Friday, January 21, 2022 at 3:00 pm CST** at Nebraska City Public Schools, Attn: Damien Bertwell – RFP Response, 1700 14th Ave, Nebraska City, NE 68410 or emailed to dbertwell@nebcityps.org. Emailed proposal documents will be time-stamped from the receiving computer.

Proposals will be available for inspection, at the District Office (1700 14th Ave, Nebraska City, NE) by Noon on January 26, 2022.

Questions should be addressed, no later than January 10, 2022, to:

Damien Bertwell
Email: dbertwell@nebcityps.org

Questions and Answers will be posted on district website (<https://www.nebcityps.org/>) by January 12, 2022.

1.1 Product Specifications

Nebraska City Public Schools is seeking proposals for, or highly equivalent to, CIPAFirewall CF350 firewall device; model number H6180. See Appendix A for further information on part numbers and quantities requested. All equipment bid must be new.

- **CF350 minimum requirements:**
 - Form Factor: 1U rack-mount
 - Ports: 4
 - Typical Throughput: 1000 Mbps
 - Maximum Clients: 5000

2.1 Pricing and Payment Structure

Vendors are required to breakdown the purchases as outlined in the table in Appendix A. Vendors are required to complete Appendix A as part of their proposal.

Contracts will be awarded only after receiving a funding commitment and decision letter from SLD or agreed upon by the district. This RFP will automatically become part of any contract awarded to a vendor. The District requests vendors to file a Form 474 (Service Provider Invoice; SPI) to request reimbursement directly from USAC for the eligible Erate portion of the contract.

3.1 Evaluation Process

Please refer to Appendix B for further details regarding the evaluation process.

4.1 Discrepancies and Omissions

Vendors finding discrepancies or omissions in the RFP or having any doubts as to the meaning or intent of any part thereof shall submit such questions or concerns to Damien Bertwell, Nebraska City Public Schools, dbertwell@nebcityps.org. Addenda issued in correspondence to this RFP shall be considered a part of this RFP and shall become part of any final Contract that may be derived from this RFP. This RFP and its addenda will be part of any possible future contract with successful vendor(s).

5.1 Contingencies

This RFP should not be considered as a Contract to purchase goods or services, but is a Request for Proposal in accordance with the Terms and Conditions herein and will not necessarily give

rise to a contract. However, RFP responses should be as detailed and complete as possible to facilitate the formation of a contract based on the RFP response(s) that are pursued should Nebraska City Public Schools decide to do so. The purchase of said equipment will require an approval process which will not be complete until the noted “Anticipated Award Date”. Proposals stating that pricing is valid dependent upon availability and/or subject to prior sale will be considered as non-responsive. Completion of this RFP form and its associated Appendices are a requirement. Failure to do so will disqualify your RFP response submittal. Vendors must submit sealed RFP responses by the due date and time as specified herein. Electronic submissions will be accepted if create in PDF format and e-mail dbertwell@nebcityps.org by the due date and time as specified herein. Date and time stamp of receiving computer will govern all e-mails. Vendors will be considered nonresponsive if the above requirements are not submitted as requested. The Nebraska City Public Schools has the right to reject all submitted proposals and resubmit for new proposals through a revised RFP.

6.1 Vendor Questions and Clarifications

Questions should be addressed, no later than January 10, 2022, to:
Damien Bertwell
Email: dbertwell@nebcityps.org

Questions and Answers will be posted on district website (<https://www.nebcityps.org/>) by January 12, 2022.

Appendix A

Required Form for RFP Response.

TABLE 2.1: NEBRASKA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SHARED SERVICES			
Erate Eligible Services			
Description	Qty	Unit Price	Total
CIPAFILTER – CF350	1		

I acknowledge Section 2.1 Pricing and Payment; Nebraska City Public Schools will only accept discount on invoices; therefore, the winning vendor will file a Form 474 (Service Provider Invoice Form) to request payment of the discount amount for eligible services after billing the applicant for the non-discount share of the cost of the equipment and/or services.

Vendor Name: _____

Erate Form 498 ID (SPIN): _____

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date Submitted: _____

Appendix B

Evaluation Rubric
Nebraska City Public Schools
Erate: Cat2.2022Firewall

1. Cost of eligible equipment and/or eligible maintenance.....40 points

Cost of Equipment will be released at time of proposal opening. Points will be awarded during the evaluation of the proposal(s).

2. Features included30 points

All documented features of the device in the RFP will be evaluated and points award as such. Points will not be awarded for features that are not included in the cost of the device as presented in the RFP.

3. Support of hardware.....15 points

Technical support will be contacted and will be evaluated on its technical knowledge, English as the primary language, and ease of use.

4. Reliability and References.....10 points

Vendor shall supply a minimum of three references. Please include: Company Name, Reference Name, Position and Contact information, as well as products used and industry of customer. Additional points may be awarded for positive experiences in the PK-12 field.

Reliability score will be determined using the following criteria:

- a. References given in the RFP
- b. Known other users of the device
- c. Personal experiences

5. User Interface5 points

The user interface will be evaluated and points awarded on the ease of use and the completeness of the interface to the device.