

Notice: Request for Internet RFP FY25

The Lake and Peninsula School District is located on the Alaska Peninsula in Southwest Alaska. The District is seeking proposals for internet broadband at its 12 sites for 13 entities including the Igiugig Tribal Library for the 3-year period with 2 optional 1-year extensions on services beginning July 1, 2024. The district will consider 1, 3 and 5-year contract options to adjust to changing technology. The district will be making an application to the Schools and Library Corporation (SLD) for support of these services. In this RFP, the district is seeking proposals only for services that are eligible for subsidy under the e-rate program.

The district's 12 locations are Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lake, Igiugig, Kokhanok, Newhalen, Nondalton, Port Alsworth, Perryville, Pilot Point, Port Heiden, Levelock, and King Salmon, Alaska.

The District will determine at its sole discretion the selection of service provider(s) and levels of service on a site-by-site basis. The District's criteria for evaluation is listed below. The District seeks to maximize its level of service within its funding limitations. The District will consider using multiple service providers and will evaluate proposals on a site-by-site basis. The district requests proposals indicating varying levels of service as we anticipate limits and uncertainty of future available funding.

Pricing (50 points): Price of the E-rate eligible goods and services

Service & Support (24 points):

- What kind of service infrastructure do you have in place?
- How quickly can you respond to a major service outage in one of our locations?
- Who will be the main point of contact?
- How will you handle service issues?
- Do you have a dedicated representative to help with e-Rate questions?

Guaranteed Latency (26 points): We have 13 locations listed in this bid. Provide the guaranteed latency of your proposed solution for each location.

- A maximum of 2 points per site will be awarded if the guaranteed latency is less than or equal to 70ms.
- 1.5 points per site will be awarded if the guaranteed latency is between 70ms - 140ms
- 1 point per site will be awarded if the guaranteed latency is between 140ms - 800ms
- No points per site will be awarded if your guaranteed latency is greater than 800ms

Proposers are requested to provide proposals of sufficient detail to allow us to select the most cost-effective based on the level of service. We will be accepting proposals until 11:00 PM (AKST) on March 8, 2024.

In order to be considered responsive proposals must include:

1. Name, Address, Phone #, Fax #, E-mail address, and contact individual.
2. SLD provider # and proof that current form 473 is on file with the SLD and the provider is not under red-light restrictions.
3. Description of service provided. This description should be sufficient to allow the District to understand the scope and limitations of the described service.
4. Separate One-time installation, monthly and or annual recurring cost by site of each of the described services (**Internet**). Variable costs must be explicitly outlined, including the basis for variation and estimated amounts.
5. Certification and agreement to the mandatory terms outlined in the attached listing.
6. The cost of eligible services must be separated from the ineligible services.

Proposers can submit proposals until 11:00 PM (AKST) March 8, 2024 by uploading online at

<https://www.lpsd.com/e-rate.html>

All proposals must be received by the deadline time and date. The District anticipates making firm commitments for services, as early as March 15, 2024. For any questions regarding the request for bids must be submitted in writing no later than February 26th at 5 PM to Sam Rigby at srigby@lpsd.com. Questions and answers will be posted to: <https://www.lpsd.com/e-rate.html> Inquiries via telephone or text will not be responded to.

Successful bidder(s) will be required to certify that they are in compliance with the Anti-Deficiency Act and not listed in Red Light Status and the required terms included in this RFP.

Proposed Services:

In general, the District is seeking pricing for internet at varying service level increments as offered by the provider. If available, the district requests pricing for circuits with a fixed download speed of 25, 50, and 100mbps to be included. The district will consider pricing at ALL bandwidth levels.

Both the State of Alaska Broadband grant program and the Division (SLC) of USAC funding are conditional and therefore request that proposals reflect variable internet service levels and pricing available during the term of the proposed service). Only service levels with a fixed 25mbps download speed are eligible for BAG funding at this time.

The district does not wish to limit proposers to any variety of service delivery but needs scalable pricing to meet funding limitations.

Define one-time purchase costs, modems, antennas, static IPs, etc.

Internet service proposals should be comprehensive and include all necessary hardware, software, infrastructure, etc. to provide a turnkey, end-to-end Internet solution.

Internet proposals should include, as a separate item, costs associated with content filtering. Although not eligible for E-Rate funding, the district is seeking proposals for such service. An inability to provide a proposal on content filtering will NOT disqualify any potential respondents.

The District is seeking low-latency circuits for all school locations. Respondents bidding satellite circuits must clearly indicate this and include the option to switch over to a lower latency option at a future point in time. Growing educational demands require the district to reduce latency due to satellite circuits. An inability to provide non-satellite circuits will NOT disqualify any potential respondents.

Terms:

Once the proposal has been accepted, pricing data will be publicly available unless proposers can show a specific law, rule, or other restriction that bars the publication of the purchasing price data.

Proposers agree to comply with the Lowest Corresponding Price (LCP) rule which requires an E-rate provider to submit bids to applicants at prices no higher than the lowest price that the provider charges to non-residential customers who are similarly situated to a particular school, library, rural health care provider or consortium that purchases directly from the service provider.

The Proposer agrees to execute a signed contract or other legally binding agreement no later than two weeks prior to the deadline for submitting our FCC Forms 471 to USAC which includes all terms in this RFP.

Proposer, by submitting proposals, understands that service is provided by uncommitted future funding. Proposer agrees that service levels during the term of the contract or legally binding agreement can and will be adjusted based on available funding. Specifically, in the event of the closure of one or more of the schools, services and any obligation for payment will be terminated for that school. In the event that funding from SLC/USAC or the State of Alaska Broadband Grant program is reduced, the district at its sole discretion and at any time can immediately change the service level and pricing to any of the options included in the proposal or terminate service on 30 days notice.

The District is willing and able to provide space and power for service providers' equipment at the school sites at comparable industry standard space and power rates as agreed by the provider and the district.

Successful bidders must be willing to provide discounted billing and invoice USAC via a SPI.