

Request for Proposal

Multi-Year Contract for E-Rate Eligible Wide Area Network (WAN) Service

FCC Form 470 # 260007817

**Farmington Public Schools
14 Monteith Drive
Farmington, CT 06032
860-673-8270**

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN The Farmington Public Schools (District) wishes to receive proposals for Wide Area Network services for E-Rate Funding Year 29 (2026-2027). The District has (7) school and (2) operational facilities including the District Central Office that are currently connected by a fully managed private WAN connected via 10 GBps connections at the schools and 1Gbps at all non-instructional sites.
2. The District wishes to receive vendor proposals covering the term options described below:
 - a. *THREE* year term (July 1, 2026-June 30, 2029) plus Two (2) - One year Optional Extensions
 - b. *FIVE* year term (July 1, 2026-June 30, 2031) plus Two (2) - One year Optional Extensions
3. The District will post the RFP and Form 470 on the USAC EPC Portal site <https://www.usac.org/e-rate/resources/e-rate-productivity-center/> and the District website: <https://fpsct.org/district-departments/finance-operations/>
4. Questions must be provided in writing and emailed to rossm@fpsct.org. The subject line must read "BID 2026-FPS-WAN". The responses will be provided in an addendum and posted on the District's website:
<https://fpsct.org/district-departments/finance-operations/>
Questions must be received by 3:00 PM on MONDAY, DECEMBER 29TH, 2025. In the event that there is a discrepancy in documentation posted in multiple locations, the controlling (master) document will always be located at the District's website.
5. Sealed proposals should be delivered to Farmington Public Schools no later than 3:00 P.M. on MONDAY, JANUARY 12TH, 2026 (1/12/2026).

Farmington Public Schools
Attn: Matt Ross
14 Monteith Drive
Farmington, CT 06032
6. The District reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any informality, technical defect or clerical error in any Bid Proposal Package, as the interest of the Farmington Public Schools may require. Any proposer may withdraw his/her proposal, either personally or by written request, at any time prior to the scheduled closing time for receipt of proposals.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the RFP

Farmington Public Schools ("the District") is seeking proposals from qualified and experienced service providers to deliver Wide Area Network (WAN) connectivity and related services. The purpose of this RFP is to secure reliable, high-speed, and cost-effective WAN services to connect our school sites and administrative facilities. We intend to enter into a multi-year agreement with the selected provider, contingent on receiving E-rate funding.

1.2 District Overview

The District is composed of 9 sites: 7 schools and 2 non-instructional/administrative buildings. Our student body is approximately 4200 students, and our staff includes approximately 1200 personnel. A complete list of addresses for all sites is included in Appendix A.

1.3 E-rate Information

This project is for E-rate eligible services. All proposals must clearly indicate that they are E-rate eligible and include the Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN) of the proposing vendor. All pricing must be submitted in a format that clearly separates E-rate eligible and ineligible costs.

2.0 Project Scope and Goals

2.1 Scope of Work

The successful bidder will provide and manage a Wide Area Network (WAN) that connects all 9 of the District's sites. The services must include:

- Provisioning, installation, and configuration of all necessary equipment to establish WAN connections to two central locations.
- Network transport services with a minimum of 10 Gbps of dedicated, symmetrical bandwidth between each of the District's central locations and the accompanying satellite locations.
- Diverse network transport services with a minimum of 10Gbps of dedicated, symmetrical bandwidth between the two central locations.
- 24/7/365 network monitoring, management, and maintenance.
- Troubleshooting and resolving all service outages, including working with last-mile vendors if necessary.
- Comprehensive monthly reporting on network performance, utilization, and service availability.
- The District's network administrator must have read-only access to monitoring tools and reports.

2.2 Project Goals

The primary goals for this project include:

- **High Performance:** Provide a robust, high-capacity network that can support the District's current and future needs for instructional technology, administrative services, and a growing number of digital resources.
- **Reliability:** Achieve a high level of network uptime, with a target Service Level Agreement (SLA) of 99.9% or better.

- **Scalability:** The proposed solution must be scalable to accommodate future growth and potential increases in bandwidth demand.
- **Affordability:** Deliver a cost-effective solution that maximizes the District's E-rate funding opportunities.

3.0 Proposal Requirements

Proposals must be organized into the following sections to facilitate review and evaluation:

3.1 Company Overview

Provide a brief history of your company, its mission, and its experience providing WAN services to K-12 school districts. Include your FCC Registration Number and E-rate SPIN.

3.2 Proposed Solution

- Describe your proposed WAN solution in detail, including the technology and architecture.
- Explain how your solution will provide the 10 Gbps symmetrical bandwidth to each of the District's sites.
- Specify any on-site equipment that will be provided as part of the service, including hardware specifications.
- Address the scalability of your proposed solution to higher bandwidths, such as 40 Gbps or 100 Gbps, and the associated costs.

3.3 Implementation Plan and Timeline

- Provide a project plan and timeline for the implementation of the new WAN, from contract signing to service activation.
- Detail any potential construction or build-out costs that may be required, including trenching, cabling, or permits.

3.4 Support and Maintenance

- Describe your customer support structure, including your 24/7/365 support capabilities, average response times, and escalation procedures.
- Include a copy of your standard Service Level Agreement (SLA), which must specify uptime guarantees and credit compensation for outages.
- Detail your procedures for network monitoring, maintenance, and regular reporting.

3.5 Pricing

- Complete the Pricing Sheet provided in Appendix B.
- Provide separate, clear pricing for E-rate eligible and ineligible services.
- Include one-time special construction costs and monthly recurring costs for the service term.
- Indicate any ability to amortize construction costs over the contract term.

3.6 References

Provide three (3) references from K-12 school district clients (preferably in CT) for whom you have provided similar WAN services within the last three years.

4.0 Proposal Submission and Timeline

4.1 Submission Deadline and Format

- **Deadline:** All proposals must be received no later than 3:00PM on MONDAY, JANUARY 12TH, 2026.
- **Format:** Submit two (2) copies of the proposal in a sealed envelope or box, clearly marked with "FY2026 Farmington SD C1 E-Rate - Wide Area Network Services".
- **Location:** Proposals must be delivered to:
Farmington Public Schools
Attn: Matt Ross
14 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT 06032
- Late proposals will not be accepted.

4.2 Questions

All questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing via email to Matt Ross at rossm@fpsct.org with a subject line that must read "BID 2026-FPS-WAN" by 3:00PM on MONDAY, DECEMBER 29TH, 2025. Answers will be provided to all vendors in a single addendum and posted electronically on the District website at [\(https://fpsct.org/district-departments/finance-operations/\)](https://fpsct.org/district-departments/finance-operations/) by 3:00PM on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST, 2025.

4.3 Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- **Cost-effectiveness (50%):** Total cost of ownership, including both recurring and one-time costs.

- **Understanding of Needs/Technical Solution (15%):** Suitability and robustness of the proposed network architecture.
- **Experience and References (10%):** Demonstrated ability to successfully implement and support similar projects in K-12 environments.
- **Customer Support and SLA (15%):** Quality of support services and strength of the proposed SLA.
- **E-rate Eligibility and Compliance (10%):** Adherence to all E-rate program requirements.

5.0 Appendix A: Site List

- **Site 1 (Central Office):** 14 Monteith Drive, Farmington 06032
- **Site 2 (Farmington High School):** 10 Monteith Drive, Farmington 06032
- **Site 3 (Irving A. Robbins Middle School):** 20 Wolfpit Road, Farmington 06032
- **Site 4 (West Woods Upper Elem School):** 50 Judson Lane, Farmington 06032
- **Site 5 (East Farms School):** 25 Wolfpit Rd, Farmington 06032
- **Site 6 (Noah Wallace School):** 2 School St, Farmington 06032
- **Site 7 (Union School):** 173 School St, Unionville 06085
- **Site 8 (West District School):** 114 West District Rd, Unionville 06085
- **Site 9 (Depot Place):** 1 Depot Place, Unionville 06085

Central Locations are designated at Farmington High School (Site 2) and Irving A. Robbins Middle School (Site 3).

6.0 Appendix B: Pricing Sheet

Please see the pricing sheet at the following link:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1oxlvKGs_xXQzxCj32S7GnmaFz7h26gcED_UpxHLGWQI/edit?usp=sharing

Please note the tabs are for 10GB, 1GB (select locations), 40 GB, and 100GB services.