

Coffee County School System
Douglas, GA

Request for Proposal

Network Firewall Protection Bundle

FCC Cyber Pilot 2025-2028



INTRODUCTION and INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS

The Coffee County School System invites vendors to submit proposals in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposal (RFP). This RFP provides the requirements and evaluative criteria for a Network Firewall Core Security Bundle and requests a detailed response from all prospective vendors, including pricing and service descriptions, in a specified format.

Invoicing

Vendors submitting responses to this Request for Proposal agree to provide discounted billing for products and/or services associated with the projects and seek reimbursement of the discount according to the invoicing guidelines of the FCC Cyber Pilot modeled after the E-Rate Program. The Owner will pay for the discounted portion of the invoice when the products and/or services listed on the invoice are delivered in accordance with the contract.

Background Information

The Coffee County School System is located in Douglas, Georgia, Coffee County. Our enrollment is approximately 7600 students, and we employ nearly 1200 staff members in 14 separate locations. All sites are connected to our central data center by leased fiber.

General Conditions

This RFP is not a contract offer. Acceptance of a proposal neither commits Coffee County School System to award a contract to any vendor, even if all requirements stated in this RFP are met, nor limits our rights to negotiate in our best interest. We reserve the right to contract with a vendor for reasons other than price.

Failure to answer any questions in this RFP may subject the proposal to disqualification. Failure to meet qualifications and requirements will not necessarily subject a proposal to disqualification.

It is important that the vendor understand that this service has been included on the Coffee County School System's FCC Cyber Pilot Form 470 application which, if approved, will entitle us to discounted services through the Universal Fund/FCC Cyber Pilot.

Valid Period of Offer

The pricing, terms, and conditions stated in your submitted proposal must remain valid for 60 days from the date of delivery of the proposal to Coffee County School System.

Right of Rejection

We reserve the right to accept or reject any or all responses to this RFP and to enter into discussions and/or negotiations with one or more qualified vendors at the same time, if such actions are in the best interest of Coffee County School System.

Cost of Proposals

Expenses incurred in the preparation of proposals in response to this RFP are the sole responsibility of the vendor.

Instructions and Target Dates

The following section includes information governing the preparation and due dates of the proposal to be submitted.

PROPOSAL DELIVERY

Proposal Submission

Proposal responses should be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to the following no later than **3:00 PM EST, Wednesday April 30, 2025**. Bids must be received at the Coffee County Board of Education

by this date. **Envelopes should be marked "Firewall Bundle BID."** Hand delivery of bids is an option if mailing will not result in receipt of timely bid documents. No faxed or emailed copies will be accepted. The acceptance of any or all alternatives will be at the discretion of the School System.

Send Proposals to:

Coffee County Board of Education
ATTN: Logan Evans - Director of Information Systems
211 Gaskin Ave South
Douglas, GA 31533

Feel free to e-mail by April 23, 2025 (logan.evans@coffee.k12.ga.us) if you have any questions. The district is closed between April 4-14 2025, so emails questions may be addressed on or after April 14, 2025.

Calls may be made April 1-3, 2025 and on or after April 14, 2025 to Logan Evans at 912-389-6773.

Schedule of Events	
Date	Event
2:00 PM, Friday, March 28, 2025	Distribute RFP via www.coffee.k12.ga.us
3:00 PM, Wednesday, April 23, 2025	End of questions to the district about the bid
3:00 PM, Wednesday, April 30, 2025	Receipt of Proposals
3:15 PM, Wednesday, April 30, 2025	Opening of Bids, Committee Review of Bids – Make Recommendations for Selected Vendor
5:30 PM, Thursday, May 8, 2025	Vendor Selection presented to Board of Education at May Work Session
7:00 PM, Thursday, May 8, 2025	Board of Education Approval of Vendor at May Regular Meeting
10:00 AM, Friday, May 9, 2025	Announcement of Vendor Selection

PROPOSAL PREPARATION

Required Proposal

Each proposal must include the information requested on the specified RESPONSE FORM that follows.

Evaluation Criteria

Coffee County School System evaluates and weighs the following criteria when considering our future provider of a network firewall. These standards are listed in descending order of importance.

Evaluation Criteria	Weight
Cost effectiveness of Product	40 points
Adequacy of the response to this RFP	30 points
Satisfactory previous business/working relationship with the provider or its staff	20 points
References	5 points
Local or in-state vendor	5 points
Total	100 points

Firewall Core Security Bundle for NGFW

The Coffee County School System (CCSS) is requesting sealed proposals from authorized PA resellers and channel partners for a Palo Alto 3-year term Core Security Subscription Bundle or similar bundle as long as it serves the same purpose on the Palo Alto Next generation Firewall. The district has one firewall appliance PA-3620. If needed, please contact the district for device serial number.

Specifications

Firewall Core Security Bundle:

This subscription bundle includes Advanced Threat Prevention, Advanced URL Filtering, Advanced Wildfire, DNA Security and SD-WAN. The bid should include activation and configuration costs for the bundle, if applicable to the project.

Other Conditions

Any and all equipment, if applicable, shall be new, factory-sealed equipment currently available from the manufacturer; the District will not accept proposals of used, remanufactured, refurbished, “B stock,” returns, open-box, discontinued, “gray market,” or equipment in any condition other than new and factory-sealed with all original manufacturer warranties. The District reserves the right to adjust quantities prior to purchasing based on availability of funding, and shall have the sole discretion to evaluate, ascertain, and determine whether any item proposed or offered by any bidder is in fact an equivalent or better for any item listed. It is the vendor’s responsibility and obligation to provide documentation and other evidence that alternative equipment is functionally equivalent or better. Failure to show equal functionality may result in the disqualification of the bid.

RESPONSE FORM

Statement of Vendor’s Qualification

To accompany proposals submitted for the Coffee County School System.

Name of Vendor’s Firm	
Name of Company Representative	
Business Address	
Phone Number	
Email Address	
When Organized	
Where Organized	
How many years engaged in this business under the current firm name?	
Partnership <input type="checkbox"/>	*SPIN Number:
Corporation <input type="checkbox"/>	

*Vendor must provide a Service Provider Information Number assigned by the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD)

Attachments

Please attach to this statement at least three references, including: (Key Contact name, address, title, phone number and brief description of work performed for the organization, including dates of work)

The above statements must be subscribed and sworn before a Notary Public.

Firm Name _____
 Representative _____
(printed name)
 Signature _____
 Title _____
 Date _____

Notary Signature _____
 Notary State _____
 Commission Expiration Date _____
 Date of Notarization _____

SEAL/STAMP

CONTRACT PRICE FORM

Vendor Firm Name _____
 SPIN Number _____
 Representative _____
(printed name) _____
 Signature _____
 Title _____
 Date _____

Notary Signature _____
 Notary State _____
 Commission Expiration Date _____
 Date of Notarization _____

SEAL/STAMP

To accompany proposals submitted for Network Firewall Core Security Subscription Bundle for the Coffee County School System.

Service Dates:

June 1, 2025 – May 31, 2028

Firewall Core Security Subscription Bundle (3-Year) \$ _____

LIST OF VENDOR'S EXCEPTIONS

Contractor shall list any exceptions to these specifications or general conditions.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informality in the bidding. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of thirty days subsequent to the opening of bids without written consent of the Owner.