



DALE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF BEN BAKER, SUPERINTENDENT

202 S. Hwy 123 Suite E

OZARK, ALABAMA 36360



PHONE (334)774-2355 WEB SITE: www.dalecountyboe.org

FAX (334)774-3503

Request for Bid

The Dale County Board of Education (DCBOE) is soliciting bids for 1 or more school buses to use in the Dale County School System.

Sealed Bids are due on or before November 9th, 2023 at 10:00 a.m., and will be opened at that time on that date at the Dale County Board of Education, 202 S. Hwy. 123 Suite E. Ozark, Alabama, 36360.

The Vendor's responsibility is to propose any additional items they deem needed if not covered in the enclosed specifications. The Vendor may submit one or more proposals provided one proposal is identified as the primary proposal and other proposals are identified as alternative proposals.

Dale County Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, or any portion of a proposal, and accept a primary or alternative proposal that they deem to be in the best interest of the school system. Dale County Board of Education may waive any technicality and award a contract to The Vendor who meets the proposed requirements and the proposal is deemed to be in the best interest of the Dale County Board of Education.

Contingency

The acceptance and implementation of the proposal is contingent on funding.

Schedule of Events

The following is the schedule of events for this project. The schedule may change depending on the results of the responses and a final schedule will be established prior to contracting with the successful vendor.

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>
1. Release of Proposals	October 31, 2023
2. Deadline for submission of proposals/Proposal Opening	November 9, 2023
3. Establish contract	November 14, 2023

Response Submission

Responses to this proposal must be submitted and delivered to the Dale County Board of Education no later than 10 a.m. on the date specified in the Schedule of Events. Bids will be opened at that time. The proposal must be submitted to:

Dale County Board of Education
2025 Bus Bid
202 S Hwy123 Suite E
Ozark, AL 36360.

It is the sole responsibility of the respondents to ensure that their responses arrive in a timely manner. Dale County Board of Education reserves the right to reject all late arrivals. The Vendor must submit one copy of their response along with any required supporting documentation. If there are any discounts included in pricing that are time sensitive, the change in price and the deadline of the discount must be explicitly disclaimed on the bid sheet.

Oral, telephone or electronic bids shall not be considered, nor will modifications of proposals by such communication be considered. The completed bid shall be without erasures or alterations. Signatures on the proposals shall be in longhand and executed by a person duly authorized by The Vendor to enter into a contract.

Evaluation of Responses

Dale County Board of Education may at its discretion, and at no fee to school system, invite any vendor to appear and or conference call for questioning during response evaluation for the purpose of explaining statements in their response.

If there are any questions concerning the bid, please contact:
Jesse James, Chief School Finance Officer, 334-774-2355 ext. 7.

Bids will be received in the Office of the Superintendent. Bids will be opened, read aloud and recorded and the date and time specified above.

Right to Reject

Dale County Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject all proposals or sections thereof when the rejection is in the best interest of the Dale County Board of Education. Dale County Board of Education reserves the right to award without further discussion. Therefore, responses should be submitted initially with the most favorable terms that The Vendor can propose. The Vendor must include in this response any limitations to their acceptance of a partial award.

Contracts will be awarded to the highest ranked vendor as determined to be in the best interest of the Dale County Board of Education. Vendors will be ranked according to the following Criteria:

Criteria	Weight
Price of Eligible Products	51%
Bus Availability of Delivery	20%
Service Response Time	10%
Prior Experience with Vendor	10%
In State Vendor	5%
Warranty	4%

Evidence of Vendor Qualifications

The Vendor is asked to furnish evidence that they maintain permanent places of business of a type and nature compatible with their proposal and are in all respects a competent and an eligible vendor to fulfill the terms of this request. Dale County Board of Education reserves the right to reject any vendor's proposal if evidence fails to indicate the Vendor is qualified to provide the items on this request.

Bids must be submitted in SEALED ENVELOPE, CLEARLY MARKED

QUALITY ASSURANCE

In an effort to assure high quality in all areas of the manufacturer's customer and product systems, fit and finish, parts sourcing and availability and service processes, The Board prefers that the manufacturer meet the worldwide quality assurance programs of ISO9001. Please provide a copy of the ISO9001 certification with the bid.

The school bus furnished shall comply with all current State and Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards in effect at the time of bid. Additionally, The Dale County Board of Education requires the following additional specifications. **Any exceptions to these specifications should be concisely noted in the space provided.** Equivalency of any exceptions to the items requested will be solely at the discretion of the school system taken by participating vendors. Please note that Dale County Schools will review & consider any and all below-listed exceptions taken by participating vendors.

Please note that the bidder must have a fully licensed in-state and service facility and must have bus (es) state-inspected and Pre-Delivery Inspected (PDI) at this facility prior to pickup. **Buses shall be ready for pick within the prescribed time allowed in the bid.** At the time of pickup driver orientation training must be conducted so that drivers are fully prepared to operate the equipment. The Board will not accept factory direct deliveries. Bids will only be accepted from established firms in Alabama.

School Bus Bid

School Bus Specifications

2025 Model or Newer

72 Passenger

BUSES MUST BE READY FOR PICKUP WITHIN THE DATES OF: October 1, 2024 and December 31, 2024.

BY SIGNING THE BIDDER UNDERSTANDS IF BUSES ARE READY FOR PICKUP PRIOR TO OCTOBER 1, 2024, THE DALE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION WILL NOT PAY ANY STORAGE FEES OR INTEREST, AND WILL NOT TAKE RECEIPT OF BUSES UNTIL OCTOBER 1, 2024.

BY SIGNING THE BIDDER UNDERSTANDS IF BUSES ARE NOT DELIVERED BY DECEMBER 31, 2024, BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025, A \$50.00 PER DAY PER BUS REDUCTION WILL BE MADE TO FINAL INVOICE.

BUSES MUST BE CLEAN (Exterior washed and Interior wiped down, windows clean and bus free of debris).

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Make and Model of Bus: _____

Delivery Date: _____

Company Representative, Sign: _____

Type C 72 Passenger (one or more)

Price per Unit \$ _____

Maximum Response Time from warranty Personnel _____

Type C Special Needs (one or more)

Price per Unit \$ _____

Maximum Response Time from warranty Personnel _____

2025 OR NEWER TYPE C 72 PASSANGER BUS BODY AND CHASSIS (QUANTITY: 1 OR MORE)

OVERALL DIMENSIONS TO BE AS FOLLOWS:

- Minimum interior height- 78"
- Minimum 12"x25" window openings

BIDDER EXCEPTIONS:

BODY DATA

1. Preferred electrical system shall be fully integrated (both body and chassis) multiplex system. There shall only be one diagnostic point for both body and chassis and it shall be located beneath dash. All available circuits shall be protected by a combination of solid-state technology and fuses. Please indicate below which type of electrical system is to be provided.

Fully Integrated Multiplex (Body and Chassis) _____

Partially Integrated Multiplex (Chassis only) _____

Separate Multiplex Systems (Body and Chassis) _____

2. Bus must be equipped with a Driver's Pre-Trip Light Inspection System. System shall systematically power all lights individually, while the driver performs his/her pre-trip inspection. System shall also activate stop sign, crossing arm and horn. This system is to be operated by a switch, conveniently located in the driver's compartment.

Exception: _____

3. There shall be Four (4) applied rub rails on each side attached with sheet metal screws; painted black

Exception: _____

4. Roof Bow shall be one piece and shall extend just below floor line. Roof bows shall have a cross section modulus of .22 cubed. If needed, this may be accomplished with a bow or rafter insert.

Exception: _____

5. Bodies shall be mounted in such a manner as to prevent shifting. At a minimum, two bolts in lieu of one shall be used at each mounting bracket to prevent a pivot point. Rubber mounting pads reinforced with fiber shall be used to cushion the body on the chassis at every floor member and shall be held in place with mechanical fasteners.

Exception: _____

6. There shall be a minimum of 2" thick blanket-type polyester insulation mounted in the ceiling. The first two ceiling panels in the driver's vestibule area are to be sound-deadening, acoustical panels.

Exception: _____

7. Crossing arm shall be (air), and shall be integral with front bumper with its operating mechanism protected behind the front bumper.

Exception: _____

8. Bus shall be equipped with air stop sign and crossing arms.

Exception: _____

9. PA system with a minimum of six (6) speakers.

Exception: _____

10. The front heater shall be multi-speed fresh air type. Please list number of speeds. _____ Controls shall be electronic, automotive style. Heater motor and fan mechanism shall be serviceable without disturbing heater core. Rear heater must be equipped with a kick guard.

Exception: _____

11. Rear view interior mirror and sun visor shall be mounted in driver's area across the top of the windshield header.

Exception: _____

12. Rear view exterior mirrors shall be heated and remote type. Cross over mirrors shall be heated. A 15-minute heat timer shall be included. All mirror wiring shall be run through the inside of the mirror brackets to be hidden from view.

Exception: _____

13. Driver's fan must be located above the driver side window to the left of the driver.

Exception: _____

14. Air ride, vinyl with black cloth inserts; LH and/or RH side armrests attached to the driver's seat.

Exception: _____

15. Cupholder designed for drivers use and convenience.

Exception: _____

16. Driver Seat Belt Alarm: Activation produces a pulse output to a designated ICU lamp, and a constant signal to the Seat Belt Alarm.

Exceptions: _____

17. Roof will be white. All seat frames, heaters, and heater ducts shall have a baked-on black powder coating for scratch resistance, Wheels will be black. Window frames preferred to be black. Please state window frame color _____.

Exception: _____

18. All units must have tapered seat backs, gray for ease of loading/unloading and evacuation (meets FMVSS 224); gray color; fire resistant material. First two front seats must have integrated child seats. Second row must have integrated lap shoulder belts.

Exception: _____

19. Service door shall be air operated. Controls must be mounted in switch panel and not in steering column. Door switch should be back-lit for optimal visibility. The door air release switch shall include an air pressure dampener to ensure proper closure. An exterior service door pull shall be provided to aid in opening and closing of door.

Exception: _____

20. There shall be an additional glove storage box compartment mounted above driver's window. Storage box shall be kept closed by use of a push button latch. The glove box door shall include a spring hold prop.

Exception: _____

21. Floor seams shall be sealed with a waterproof sealer and covered with a 1" wide, 16 gauge metal stripping or molding. The floor along the side walls shall be covered with molding so that dirt cannot readily work underneath the edges. Sub floor shall be 5/8" **marine grade** plywood (screwed down), for sound and temperature insulation. Floor covering shall be black or gray in color for a clean appearance.

Exception: _____

22. There shall be an additional (RH) entrance door grab rail assist to aid passenger entry and exit.

Exception: _____

23. Body shall be equipped with either rubber fenders or metal fenderettes.

Exception: _____

24. All interior dome lights are to be LED style.

Exception: _____

25. All units shall be keyed alike.

Exceptions: _____

26. All units shall include a Post Trip Child Detection Alarm that is activated by Eight-Way Warning Lights. A push-button deactivation switch shall be mounted in the rear bulkhead.

Exception: _____

CAMERA REQUIRMENTS

27. All units shall include a seven digital camera system. System shall be color and include sound. System shall be the AngelTrax Vulcan V12 (8) Channel System. The recording device shall be mounted with its protected enclosure above the driver, inside the left side overhead compartment. All (7) cameras to be Anvil 2500 HD. Cameras are to be installed prior to delivery.

Exception: _____

CHASSIS DATA

1. Two-stage, heavy-duty type air filtration system is required. Engine air cleaning system shall have an integrated air plenum with two expulsion valves to remove moisture and large contaminants. Restriction indicators to measure filter condition with indicator and/or light in dash.

Exception: _____

2. Alternator to be Leece Neville 270 amps and shall be pad mounted.

Exception: _____

3. A minimum 55-degree turning radius is preferred.

Exception: _____

4. Axles and suspension to be 10,000 lb. front and 19,800 - 21,000 lb. rear. Front axle shall be equipped with oil-lubricated bearings. Buses to include rear air suspension.

Exception: _____

5. Front & rear air disc brakes. Bendix ADB22X vented steel disc rotors, continuous automatic adjustment, dual-piston design. Air Disc longstroke 1-drive axle spring parking chambers. Rear oil seals

Exception: _____

6. Batteries minimum of two (2) to be maintenance free and shall be a minimum 1900 CCA. A battery cut-off switch shall be included and shall be mounted in the battery box compartment.

Exception: _____

7. Air compressor preferred to be 18.7 CFM and shall be gear driven (belt driven compressors are not acceptable). Brakes must be equipped with a heated air dryer with automatic purge system.

Exception: _____

8. All units must be equipped with Humphrey air drain valves activated by dash mounted switch(es); and three air solenoid valves.

Exception: _____

9. Buses to be equipped with headlights with amber daytime running lights.

Exception: _____

10. Instrument Panel: Cruise control, speedometer, resettable trip A and B, voltmeter, dual low air gauges with warning light and buzzer, tachometer, hour meter; instrumentation panel to provide diagnostic capabilities for body and chassis electrical system; digital fault codes must be displayed in dash.

Exception: _____

11. Driver dash information center shall incorporate an available ambient temperature read-out feature, along with an automatic audio & visual Black Ice warning indicator.

Exception: _____

12. Engine to be 6.7L ISB Cummins Diesel, minimum 220 H.P. with a minimum of 600 ft. lbs. of torque. Engine and Exhaust System shall meet EPA 2010 Emission Standards at a minimum. Engine shall also incorporate an integral exhaust brake.

Exception: _____

13. To aid in cold weather starting conditions, engine shall include a 750 watt block heater with an easy access plug mounted conveniently in the front bumper. Engine shall also incorporate an integral engine exhaust brake.

Exception: _____

14. Exhaust system shall be equipped with a heat reducing mitigator device located at the end of the exhaust system. Mitigator device shall cool exhaust temperatures by approximately 200 degrees. If an exhaust heat mitigator is not incorporated into exhaust design, please offer an explanation so that system may be considered.

Exception: _____

15. Exhaust shall exit out the driver's side at the very most rear portion of the unit.

Exceptions: _____

16. Fuel tank size to be a minimum 100 gallons, and shall be mounted between the frame rails. Fuel door shall include a latch lock.

Exception: _____

17. Tires are to be 11R x 22.5 14-ply standard tubeless radials. Tires shall be Goodyear, Michelin, Continental or Bridgestone. Off brand tires are not acceptable. (1) Spare wheel shall be included with each bus.

Exception: _____

18. Steering column shall tilt and telescope.

Exception: _____

19. Electronic Stability Control.

Exception: _____

20. Air Conditioning System: 126,000 BTU; dual TM-21 compressors; dual in-wall evaporators, mounted in front and rear bulkhead; SKIRT-mounted condenser; independent dash A/C plumbed and vented through the dash; driver cooling vent not acceptable as dash air; warranty through bus manufacturer.

Exception: _____

Bus Dealer must provide an on-site service truck with an engine certified technician to perform on-site warranty work. Exception:

WARRANTY DATA

Chassis warranty should be as follows and warranty certificates must be as follows:

Engine -5 years/100,000 miles, must include

electronic components (2 years towing)

Driveline - 4 years /unlimited mileage

Transmission - 7 years / unlimited mileage, must include

Electronic Components (5-year towing)

Towing (other than engine and trans.) 6 months

MUST have a 3-year bumper to bumper warranty

Special Needs specifications shall meet all requirements of the 72-passenger bus specifications, with the addition of the following:

Tires are to be 11R x 22.5 14-ply standard tubeless radials. Tires shall be Goodyear, Michelin, Continental or Bridgestone. Off brand tires are not acceptable.

Floor seams shall be sealed with a waterproof sealer and covered with a 1" wide, 16 gauge metal stripping or molding. The floor along the side walls shall be covered with molding so that dirt cannot readily work underneath the edges. Sub floor shall be 5/8" marine grade plywood (screwed down), for sound and temperature insulation. Floor covering shall be black or gray in color for a clean appearance.

Braun NCL9171B-2 Lift mounted on right rear of the bus

Two (2) wheelchair positions, back left side, with L-track

Sure-Lok Titan 800 wheelchair securements, two (2) sets

Seating to be as follows:

(2) 39" left side wall-mount seats with two (2) Integrated Child Safety Seats & three (3) passenger 3-point lap shoulder belts.

Exception: _____

(6) 39" left side wall-mount seats

Exception: _____

(4) 39" left side S.T.A.R.S. mounted over (2) wheelchair positions. Tracking to be four (4) parallel strips totaling 110" in length per strip.

Exception: _____

(2) 30" right side wall mount seats with (2) Integrated Child Safety Seats & three (3) passenger 3-point lap shoulder belts.

Exception: _____

(7) 30" right side wall mount seats

Exception: _____

Seating over wheelchair positions is preferred to be S.T.A.R.S. (Safety Anchor Removable Seats) for ease of removal.

Exception: _____

*****Must meet all other Alabama Specifications for Special Needs school buses*****