# Coffee County School System Douglas, GA

# Request for Proposal Network Firewall Protection Bundle

# **Amended Version**

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, Thursday June 5, 2025.** Bids must be received at the Coffee County Board of Education by May 2025

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 May 30, 2025 (<u>logan.evans@coffee.k12.ga.us</u>) if you have any questions. The district is closed on May 26, 2025, so emails questions that day may be addressed on or after May 27, 2025.

Calls may be made May 5, 2025 through May 29, 2025 to Logan Evans at 912-389-6773.

Schedule of Events		
Date	Event	
2:00 PM, Monday May 5, 2025	Re-Distribute RFP via www.coffee.k12.ga.us	
3:00 PM, Friday, May 30, 2025	End of questions to the district about the bid	
3:00 PM, Thursday June 5, 2025	Receipt of Proposals	
3:15 PM, Thursday June 5, 2025	Opening of Bids, Committee Review of Bids – Make Recommendations for Selected Vendor	
5:30 PM, Thursday, June 26, 2025	Vendor Selection presented to Board of Education at May Work Session	
7:00 PM, Thursday, June 26, 2025	Board of Education Approval of Vendor at May Regular Meeting	
10:00 AM, Friday, June 27, 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	ve e
Business Address	
Phone Number	
Email Address	
When Organized	
Where Organized	
How many years engaged in this	
business under the current firm	
name?	
Partnership	*SPIN Number:
Corporation	
C of of with the control of the cont	*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,
	on of work performed for the organization, including dates of work)
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The above statements must be sul	bscribed and sworn before a Notary Public.
	·
Eima Nama	
Firm Name Representative	
(printed name)	
Signature	
Title	
Date	
Notary Signature	SEAL/STAMP
Notary State	
Commission Expiration Date	
Date of Notarization	

	CONTRACT PRICE FO	ORM
Vendor Firm Name		_
SPIN Number		_
Representative (printed name)		_
Signature		_
Title _		_
Date		_
N		SEAL/STAMP
Notary Signature		_
Notary State		_
Commission Expiration Date  Date of Notarization		<del>-</del> -
Γο accompany proposals sub The Coffee County School Sys		e Security Subscription Bundle for
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.