

Request for Proposal: Network Switches

February 7, 2023

Southern School District
115 S 11th St
Wymore, NE 68466

Erate Identifier: Cat2.2023Switches

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Final

Overview

Southern School District is seeking proposals for one (1) 48-port network switch. **All proposals which are highly equivalent to Fortinet FortiSwitch 148F network switches will be considered.**

All proposals must include a lifetime warranty after online diagnosis and RMA issuance.

Vendors will have 24 hours after vendor selection is announced to raise any questions. Questions will be addressed via the web site posting answers to all questions. The District will have the final authority to the resolution of all questions.

Cabling, installation and implementation is not part of this RFP. Equipment will be drop shipped to the dock location at Southern School District, 115 S 11th St, Wymore, NE 68466.

All bidding vendors must be Erate eligible and have an updated Form 473 (SPAC) on file to provide the services requested and provide their Service Provider's Form 498 ID (formally known as SPIN) as part of this RFP. **Vendors are required to state if any proposed equipment and/or services are ineligible for Erate funding as part of their proposal documentation.**

Proposals are due in either hardcopy or in electronic form (PDF format) on or before **Friday, March 10, 2023 at 3:00 pm CST** at Southern School District, Attn: Cody Sabey –RFP Response, 115 S 11th St, Wymore, NE 68466 or emailed to csabey@southernschools.org. Emailed proposal documents will be time-stamped from the receiving computer.

Proposals will be available for inspection, at the District Office (115 S 11th St, Wymore, NE) by Noon on March 14, 2023.

Questions should be addressed, no later than February 28, 2023, to:

Cody Sabey

Email: csabey@southernschools.org

Questions and Answers will be posted on district website (<https://www.southernschools.org/>) by March 2, 2023.

1.1 Product Specifications.

All proposals which are highly equivalent to Fortinet FortiSwitch 148F network switches will be considered. All equipment bid must be new. See below.

NETWORK MATERIALS	
Description	Quantity
Fortinet FortiSwitch 148F-FPOE	1

Minimum System Requirements: 148F-FPOE

- Layer 3 managed switch
- 48x GE RJ45 and 4 x 10GE SFP+ ports
- Switching capacity: 176 Gbps
- Packets per Second: 260 Mpps
- 1U High, rack-mountable

2.1 Pricing and Payment Structure.

Vendors are required to breakdown the purchases as outlined in the table in Appendix A. Vendors are required to complete Appendix A as part of their proposal. If additional items are required to complete the proposal, please list them in Appendix A.

Contracts will be awarded only after receiving a funding commitment and decision letter from SLD or agreed upon by the district. This RFP will automatically become part of any contract awarded to a vendor. The District requests vendors to file a Form 474 (Service Provider Invoice; SPI) to request reimbursement directly from USAC for the eligible Erate portion of the contract.

3.1 Evaluation Process.

Please refer to Appendix B for further details regarding the evaluation process.

4.1 Discrepancies and Omissions.

Vendors finding discrepancies or omissions in the RFP or having any doubts as to the meaning or intent of any part thereof shall submit such questions or concerns to Cody Sabey, Southern School District, csabey@southernschools.org. Addenda issued in

correspondence to this RFP shall be considered a part of this RFP and shall become part of any final Contract that may be derived from this RFP. This RFP and its addenda will be part of any possible future contract with successful vendor(s).

5.1 Contingencies.

This RFP should not be considered as a Contract to purchase goods or services, but is a Request for Proposal in accordance with the Terms and Conditions herein and will not necessarily give rise to a contract. However, RFP responses should be as detailed and complete as possible to facilitate the formation of a contract based on the RFP response(s) that are pursued should Southern School District decide to do so. Proposals stating that pricing is valid dependent upon availability and/or subject to prior sale will be considered as non-responsive. Completion of this RFP form and its associated Appendices are a requirement. Failure to do so will disqualify your RFP response submittal. Vendors must submit sealed RFP responses by the due date and time as specified herein. Electronic submissions will be accepted if create in PDF format and e-mail csabey@southernschools.org by the due date and time as specified herein. Date and time stamp of receiving computer will govern all e-mails. Vendors will be considered nonresponsive if the above requirements are not submitted as requested. The Southern School District has the right to reject all submitted proposals and resubmit for new proposals through a revised RFP.

6.1 Vendor Questions and Clarifications.

Questions should be addressed, no later than February 28, 2023, to:

Cody Sabey

Email: csabey@southernschools.org

Questions and Answers will be posted on district website (<https://www.southernschools.org/>) by March 2, 2023.

Appendix A

Required Form for RFP Response.

TABLE 2.1: SOUTHERN SCHOOL DISTRICT SHARED SERVICES			
Erate Eligible Services			
Description	Qty	Unit	Total
Fortinet FortiSwitch 148F-FPOE	1		
Additional Network Materials			

I acknowledge Section 2.1 Pricing and Payment; Southern School District will only accept discount on invoices; therefore, the winning vendor will file a Form 474 (Service Provider Invoice Form) to request payment of the discount amount for eligible services after billing the applicant for the non-discount share of the cost of the equipment and/or services.

Vendor Name: _____

Erate Form 498 ID (SPIN): _____

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date Submitted: _____

Appendix B

Evaluation Rubric
Southern School District
Erate: Cat2.2023Switches

1. Cost of eligible equipment and/or eligible maintenance25 points

Cost of Equipment will be released at time of proposal opening. Points will be awarded during the evaluation of the proposal(s).

2. Compatibility with currently owned district devices20 points

Compatibility is very important. Points will be awarded during the evaluation of the proposal(s) and determination of compatibility with existing equipment will be done at that same time. Zero (0) points will be awarded for non-compatible devices and twenty (20) points will be awarded for full 100% compatibility.

3. Features included..... 15 points

All documented features of the device in the RFP will be evaluated and points award as such. Points will not be awarded for features that are not included in the cost of the device as presented in the RFP.

4. Support of hardware 10 points

Technical support will be contacted and will be evaluated on its technical knowledge, English as the primary language, and ease of use.

5. Reliability..... 10 points

Reliability score will be determined using the following criteria:

- a. References given in the RFP
- b. Known other users of the device
- c. Personal experiences

6. User Interface..... 10 points

The user interface will be evaluated and points awarded on the ease of use and the completeness of the interface to the device.

7. References..... 10 points

References will be contacted and points awarded on their responses.