



THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
 SCHOOL BOARD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
 Procurement Management Services
 1450 N.E. 2nd Avenue, Room 650
 Miami, FL 33132

Direct All Inquiries To Procurement Management Services Buyer's Name: _____ PHONE: (305) 995-_____ Email: _____ TDD PHONE: (305) 995-2400
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BID/RFP ADDENDUM

Date: _____

Addendum No. _____

BID/RFP No. _____ BID/RFP TITLE: _____

This addendum modifies the conditions of the above-referenced BID/RFP as follows:

All information, specifications terms, and conditions for the above-referenced BID/RFP, are included on the document posted on the Procurement Management website at <http://procurement.dadeschools.net>

The attached pages containing clarifications, additional information and requirements constitute an integral part of the referenced bid. If your bid/proposal has not been submitted, substitute the pages marked REVISED and mail your entire bid/proposal package.

I acknowledge receipt of Addendum Number _____

PLEASE NOTE: If your firm has forwarded a copy of this bid/proposal to another vendor, it is your responsibility to forward him/her a copy of this addendum.

(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT BELOW)

LEGAL NAME OF BIDDER: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE ZIP CODE: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ E-MAIL _____ FAX # _____

BY: SIGNATURE (Manual): _____
 OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

NAME (Typed): _____ TITLE: _____
 OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

ITN-23-027-CM Q&A

External Early Childhood Program

1. On page 15, the ITN states: “The scope of this solicitation is to identify a qualified and experienced external childhood provider to independently operate or contract with the school system to become District-managed a Preschool Program to be located at various school sites and/or other district facilities.” Do you contemplate partnering to provide early childhood education programs at non-district locations (i.e., at existing ECE centers), or will all programs be in district facilities?

ANSWER: No, the early childhood education programs will not be located at non-district locations; they will only be at district facilities.

2. How many children do you anticipate serving through the early childhood education programs?
 - a. What number of children would you serve, by age, by location?

ANSWER: The number of children served will depend on the seats available at the district site and the provider's capacity and ability to meet the needs and demand. The program aims to offer educational opportunities from birth to age three, with the possibility of serving four-year-olds, ultimately expanding access to early childhood education throughout Miami-Dade County.

3. How many early childhood education programs (locations) do you want to open?

ANSWER: There is no set number. The number of early childhood education program locations will be determined based on need, demand, and site availability.

4. Do you already have locations planned for these programs? If so, can you share them with vendors?

ANSWER: There are no specific locations planned for the early childhood programs. All locations with space availability will be explored.

5. For children whose tuition would be funded by a source other than families or childcare subsidy, what will be the funding source? Is it a grant? State funds? Federal funds?

- a. How many children will be funded by this funding source?
- b. What is the total dollar amount that would be available for children whose tuition would be funded by this funding source?

ANSWER: No funds will be provided by M-DCPS. Tuition funding for children will need to be secured by the provider through alternative sources such as grants, state funds, federal funds, or other eligible funding streams. The number of children funded and the total dollar amount available will depend entirely on the provider's ability to secure these funding sources.

6. At page 15, Section 4.3 Scope of Services, it states that retrofit designs must be submitted to the Facilities Department. Who bears the costs of retrofitting to make spaces licensable for each age group?

ANSWER: The provider is responsible for the costs of retrofitting spaces to ensure compliance with licensing requirements for the specified age group, as stated in Section 4.3 Scope of Services

on page 15. It is also important to note, retrofit designs must be submitted to the Facilities Department for review and approval.

7. We see that M-DCPS has historically had a partnership with Early Head Start. Can you share why your needs exceed that partnership now?

ANSWER: Through the Enterprise Development efforts, M-DCPS wants to expand opportunities for early childhood education services within our communities and throughout Miami-Dade County. While we have a partnership with Early Head Start, the demand for early childhood education continues to grow, and we are focused on further expanding the number of children who will receive these essential services. Our goal is to provide more access to early childhood education and services to meet the evolving needs of Miami-Dade County.

8. Are you open to suggestions about financial alternatives that keep costs down for families?

ANSWER: Yes, we are open to suggestions regarding financial alternatives that can help keep costs down for families. We welcome innovative ideas that align with our goal of making early childhood education more accessible and affordable for all families in our community.

9. Are you open to suggestions about financial alternatives that generate revenue for the district?

ANSWER: Yes, we are open to suggestions regarding financial alternatives that could generate revenue for the district. M-DCPS welcomes innovative ideas that align with our goals and contribute to the sustainability and growth of our early childhood education programs.

10. On page 15 into 16 it references access to a District Classroom which includes auditorium and playground scheduling. In order for programs 0-3 to achieve licensable status, they will need to have outdoor place environments that meet licensing standards - is this something that is known and being considered when selecting the locations of these 0-3 ECE programs?

ANSWER: Yes, outdoor play environments are available, and sites will be considered to ensure they meet licensing standards. The availability of outdoor play areas that meet the necessary requirements is being taken into account when selecting locations for the 0-3 ECE programs.

11. At page 11, Section 2 – ITN Timetable, the anticipated contract approval and contract start date are both February/March 2025. When do you anticipate the programs will open?

ANSWER: The early childhood programs are anticipated to start in August for the 2025-2026 school year, following the contract approval and start date in February/March 2025.

12. We are willing to host post-secondary students for training hours. Are you also interested in work/study experiences for your secondary students?

ANSWER: Yes, we are also interested in work/study experiences for secondary students. We welcome opportunities to provide hands-on learning and career exploration for students as part of their educational development.

13. At Page 19, Section 4.5 #5 bullet list 4 under Proposed Financial Terms, the requirement states: “Description of whether, how and where the external early childhood partnership could be used for other buildings/properties owned by the M-DCPS.” Can you please clarify your request? Are you asking if other district programs could use the classrooms established for the program? Are

you asking if the program could be housed at other M-DCPS locations? Are you asking if the programs could be housed at non-M-DCPS facilities? Please help us understand.

ANSWER: The programs will only be housed at M-DCPS locations. The intent is to explore the potential use of additional district locations for the program if needed.

14. Regarding page 6, Status Verification System, we perform employment status verification through e-Verify, a national employment eligibility platform operated by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) in partnership with the Social Security Administration (SSA). Is this sufficient, or is a specific Status Verification System required?

ANSWER: External Early Childhood providers will be required to complete the required Background Screening requirements as established through the Procurement process

15. On page 17, the RFP states:

10. Show evidence of current collaborations and articulation with neighboring public schools located in feeder pattern and/or close proximity to strengthen services to students and families with the eventual intent of a smooth transition into M-DCPS public schools VPK and/or Kindergarten programs. Is the bidder required to show evidence of such collaborations with current M-DCPS schools, or can we satisfy this requirement by showing similar partnerships with other districts?

ANSWER: Yes, the bidder is required to show evidence of such collaborations with any public school system.

16. Also is there further clarification you can offer regarding the kinds of “collaborations and articulation” that would be desirable? Examples would be very helpful.

ANSWER: We recognize the competitive landscape and are doors are open to collaboration with the external early childhood provider and our schools to ensure a smooth transition to our K-12 programs. This partnership offers an opportunity to share insights, mutually benefit, and strengthen our network through collaborative efforts that support the success of both early childhood and K-12 education.

17. On page 11, in the anticipated schedule for this ITN, you state that questions are due December 9, 2024 at 5 pm EST. Do you have a date in mind for when answers will be returned to vendors?

ANSWER: This addendum is the response to submitted questions.

18. General Schedule Question. The ITN itself does not provide sufficient information for vendors to adequately devise a solution and prepare a proposal. This means vendors will be unable to truly begin significant work on this proposal until after the December 13th pre-proposal conference has passed or until vendor questions have been answered, which is still to be determined. There are fewer than 15 business days between December 13th and the January 7th submission, during which many employees will be taking time away to spend with their families over the holidays. Would the district consider an extension to 1/21 to accommodate the holiday season and give our teams a chance to put the best solution in front of you that we can? An extension would guarantee a better field of proposals from all vendors for the district to review than if vendors are squeezed for time.

- a. If you will not consider extending the deadline, we implore you to provide written answers to all questions submitted, and to provide those answers well in advance of the 12/13 pre-proposal conference. Can we anticipate written answers to questions within 2 business days of submission?

ANSWER: The deadline has been extended to Tuesday, January 21, 2025.

19. On page 18, the section numbering progresses from 4.3.2 Personnel to 4.3.4 Contract Monitoring. Is there supposed to be a section 4.3.3, and if so, can you provide it?

ANSWER: Please disregard that section.

20. On page 18, there is a section 4.4 called Proposal Technical RequirementSoc, but there does not appear to be any content in this section. Can you please clarify if there are technical requirements that should be included here?

ANSWER: Please see response to Question 19.

21. On page 20, in Requirement C, you ask for three (3) client reference letters and that this must be “documented on Exhibit 6.” This is the only mention of reference letters. Are we to complete Exhibit 6 for each reference AND submit a letter from each reference, or is the requirement simply that we provide the completed Exhibit 6 for each reference, and letters are not required? Please advise.

ANSWER: Letters are not required. Please complete three different Exhibit 6 documents for each experience.

22. On page 23, you ask vendors to include three (3) references in section 7, titled Experience and Qualifications (including Corporate Past Performance and Key Personnel. On page 39, Exhibit 6 is for the express purpose of providing three (3) references. Is it acceptable to provide a high-level overview of our reference information in section 7 and also point reviewers to our completed form in Section 10 Required Forms & Exhibits?

ANSWER: Yes

23. On page 30, in Section 9 – Insurance Requirements, it is stated that proposers must agree “without reservation to the indemnification and insurance clauses contained in this RFP.” Can you please tell us in which section we should include our acknowledgment and agreement to these clauses in order to be compliant with your request?

ANSWER: You can provide an overall statement regarding contract provisions.

24. On page 3 I. A. 2., Section 1 Instructions to Proposers, it states that “an original manual signature” is required, and some of the forms, including addenda, have “manual” next to the signature line. However, responses are to be submitted electronically. Electronic signatures are legally binding, and are used in school district procurement processes nationwide. May these requirements be amended to allow for electronic signatures?

ANSWER: The District accepts electronic signatures.

25. On page 12, 3.3 Additional Information/Amendment, the ITN states: "Proposers who obtain copies of this ITN from sources other than the District's Department of Procurement Services risk the potential of not receiving amendments since their names will not have been included on the Proposer List for this particular ITN. Such Proposers are solely responsible for those risks." We are registered with DemandStar, and will check for addenda there. Is there an additional registration process Proposers should engage?

ANSWER: No.

26. On page 34 Exhibit 2, our authorized signer whose signature will be notarized may not be one of the individuals named as authorized representatives for Oral Presentations/Negotiations. Is this permitted?

ANSWER: Yes.

27. On page 45, Exhibit 10 – Debarment, page 50, Exhibit 12 – Proposer's Preference, and on page 66 Exhibit 19 – Certification of Compliance, our authorized signer and notary will not be in the state of Florida. We do not want to alter your Exhibits, but we want to be accurate. Can you advise how to proceed?

ANSWER: Please ask your notary to include the applicable states notarization.