

**Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) Bid #075-FF03  
Questions and Comments as of 09-29-2006**

- A) On page 2 of 6 in the 075-FF03 Specifications, the bid states “If USDA commodity orange juice is available, M-DCPS reserves the right to incorporate USDA commodity orange juice into the awarded orange juice products”. How would the net off invoicing or modified fee to M-DCPS be determined for the 4 oz. and 6 oz. orange juice as referred to on page 5 of 6?

The value of the commodity orange juice would be applied against the commercial price = "net off".

- B) In the Specifications section under No. 5, Delivery Requirements, Item A, the bid states that “school deliveries are to be made at least three (3) days per week or as designated by the Department of Food and Nutrition.” Is this frequency of delivery more than in past years?

No, it is the same as previous years. School sites determine frequency; we want to have built into the bid 3 times for the smaller sites that do not have the refrigeration space to take deliveries once or twice per week.

- C) The bid states that Items 1-5 and/or Items 6-10 (calcium and vitamin C added) must all be bid in order to be considered for award.

Will Items 1-5 and Items 6-10 be awarded on an either/or basis, or may there be some combination of items awarded, i.e. some of items in 1-5 awarded along with some of the items from 6-10?

Also, in like manner, would Items 14-16 and Items 17-19 be awarded on an either/or basis?

M-DCPS will evaluate all items as specified on the Format B Excel Worksheet. If the Format B states in the category (as in Items 1-5, 6-10, 14-16 and 17-19) that all items must be bid in that category in order to be considered for award, then the bidder must bid all items in each category.

The “Estimated Quantities” provided is for reference to the bidder based on past and/or projected usage patterns. M-DCPS is under no obligation to purchase the estimated quantities listed in the bid documents.

During evaluation, M-DCPS will determine the awarding of the bid categories, based on the bid submissions received. AFTER AWARD, M-DCPS can select any individual or combination of items to purchase from awarded vendors on the bid, according to the needs of the Department of Food and Nutrition.

**Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) Bid #075-FF03  
Questions and Comments as of 09-29-2006**

- D) Is M-DCPS requiring certain licenses as in previous bids? For example, Bid 088-EE03 under Special Conditions #22, required the bidders to provide a copy of their Citrus Fruit Dealer's License.**

Each bid that M-DCPS issues for the Department of Food and Nutrition is tailored to the needs of the department at the time the bid is designed and released.

Regulations and requirements change; therefore M-DCPS Procurement Management Services works together with our colleagues at the Department of Food and Nutrition to ensure that all items procured meet the applicable standards at the municipal, state and federal levels.

To answer your question, NO, a copy of the bidder's Citrus Fruit Dealer's License is not required to submit with the bid documents.

Bidders are encouraged to use the checklist provided in Bid 075-FF03 Special Conditions 26 to help them ensure they have submitted the appropriate documents. REMEMBER THOUGH, it is each bidder's responsibility to read through, to fill out all the appropriate bid documents listed in the Special Conditions, Specifications, Format B Excel Worksheet and enclosed attachments and addendums, and to submit all necessary documents to be received before or on the bid opening date and no later than the bid opening time stated in the bid documents.

- E) With regards to subcontracting, the prior bid 088-EE03 stated that the vendor may not be permitted to subcontract for the delivery of any item listed in the award(s) unless stipulated in writing at the time of bid submission. Is this still required?**

Once again, EACH BID IS DIFFERENT with respect to contract terms. There are attachments with this NEW BID 075-FF03 that can help the bidder determine how to best deliver the items and comply with the terms of THIS BID (i.e. Attachment JV: AFFIDAVIT OF JOINT VENTURE).

**THE ITEMS IN THIS BID REQUIRE DELIVERY TO EACH SCHOOL SITE. BIDDERS CAN DETERMINE HOW TO BEST ACCOMPLISH THIS OBJECTIVE. ALL CONDITIONS MUST BE MET WITH REGARDS TO DELIVERY OF THE ITEMS AS STATED IN THE SPECIAL CONDITIONS AND THE SPECIFICATIONS OF THIS BID.**

- F) Can you add to Bid 075-FF03 in Special Conditions #10, "from Awarded Vendor"?**

In this bid under Special Conditions #10, "Deliveries and Purchases of Additional Items", there is clear language stating what additional items M-DCPS can purchase as "Special Buys", "Opportunity Buys", and "Balance of Line" Items. No further additional language is necessary to be included at this time.

**Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) Bid #075-FF03  
Questions and Comments as of 09-29-2006**

- G) Can this statement be included in the 075-FF03 Bid “The vendor at no charge to the school system shall replace any spoilage reported within six days of delivery date, for any reason other than faulty refrigeration.” This language was in Bid 083-EE03.**

**No. Bid 075-FF03 is clear with respect to deliveries, late deliveries, inspections, replacement of product, etc. in BOTH the Special Conditions and Specifications sections of the bid.**

**\*\*NOTE\*\* Bidders are advised to download Addendum 1 to this bid that was released on 09-29-2006 and view all SIX PAGES of the Specifications to this bid.**

- H) In Bid 075-FF03 Specifications Item 9 C. (Page 6 of 6) lists the following: “Beverage items which do not indicate the appropriate USDA grade or USDA acceptance service as specified by the bid, will not be accepted by Vendor(s).” This item was listed on Bid 083-EE03 under Special Conditions #7.**

**Once again, EACH BID IS DIFFERENT with respect to contract terms. This is why THIS BID 075-FF03 has Special Conditions AND Specifications. In the Specifications, Item #9 clearly states what needs to be done. The awarded vendor must receive from the supplier the necessary USDA certificates and send the originals to M-DCPS Department of Food and Nutrition.**

- I) Items #1 and #14 for Orange Juice should state with calcium fortification.**

**The bid is divided into different sections, some require calcium fortification and others do not. Please review the Category titles on each Format B Excel Worksheet for further clarification.**

- J) My products were previously approved and awarded on Bid 083-EE03. They should be listed as an approved brand.**

**M-DCPS accepts products that meet or exceed the specifications listed on the Format B Excel Spreadsheet for Bid 075-FF03. Also attached with the bid documents is Agenda Item E-37 from the May 10, 2006 Miami-Dade County Public Schools Board Meeting, which lists the changes in policy. This document, along with changes in USDA policy and rules prompted us to release this bid in order to find products that meet the new specifications.**

**All product submissions are subject to sampling and review to ensure they meet specifications for this bid as stated in the bid documents, before any further evaluation will be done, with respect to the awarding of this bid solicitation.**

**Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) Bid #075-FF03  
Questions and Comments as of 09-29-2006**

**K) In Special Conditions #9. My company does not agree to the assessment of a penalty payment for late or missed deliveries.**

**As a potential vendor, my company will work diligently to ensure deliveries arrive as scheduled, can I state my non-agreement to this condition in my bid proposal?**

**Regarding your concern about deliveries, it is stated in Special Conditions Number Nine (9): ...M-DCPS Procurement Management Services reserves the right to assess a penalty payment to the awarded vendor for each instance...**

**Because M-DCPS encourages partnership all vendors, and since situations do happen which may result in a late or missed delivery, communication is important in resolving any delivery issues.**

**IF advanced communication results in a REVISED confirmed delivery schedule, as agreed upon by the awarded vendor and M-DCPS, then a penalty situation would not apply. However, consistent sub-par performance of any M-DCPS contract can be grounds for further action to be taken, including rescinding the contract.**

**Finally, remember if any bidder qualifies their bid submission with a condition either on the Format B Excel Worksheet or anywhere in their bid documents (i.e. writes in on the bid documents "We do not agree to Special Condition #9"), their bid will be deemed as non-responsive and will be not be considered for evaluation.**

**This means that the bidder who "qualified" their bid will not be awarded any item on the bid, regardless if all other parts of the bid submission meet specifications and their offer was the best submitted.**

**BIDDERS MUST AGREE TO ALL CONDITIONS STATED IN THE BID DOCUMENTS IN ORDER FOR THEIR BID TO BE EVALUATED FOR AWARD.**

**L) I have a question regarding Special Conditions #26 d. & Specifications Item #9. Please clarify the USDA Certification documents you are requesting.**

**USDA Documents are included in the bid package and are clearly stated on the Specifications Section of this bid.**

**Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) Bid #075-FF03  
Questions and Comments as of 09-29-2006**

**M) Is there a place on the Bid Proposal Form (Format B) to submit other non-carbonated beverages such as water, milk, and sports drinks?**

Special Conditions #10 states in Section B the following: M-DCPS Department of Food and Nutrition and Procurement Management Services can at its discretion decide to solicit and/or approve the awarded vendor(s) for non-awarded products in the category of food item in which they have been awarded. This means that M-DCPS can secure other products in this category of food items, as new products are developed in the marketplace that would benefit the students

However, M-DCPS has other bids which cover such items as water, milk, and sports drinks. See Bid 010-FF03 Award information in the "Dry" Category for water and sport drinks, and Bid 007-CC03 Award information for milk products.

The M-DCPS website to view this information is as follows:

[http://procurement.dadeschools.net/bidsol/asp/bid\\_portal.htm](http://procurement.dadeschools.net/bidsol/asp/bid_portal.htm)

**N) My business is just was wondering if we have to deliver the bid items to each school or can it go to a distributing center?**

**THE ITEMS IN THIS BID REQUIRE DELIVERY TO EACH SCHOOL SITE. BIDDERS CAN DETERMINE HOW TO BEST ACCOMPLISH THIS OBJECTIVE. THERE IS ATTACHMENT JV: AFFIDAVIT OF JOINT VENTURE IF A BIDDER WISHES TO USE THIS TO HELP ACHIEVE THS OBJECTIVE. REMEMBER THAT ALL CONDITIONS MUST BE MET WITH REGARDS TO DELIVERY OF THE ITEMS AS STATED IN THE SPECIAL CONDITIONS AND THE SPECIFICATIONS OF THIS BID.**

**FINAL NOTE TO ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS:**

Please monitor the M-DCPS Procurement Website regarding any additional information on this bid solicitation, including any changes to the bid opening date, addendums, information, responses to "Questions and Comments", or any other pertinent information to be issued for this bid at the following address:

<http://procurement.dadeschools.net/bidsol/asp/ENACT.asp>