

Instructions

This Response Template **must** be used for submission of written questions. All questions should provide the requested information. Those that do not, may not be answered by DIS. The Prospective Contractor may add as many lines as needed. DIS would strongly prefer multi-part questions as individual questions on separate lines.

Instructions: Complete all cells of each question asked in the Table below. Clearly identify the referenced section or text.

Question ID	IFB Reference (page number, section number, paragraph)	Specific IFB Language	Question	Response
1	Section 2.4 ETHERNET OR OTHER TECHNOLOGY CONNECTIVITY TO SCHOOL DISTRICT HUBS	D. If awarded multiple school district hub addresses, the Contractor must consolidate transport from multiple school district hubs on the connection between the Contractor aggregation location and the State aggregation site. The State's expectation is that individual aggregation circuits will be used for a combination of school, rural health, and State agency transport. The State can apportion the costs between federal programs (i.e. E-rate and Rural Health Care).	Question: The State indicated that some sites are eligible and some are indeed ineligible; however the answer provided to the original question (see Row #2 Below) stated that all costs would be applied for under the E-rate program. E-rate rules require a site by site breakdown as to the exact services and related costs applicable to each site related to the funding request. It appears that the Service Provider would be required to indicate the costs associated with the ineligible sites for Erate compliant cost allocation. Can the State please explain how those costs are going to be applied for and how they should be addressed on our end?	The State will apportion the bandwidth on the aggregation circuits, backbone circuits, and internet circuits individually between federal programs (E-rate and Rural Health) and other entities. Where the circuits provide transport to different typed of entities, only a decimal part of the vendor cost used to file for E-rate reimbursement for each circuit including internet. There should be no vendor input needed for the State to make this appotionment.

2	Section 2.4 ETHERNET OR OTHER TECHNOLOGY CONNECTIVITY TO SCHOOL DISTRICT HUBS	D. If awarded multiple school district hub addresses, the Contractor must consolidate transport from multiple school district hubs on the connection between the Contractor aggregation location and the State aggregation site. The State's expectation is that individual aggregation circuits will be used for a combination of school, rural health, and State agency transport. The State can apportion the costs between federal programs (i.e. E-rate and Rural Health Care).	<p>Original Question on 1-20-2020 for Reference: In reference to the aggregation hub sites (essentially any addresses that belong to sites that are NOT clearly a k-12 School or library)</p> <p>In order to respond in accordance with program rules, the service provider will need answers to the following.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Has the State obtained E-rate Entity numbers for these sites. If so, please provide a list of those entity numbers. 2) If there are no entity numbers. Can the State please explain how these sites are eligible to receive funding? 3) Or does E-rate funding not apply to this contract? 	State of Arkansas only applies for E-rate discounts for bandwidth/connectivity delivered to eligible recipients of service. Though the aggregation sites do not have BENs and are not listed on the State's applications, the cost for circuits are included and are considered to be eligible as they are providing bandwidth to eligible locations.
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