

January 17, 2019

AMENDMENT #1 – RFP-008-T-2019 (P) Provide Wide Area Network and Internet Services for the Department of Education in the U.S. Virgin Islands

Insert Questions and Answers

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS REMAIN UNCHANGED.

BIDDERS MUST ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THIS AMENDMENT WITH THEIR BID PROPOSAL.

Questions and Answers:

1. **Question:** *Are there maps showing each school location that we could have access to? We would like to at least physically confirm each facility location on all 3 islands. Is someone available to point us to some of these locations that we may not be familiar with?*

Response: Unfortunately, there are no accurate maps that can be provided, however if a bidder would like to conduct a walk-through of the facility locations, they may place their request in writing so that the Department can accommodate them. All requests must be submitted to:

Dynell Williams
Deputy Commissioner, Procurement
Department of Property & Procurement
Building No. 1, 3rd Floor Subbase
St. Thomas, VI 00802
REFERENCE: RFP-008-T-2019

2. **Question:** What speeds are needed for the adult Education schools, skill center and alternative education center? 100 or 1000 Mbps?

Responses: The speed needed for the Adult Education Schools, Raphael O. Wheatley Skills Center and the Alternative Ed Center is 100 Mbps.

3. **Question:** “All St. Thomas and St. John schools and sites, must have 100Mbps of reliable, dedicated Internet service via carrier class licensed equipment with dedicated transport to corresponding DS3 ports via the Department of Education, St. Thomas Network Operations Center (NOC) located at 1834 Kongens Gade. All St. Croix schools and sites, must have 100 Mbps of reliable, dedicated Internet service via carrier class licensed equipment with dedicated transport to corresponding DS3 ports via the Department of Education, St. Croix Network Operations Center (NOC) located at the Curriculum Center at #3 VI Corp Land RR #1 Kings Hill St Croix.” Please confirm whether this statement is accurate given the speed limitations of a DS3 circuit.

Response: These statements are not accurate. All of the St. Thomas/St. John and St. Croix Schools must have a minimum of 100Mbps of dedicated internet. Please note as per the RFP (please refer to chart of listed sites), the VIDE has requested 1 Gbps for all junior high and high schools. Additionally, the VIDE is not utilizing DS3 ports, instead the Department is using Fiber.

4. **Questions:** Is service only to be brought to one location on St. Croix and one location on St Thomas and then VIDE takes over from there by redistributing to the various schools? If not you could provide a topology map or provide information relating to how each schools MPOE/MDF is being connected by? Service provider or VIDE?

Response: It is unclear which service is being referred to in this question. However, if the question is asking about Internet Services, the answer is yes, service should be provided to 1 location on St. Thomas and 1 on St. Croix.

5. **Question: Seeing that there will be a need to install some hardware, ie router. Is category 2 funding available to cover this? If not how is hardware covered?**

Response: The service provider is responsible for providing all equipment for the WAN service. Category 2 funding is not available to cover this cost.

6. **Question: Who were the last 3 e-rate providers for the VIDE?**

Response: The previous service providers for WAN services were Broadband VI and System Development Integration, LLC. The previous Internet service providers were Broadband VI and Choice Communications. This information may also be obtained by accessing the USAC website.

7. **Question: We are requesting fair notice of the selected vendor, and before any contracts are signed, so that we may exercise our right to file a dispute if so intended.**

Response: Notice of the selected vendor will be provided pursuant to the Government of the Virgin Islands Procurement Policy as outlined in Title 31 of the Virgin Islands Code.