

Request for Proposal: Firewall

January 26, 2022

Bennington Public Schools
11620 N 156th Street
Bennington, NE 68007

Erate Identifier: Cat2.2022Firewall

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Final

Overview

Bennington Public Schools is seeking proposals for one (1) highly equivalent to Fortinet FortiGate firewall. A Fortinet parts list and associated specifications are contained within this document.

All proposals which are highly equivalent to or exceed specifications of the Fortinet Networking Equipment will be considered.

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.

Equipment will be drop shipped to the location at Bennington Public Schools, 11620 N 156th Street, Bennington, NE 68007.

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 4, 2022 at 3:00 pm CST** at Bennington Public Schools, Attn: Rob Uchtman – RFP Response, 11620 N 156th St, Bennington, NE 68007 or emailed to ruchtman@bennps.org. Emailed proposal documents will be time-stamped from the receiving computer.

Proposals will be available for inspection, at the District Office (11620 N 156th Street, Bennington, NE) by Noon on March 11, 2022.

Questions should be addressed, no later than February 25, 2022, to:

Rob Uchtman
Email: ruchtman@bennps.org

Questions and Answers will be posted on district website (<http://projects.benningtonschoools.org/>) by March 1, 2022.

1.1 Product Specifications

Bennington Public Schools is seeking proposals for one (1) highly equivalent to Fortinet FortiGate 1801F firewall device, with five years of maintenance. All equipment bid must be new.

Make	Model	Part Number	Total
Fortinet	FortiGate 1801F* <ul style="list-style-type: none">• IPS Performance of 17 Gbps• Firewall Performance of 140 Gbps• Threat Protection 9.1 Gbps• GE RJ45 Ports: 16• GE SFP Slots: 8• 25 E SFP28/10 GE SFP+ / GE SFP Slots: 4	FG-1801F	1

**Proposal must include five years of maintenance for the firewall device.*

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 project, please include them in Appendix A, listed and itemized as per unit cost.

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 Rob Uchtman, Bennington Public Schools, ruchtman@bennps.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 Bennington Public Schools 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 ruchtman@bennps.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 Bennington Public Schools 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 25, 2022, to:

Rob Uchtman
Email: ruchtman@bennps.org

Questions and Answers will be posted on district website (<http://projects.benningtonschoools.org/>) by March 1, 2022.

Appendix A

Required Form for RFP Response.

TABLE 2.1: BENNINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS SHARED SERVICES			
Erate Eligible Services			
Description	Part No	Total	UNIT COST
Fortinet FortiGate firewall*	FG-1801F*	1	
Other Equipment:			

**Proposal must include five years of maintenance for the firewall device.*

I acknowledge Section 2.1 Pricing and Payment; Bennington Public Schools 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
Bennington Public Schools
Erate: Cat2.2022Firewall

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.