



November 15, 2021

ADDENDUM 1 to Library System of Lancaster County WAN Consortium Request for Proposals (RFP) for Wide Area Network and Internet Services, Funding Year 2022

The questions below have been edited for clarity and organized by subject area.

Respondent Questions and LSLC Answers:

Services Sought and Specifications

- Q1: Will you consider WAN only (leased lit fiber transport) without the Internet (line 22 on Cost Proposal sheet) or must the respondent provide a quote for Internet as well?
- A1: While we prefer that vendors bid both services, we are willing to split Internet and WAN services. Vendors should bid all the services that they are interested in providing, and LSLC will evaluate WAN and Internet as separate services.
- Q2: Will you accept bids that are only for the Internet portion of the bid, not the WAN portion
- A2: While we prefer that vendors bid both services, we are willing to split Internet and WAN services. Vendors should bid all the services that they are interested in providing, and LSLC will evaluate WAN and Internet as separate services.
- Q3: Please confirm that the WAN entries in the Cost Proposal Worksheet are only for the WAN transport (not bundling any Internet service with that transport) and the only place the Internet is "included" is in line 22 of the respective tabs in the Cost Proposal Worksheet.
- A3: Under each of the three options in the Cost Proposal Workbook, lines 6-21 are for the WAN portion, while line 22 is for Internet Access. Please refer to RFP sections 7.1 and 7.2 for further explanation of the services sought.
- Q4: Does the sum of the parts (at each edge site) need to equal what is delivered to the hub? Or do you permit oversubscription and deliver less at the hub than the total of the bandwidth at each of the edge sites?
- A5: See RFP sections 7.1 and 7.2 for further explanation of the services sought, including the speeds sought at each location.
- Q5: Please confirm if the desired topology is hub and spoke?



- A5: We have not specified a required network topology. See RFP sections 6, 7.1, 7.2, and (in particular) 7.4.
- Q6: Please confirm which site address is the hub. Is it Library System of Lancaster County (also referred to as LSLC Main Office) at 1866 Colonial Village Ln, Ste 107, Lancaster, PA 17601?
- A6: We have not specified a required network topology. See RFP sections 6, 7.1, 7.2, and (in particular) 7.4.
- Q7: Are you planning to go back to 1866 Colonial Village Lane? Or have you returned already?
- A7: Please see Appendix B for a list of locations where service is initially sought under this RFP, and RFP section 7.5 regarding moves, adds, and changes.
- Q8: Please identify the manufacturer and model of the end customer's equipment at each location. This will help us ensure compatible optics.
- A8: The end user equipment varies by location. Of the 16 locations on the WAN, 8 sites have Aruba 2920-48G Switches with 1000Base-T Copper handoff to WAN, 7 sites have Aruba 2920-24G Switches with 1000Base-T Copper handoff to WAN, and 1 site (the main LSLC office) has a Fortinet Fortigate 500D Firewall with 1000Base-T Copper handoff to the WAN and the Internet.
- Q9: Per RFP section 7.5, can you clarify what is considered the extent or definition of the "LSLC service footprint"? If undefined, is it acceptable to propose a per mile rate or something similar?
- A9: The footprint of the Library System of Lancaster County consists of Lancaster County, PA. Per RFP section 7.5, a single "not to exceed" cost is required rather than a per mile rate.
- Q10: Recognizing that bandwidth needs are growing across the board and the role that the libraries can have in their community, will LSLC consider proposals for greater bandwidth than listed in the RFP?
- A10: While greater speeds can be proposed, they will be evaluated within the framework of services (including speeds) specified in the RFP.
- Q11: Is DDoS mitigation needed?
- A11: DDoS services are not sought as part of this RFP; see RFP section 7, particularly sections 7.1 and 7.2.
- Q12: Would the LSLC be interested in Managed Firewall services?
- A12: Managed firewall services are not sought as part of this RFP; see RFP section 7, particularly sections 7.1 and 7.2.



Agreement Term

Q13: Since E-Rate's Special Construction rules allow for recovery of the non-discounted portion of the cost of new construction over a period of four (4) years, if you only request an initial period of three years, you are not taking advantage of this. Will you consider accepting a longer initial term as an alternative?

A13: No. See RFP section 7.7 for the contract term.

Q14: E-Rate encourages applicants to consider 20-year TCO (Total Cost of Ownership) when comparing vendor networks. You can find this information on the USAC website under FAQs. <https://www.usac.org/e-rate/learn/faqs/eligible-fiber-services/#Selecting-the-Most-Cost-Effective-Service-Offering> . Will you consider asking for additional renewals so you can consider a 20-year TCO in addition to your RFP-stated six year timeframe?

A14: No. See RFP section 7.7 for the contract term.

Other Questions:

Q15: Re: RFP section 9.11, I want to ask for clarification. Is it acceptable for the Service Provider to utilize subcontractors to help it deliver as contracted as long as the Service Provider is not assigning away any of its (the Service Provider's) obligations for performance?

A15: Please review RFP sections 9.11 and 10.8. Among other provisions, RFP section 9.11 specifies that any assignment requires prior written consent of LSLC, and RFP section 10.8 specifies that the Service Provider is wholly responsible regardless of whether subcontractors are used and that LSLC has the right to reject any subcontractor.