

**NOLA Public School
Procurement Department
2401 Westbend Parkway, Suite 5076,
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Paul A. Lucius, Executive Director of Procurement**

February 23, 2024

Addendum No. 1

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO. 24-0058

SPECIAL EDUCATION DIRECT AND RELATED SERVICES

This Addendum and Clarification item forms a part of the RFP Documents and modifies the original RFP Documents issued January 25, 2024. Acknowledge receipt of this Addendum on the Addendum Form of the Request for Proposal. Failure to do so may subject proposal to disqualification.

This Addendum consists of " Page(s)

CLARIFICATION:

1. **Question:** Who were the past vendors and what were the hourly rates paid for all of the disciplines mentioned in this RFP?

Answer: Please see attachment A.

2. **Question:** Can you provide the name and contact information for the individual who will be coordinating the services for the disciplines of the RFP at the district?

Answer: NOLA-PS will designate a representative after the execution of contract.

3. **Question:** Is NOLA-PS considering and/or accepting virtual providers for any or all of the work categories listed in this RFP (Registered Nurses, Special Education Teachers, Adaptive Physical Education Teachers, and Social Workers)?

Answer: NOLA-PS will consider virtual providers on a case-by-case basis should the need arise, but in-person support is preferred.

4. **Question:** Please confirm vendors are able to bid on a specific work category(-ies), and that vendors are not obligated to bid on all work categories.

Answer: NOLA-PS is expecting Staffing Agencies to fill all positions stated in the RFP.

5. **Question:** How many of each work category does NOLA-PS anticipate will be required?

Answer: NOLA-PS' ability to affix a number of providers needed to support Students with Disabilities is predicated upon the volume of services needed as defined in IEPs.

6. **Question:** Page 29, Paragraph 5.3 indicates that the "estimated budget for this project ranges from \$100,000 - \$300,000 dependent on individual provider services." Is this estimated budget meant to cover all services provided? If not, please clarify the allocated budget per work category.

Answer: Yes

7. **Question:** Per the scope of services, the district is looking for proposals for Registered Nurses, Special Education Teachers, Adaptive Physical Education Teacher and School Social Workers. Is this accurate?

Answer: Yes, that is accurate. The scope of services is seeking Registered Nurses, Special Education Teachers, Adaptive Physical Education Teacher, and School Social Workers.

8. **Question:** Is the district open to the inclusion of additional services with our proposal outside of the scope of work?

Answer: The District is not open to the inclusion of additional services with proposal. NOLA- PS is seeking proposals that align with scope of work contained in RFP documents.

9. **Question:** Does NOLA Public Schools currently contract out for these services?

Answer: Please see Answer to Question No. 1.

10. **Question:** If so, who are the vendors and what are the hourly rates that are currently being utilized?

Answer: Please see Answer to Question No. 1

11. **Question:** Are the resumes of sample clinicians for each service required to be submitted with our proposal, or only upon request after award?

Answer: Yes, the resumes of sample clinicians for each service are required to be submitted with the proposal.

12. **Question:** Is it an All and/or None RFP?

Answer: This is an all or none RFP.

13. **Question:** Does the Proposing Company have to provide all the Services Providers set forth in 2.0 SCOPE OF WORK/SERVICES?

Answer: NOLAPS is seeking Vendors that can support all of the Service Provider items as set forth in the Scope of Work/Services.

14. **Question:** What contract agencies do you currently use, or have used in the past, for the following services?

- a. Speech Language Pathologists
- b. Physical Therapists (PT)
- c. Occupational Therapists (OT)
- d. School Social Workers
- e. Adapted Physical Education Teachers
- f. Special Education Teachers
- g. Skilled Nursing (RN, LPN, CNA)
- h. Other positions as needed

Answer: The scope of work for this RFP seeks the services of Registered Nurses, Special Education Teachers, Adapted Physical Education, and Social Workers. Therefore, information provided will only address these four areas.

Adapted Physical Education have been provided by Stepping Stones Group
Special Education Teachers have been provided by Sunbelt Staffing
Registered Nurse RN from Children's Hospital New Orleans (Thrive Kids)
School Social Workers-No, providers at this time.

15. **Question:** What hourly rates are you currently paying or have paid for each service?

- a. Speech Language Pathologists
 - i. Monolingual
 - ii. bilingual
- b. Physical Therapists (PT)
 - i. Monolingual
 - ii. bilingual
- c. Occupational Therapists (OT)
 - i. Monolingual
 - ii. bilingual
- d. School Social Workers
 - i. Monolingual
 - ii. bilingual
- e. Special Education Teachers
 - i. Monolingual
 - ii. bilingual
- f. Adapted Physical Education Teachers
- g. Skilled Nursing (RN, LPN, CNA)
- h. Other positions as needed

Answer: Please see Answer to Question 14.
Adapted Physical Education-\$63 per hour,
Special Education Teachers-Monolingual-\$54.00 per hour Bilingual-\$54.00 per hour
Skilled Nursing(RN only),- RN \$70.00 per hour
School Social Workers Service- No, providers at this time.

16. **Question:** How many contract agencies do you use for staffing needs?

Answer: NOLA-Ps currently uses three (3) staffing agencies.

17. **Question:** How many contracted hours are permitted in school day?

Answer: Seven (7) hours are permitted in a school day.

18. **Question:** How many contracted days are permitted per school calendar year?

Answer: School assignments dictate contracted days per school calendar year.

19. **Question:** Will contracted staff be included in professional development days?

a. Will they be able to bill for their time for professional development days?

Answer: Yes, contracted staff will be included in professional development days. Yes, contracted staff are allowed to bill for professional development days.

20. **Question:** Will this be a single or multi-award?

Answer: This will be a multi-award contract.

21. **Question:** What is the annual spend that is projected for 2023-2024 school year?

Answer: The annual projected spend for 2023-2024 school year is \$300,000.00.

22. **Question:** What was the annual spend for the 2022-2023 school year?

Answer: The annual spend for the 2022-2023 school year was \$300,000.00

23. **Question:** What is the current number of FTE professionals being utilized presently to service this contract?

- a. Speech Language Pathologists
- b. Physical Therapists (PT)
- c. Occupational Therapists (OT)
- d. School Social Workers
- e. Adapted Physical Education Teachers
- f. Special Education Teachers
- g. Skilled Nursing (RN, LPN, CNA)

Answer: Please see Answer to Question Number 14.
Adapted Physical Education one (1) FTE
Special Education Teachers one (1) FTE
Skilled Nursing (RN, LPN, CNA)- RN only one (1) FTE
School Social Workers- currently there are no FTE for this Service.

24. **Question:** Does the district provide evaluation/testing materials to providers?

Answer: Yes, the District provides evaluation/testing materials.

25. **Question:** Does the district provide a laptop/computer to providers?

Answer: No, the district does not provide a laptop/computer to providers.

26. **Question:** Does the district provide an email account to the contracted providers during their assignment?

Answer: Yes, the district provides an email account to the contracted providers.

27. **Question:** Will the district accept proposals for teletherapy services?

a. If yes, what specific disciplines? OT,PT,SLP etc

Answer: Yes, the District will accept proposals for teletherapy services for Social Work.

28. **Question:** Can the vendor incur any penalties or be liable for any damages for not having a contracted provider available upon your school's request in a timely manner OR would your school terminate the RFP contract with the vendor?

Answer: The vendor will not incur penalties for damages for not having contracted provider in a timely manner. However, contract will be terminated for failure to provide contracted provider in a timely manner.

29. **Question:** Will the district pay for mileage traveling between school campuses on the same day? If so, is it the IRS standard rate, or is it dictated by the district?

Answer: No, the district will not pay for mileage traveling between school campuses on the same day.

30. **Question:** When is the anticipated award date for this bid?

a. How will awarded vendors be notified

Answer: The anticipated award date is to be determined. Vendors selected will receive a notice of intent to award letter.

31. **Question:** In the event we can not find a provider for in person services, will the district accept a virtual provider?

Answer: NOLA-PS will consider virtual providers on a case-by-case basis should the need arise, but in-person support is preferred.

a. If yes, for what disciplines?

Answer: Social Worker

b. Are the direct services billable

Answer: Yes, if it meets the specific requirements in the contract.

c. Are assessments provided to our providers?

Answer: NOLA-PS will provide assessments to vendors in Orleans Parish; however, vendors residing outside Orleans Parish must provide/purchase NOLA-PS approved assessments.

d. How will the virtual caseload be managed?

Answer: The virtual caseload will be managed by the vendor.

e. Will there be an assistant provided to RCM working with our virtual provider, bringing each student to the computer?

Answer: NOLA-PS will not provide RCM's, so the cost will need to be considered in the proposal submitted by the vendor.

f. What IEP software would the provider be expected to use?

Answer: The Louisiana eSER System is the IEP software utilized by NOLA-PS.

Attachment A

Vendor Hourly Rates

Orange Tree Staffing Rates

<u>Service</u>	<u>Cost per Hour</u>
No services were provided or rendered to NOLA Public Schools	N/A

The Stepping Stone Group Rates

<u>Service</u>	<u>Cost per Hour</u>
Adapted Physical Education Teacher	\$ 63.00

Sunbelt Staffing Rates

<u>Service</u>	<u>Cost per Hour</u>
Special Education Teacher	\$ 54.00

Maxim Healthcare Staffing Services, Inc. Rates

<u>Service</u>	<u>Cost per Hour</u>
No services were provided or rendered to NOLA Public Schools	N/A

End of Addendum No. 1