State Responses to Vendor Questions for NDERFI240102

| Questions | Answer |
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| There are several links in the document that do not appear to be working. Please provide an updated version of the RFI with functioning links and website references. | We are not looking to assess every ELA standard; however, we want to ensure the writing standards are assessed. |
| The Schedule of Events lists "Scheduled Evaluation Meetings" to take place on March 6-13. What is the purpose of these meetings? Are they like oral presentations with vendors who have submitted responses? Or are they NDE internal discussions of the responses submitted? | The purpose of the Scheduled Evaluation Meetings is to provide input from a group of evaluators on the submissions. These are NDE internal discussions of the responses- submitted. We are updating the schedule to allow for demos. |
| Can the State please clarify submission requirements? When viewing the solicitation site, it is unclear how or where to submit the required documentation. | You will find this information on page 5: RFI responses must be submitted by the RFI due date and time. Vendors should electronically submit one (1) original copy of the entire proposal (in PDF format) to <u>nde.procurement@nebraska.gov</u> . |
| | We are not looking to assess every ELA standard; however, we want to ensure the writing standards are assessed. |
| Can you confirm that, in this context, a practice test is the same as an item sampler? | From NDE's perspective, these are different documents. A practice test has more items than an item type sampler. |
| RFI states, "Using principles of ECD or similar validation-oriented processes, the respondent shall describe a test design (blueprint) that fulfills the goals and constraints." Regarding the last portion of this requirement, may we assume that you are seeking a description of the design goals and constraints? If not, can you please clarify your requirement? | Yes, please describe the design goals and constraints. |
| What is the annual budget for the proposed NSCAS contract? | This is not available at this time. |

| NWEA is developing the Formative Supports Network for Nebraska. Does Nebraska plan to continue developing this Network with NWEA, or does Nebraska plan to incorporate this Network and development work into the new contract? | The Formative Assessment Supports Network is part of the statewide assessment contract. |
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| What is the annual contract value for the work involved with Formative Supports Network? | \$445,050 |
| The cover form for the RFI states, "This form is part of the specification package and must be signed in ink and returned, along with information documents, by the opening date and time specified." Given that this is an electronic submission, would NDE accept electronic signatures? | yes, NDE accepts electronic signatures |
| Please clarify if the RFI can be submitted via email (<u>NDE.procurement@nebraska.gov</u>) or if it is required to be submitted via the <u>https://das.nebraska.gov</u> procurement site. | Please submit all electronic submissions to <u>nde.procurement@nebraska.gov</u> |
| Of the Nebraska schools that face technological challenges, how many cannot enable the online, adaptive administration? What is the percentage of students affected by these challenges? Are the problems broadband limitations for online testing or is there a need for special provisions to enable online administrations where challenges typically arise? | The intent was to solicit your plans in case of outages during testing. What plans do you have to mitigate outages and to secure student data in these cases? Nebraska has had different natural weather events that have interrupted state testing. NDE would like to know how you protect and retrieve student data in these situations. |
| Please clarify if there will be a need for human-scored constructed responses. | The expectation is that human scored constructed responses would be available if the AI scoring is questionable. |
| Please clarify electronic submission instructions. Should vendors submit RFI responses via email to <u>nde.procurement@nebraska.gov</u> . | Please submit all electronic submissions to <u>nde.procurement@nebraska.gov</u> |

| Could the State please provide a Word version of the | This has been updated on the DAS |
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| RFP, or a version | website. <u>Request for Proposal for</u> |
| where we are able to click on and access the | Agency Processed Services |
| hyperlinks? | (nebraska.gov) |