

State Responses to Vendor Questions for
NDERFP2208

Solicitation Reference	Question	Answer
Schedule of Events- Page 13	According to the Schedule of Events, the “Expected Contractor start date” is 08/07/2023. When does NDE expect the newly proposed solution to be ready for deployment?	We expect the evendor to provide a timeline and schedule. Proposals from all the vendors shall be evaluated by the Evaluation Committee.
N/A	What is the current system/process NDE is using for Compliance Monitoring?	In-house Spreadsheet Builds owned by the Office of SPED that helps collection, monitoring and reporting of the data. Link to the guidance document available at: https://www.education.ne.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/2022-External-District-Monitoring-Protocol.pdf
Scope of Work 37	How does NDE currently handle the various data and reporting requests described in the RFP?	-ILCD application - hosted by NDE. -Other third party tools such as Qualtrics, TS Gold, SIS. -In-house spreadsheets. -Microsoft forms for monitoring reviews and checklists.
N/A	Does NDE have a provider/system for Part C Early Intervention?	No. It is a manual process currently handled using spreadsheets.
N/A	What IEP systems are used throughout the state?	Each district is allowed to select the product of their preference. Some use SIS (Student Information Systems), IEP Systems. There is a statewide IEP system owned by the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council called Student Record System (SRS).
N/A	Would NDE consider changing to a statewide IEP system?	No.
Part VI – Section B 37	Do you send surveys out to all parents, or do you utilize a sampling methodology?	We use a sampling methodology that is being build out currently.
Part VI – Section C – Item 6 38	Since it appears that Nebraska will be hosting the application, this would have to be implemented in the hosting environment or are you looking for different hosting options?	To be implemented in NDE's hosting environment. Refer to page 39 of the RFP.
Part VI – Section C – Item 23 Page 38	Is Nebraska requesting that the contractor provide disaster recovery for their hosted environment?	Yes. Contractor to provide that as part of post implementation support services. Refer to Page 40 Section 6 of the RFP document. The contractor shall provide the Disaster Recovery plan.
Part VI – Item 5 40	In reference to description of hosting environment options: Is Nebraska requesting that the Contractor host or will Nebraska be hosting the solution?	In working with the vendor, NDE shall host the solution. Contractor to provide post implementation support.

Part VI – Section B Page 37	Do you have a preferred business intelligence tool?	Power BI or other Microsoft products.
N/A	Please provide the current specifications of the portal – core functionality, tech stack, external integrations/linkages, etc.	Vendor to capture the specifications as part of the Analysis phase (Current State Assessment).
N/A	Can you please specify the estimated number of users, and their roles will be interacting with the portal?	NDE Admin, NDE Users, Districts. Expected no of users: 500 to 1000.
Section VI - Part B Page 37	“The Contractor is to provide the customized software to be housed within the Nebraska Department of Education Portal” - Are you looking for a COTS product or a completely custom solution that is built for your specific requirements?	We need a functioning product with customized features to suit the department's need.
SectionVI - Part C - Item 8 38	“Design, implement and maintain a web application for tracking, monitoring, and verifying data from various sources” - Can you specify the list of data sources that are expected to integrate with the Web application?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ILCD application - hosted by NDE. -Other third party tools such as Qualtrics, TS Gold, SIS. -In-house spreadsheets. -Microsoft forms for monitoring reviews and checklists. -EdFacts file. -SEA level data collection
Section VI - Part B 37	“District-level interactive dashboard with similar capabilities of the state-level dashboard”	
	Who developed the current reporting system/interactive dashboard system?	This does not exist currently. The Vendor will be required to build and impement one for the department.
	Do you have APIs for an existing reporting system?	We have some integration on In-house application (ILCD).
	What are the different user roles interacting with the system?	NDE Admin, NDE Users, Districts, Outside contractors, PRTs are the different user types going to be interacting with the sytem to be built as a part of this contract.
	Can you please provide any sample reporting format and expected the number of dashboards the vendor must develop?	This does not exist currently. The Vendor will be required to build and impement one for the department.
	Does the department currently use any BI tools such as Power BI or Tableau? If yes, can you please specify the license details?	Yes, Power BI.
	Can the public access the web portal or is it for specific authorized users?	Authorised users through existing Access Management Portal.

Section VI - Part C - Item 13 38	“The application should have the capability to maintain business rules meeting compliance requirements.” – What business rules have been implemented currently?	Vendor to capture the specifications as part of the Analysis phase (Current State Assessment). Vendor to document, design and build business rules in the solution.
Section VI - Part C - Item 15 38	“Build data validations to be compliant with the legal requirements” - Do you have documented criteria/rules for performing data validation?	We require the vendor to perform requirement analysis and build validations in the system as part of plan, build, test and deploy of SLDS.
N/A	Within how many months from the start date do you desire the Web Portal solution to go live?	Looking for vendor to recommend, along with any options to consider.
D. QUALIFICATION	“Expertise in special education software development “- Does, not having an educational institution experience/references reduces vendor’s chance of entering into the state contract, considering we have a strong track record in providing web application services to other governmental organizations and private enterprises?	This shall a part of the comprehensive review of all the Vendor bids. However, this will be the stand alone criteria for selecting a vendor. The Evaluation Committee of the department shall make the decision.
N/A	Is this a fixed bid contract or a time & material basis?	Looking for Fixed bid contract (or) a time & material basis, along with projected timeframe for implementing.