

**Iowa E-rate Coordinator
Questions and Answers from Vendors
March 21, 2023**

	Vendor Question	Answer
1	<p>Would you please clarify how the 1 digital proposal should be submitted for RFP ED-EW067-01? Should it be sent to your email address or does it need to be sent in the sealed envelope? The statement below would indicate it should be sent in the sealed envelope. If it is to be sent in the sealed envelope, is this to be on a thumb drive?</p> <p>The RFP on page 13 states, "3.1.2 1 Original, 1 Digital, & 2 Copies of the Technical Proposal shall be timely submitted to the Issuing Officer in a sealed envelope."</p>	<p>To align with the Proposal Opening requirement referenced in section 2.9, please submit your digital copy on a thumb drive in a sealed envelope with the additional paper copies of your proposal.</p>
2	<p>For RFP ED-EW067-01, please clarify the following dates as stated on Page 1 of the RFP.</p> <p><i>Agency's written response to RFP questions, requests for clarifications and suggested changes due: March 22 5:00 p.m.</i></p> <p><i>Proposals Due Date: March 26</i> <i>Proposals Due Time: 5:00 p.m.</i></p> <p>Question: March 26 is a Sunday. Are the proposals actually due on the prior business day (Friday, March 24?) If yes, there is really only one business day between the Department clarifying/making changes to the RFP. (March 22 to March 24).</p>	<p>There has been an amendment to the submission date. Proposals should be received by 4:30pm on Wednesday March 29th.</p>
3	<p>Please clarify this statement from page 14: <i>3.2.5.1 Does your state have a preference for instate vendors? Yes or No. If yes, please include the details of the preference.</i></p> <p>Is the question whether the State of Iowa has a preference for instate vendors? Or does it mean that the Respondent will give a preference for purchases from instate vendors?</p>	<p>Iowa's Reciprocal Preference Law: A reciprocal preference statute states that the governmental entity will apply whatever preference statute the bidder or respondent would receive in their home state. Iowa Code 8A.311 "Preference shall be given to purchasing Iowa products and purchases from Iowa-based businesses if the Iowa-based business bids submitted are comparable in price to bids submitted by out-of-state businesses and otherwise meet the required specifications. If the laws of another state mandate a percentage preference for businesses or products from that state, and the</p>

		<p>effect of the preference is that bids of Iowa businesses or products that are otherwise low and responsive are not selected in the other state, the same percentage preference shall be applied to Iowa businesses and products when businesses or products from that other state are bid to supply Iowa requirements.”</p>
4	<p>I have a suggested change to the RFP that I request you consider. On page 6, item 1.3 of the RFP, it states <i>"Respondents will be required to submit their Proposals in hardcopy and on digital media (i.e. CD, USB drive, etc.)"</i> Very few computers have CD drives any longer. And due to concerns about viruses on thumb drives, some agencies do not allow outside drives to be used on agency computers. May I suggest that you either eliminate the need for a copy on digital media OR you permit the digital media to be an e-mail attachment(s) instead. If an e-mail attachment is permitted, please provide the e-mail address where the attachment(s) should be sent. Thank you for your attention to this request.</p>	<p>To align with the Proposal Opening requirement referenced in section 2.9, please submit your digital copy on a thumb drive in a sealed envelope with the additional paper copies of your proposal.</p>