



## **RFP 23-017 Special Education Services Questions/Answers**

### **Addendum #1**

Will you accept proposals from vendors that provide assessment services, initial, re-evals, and giftedness assessments, via a teletherapy platform?

No

Does the district have a preference for pricing structure for these services? Hourly vs. flat fee? Per assessment/evaluation?

No, submit pricing based on your pricing structure.

Will the district be awarding more than 1 vendor?

Yes, this is stated very clearly in the RFP.

Are resumes and licenses required with the proposal?

Yes, this is stated very clearly in the RFP.

Will the district consider proposals from companies that ONLY provide teletherapy in regards to this solicitation?

No

What is the estimated number of positions needed (part-time vs. full-time)?

This RFP is for a variety of services on an as needed basis.

Will the district award more than 1 vendor?

Yes, this is stated very clearly in the RFP.

Is a local office required? Is there a preference for local vendors?

No, but in person services are required.

Can we submit for some, but not all services being requested?

Yes, this is stated very clearly in the RFP.

What is the maximum hourly bill rate the school district is budgeted to pay for the requested services?  
What was last school years budget?

A maximum hourly bill rate has not been established. The District seeks best value and will select a vendor for the service based on best value. The budget varies depending on the service requested. This RFP was for multiple services.

Who are your current providers and what are their bill rates for the requested services?

You are welcome to submit an open records request for this information.

When awarded the solicitation to provide services, who would be the contact within the district to inquire about open roles for professions related to the RFP?

A Representative from the Special Education Department

How many hours a day can the contracted staff bill for?

Depends on the service that is requested. Most positions would be just a couple hours per day, while others may require a full day.

Why is the district utilizing an RFP for the services requested in this solicitation?

BISD spends more than \$50,000 annually for Special Education Services resulting in the need for the RFP.

How many vendors is the district currently utilizing for the services requested in this solicitation?

Minimum of 5 at a time.

How many vendors does the district expect to award to for the services requested in this solicitation?

Vendors that submit a complete proposal and meet qualifications will all be considered for award. We do not have a set amount or maximum number of vendors.

Can the district please provide incumbent information and current bill rates for contracts in place for similar services?

Current vendors typically bill per hour in a range of \$40 to \$125 per hour.

What is the expected amount of full-time, vendor supplied, contracted employees, needed during the 2024.-25 SY, broken down by modality?

- Will the district review other SPED service classifications if submitted with the vendor proposal?  
Yes, if the area is a need.
- Will the district accept SLP Clinical Fellows (CFYs)?  
Yes

If yes, is the district willing to provide the required supervision for these employees?

Yes, district employee or outside contractor will provide the supervision.

Who, from the district, will supervise contracted staff?

It will depend on the staff availability at time contractors are used.

Is the district willing to consider vendors who provide only staff, and do not provide test kits, protocols, and any printed materials including handouts?

Contractors should come prepared with needed materials.

Can the district please clarify which modalities for which test kits, protocols, etc., required?

We use all modality options.

Can the district please clarify transportation expectations (i.e. is the employee required for transporting anyone other than themselves)?

The contractor only transports themselves.

Can the district please clarify if any off-site services include in-home services?

No off site services.

Can the district provide details around how many times a non-performance penalty was implemented against a vendor in the last 5 years?

None at this time.

Optometrist (OD) and Ophthalmologist (MD/DO): These two job classes are different career paths, one with significantly more educational requirements than the other. Ophthalmology typically requires a significantly more elevated rate than Optometry. Is the district open to bidders separating these two categories for pricing due to the disparity of qualifications?

Yes

What is the historical usage (hours/year) for the following categories?

- Optometrist/Ophthalmologist – N/A
- Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist – N/A
- Otologist/Otolaryngologist – N/A
- What is the clinical schedule for the following categories?
  - Optometrist/Ophthalmologist -N/A
  - Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist- N/A
  - Otologist/Otolaryngologist- N/A

Physician categories are typically staffed as 1099 independent contractors, and are therefore, not eligible for workers compensation and unemployment benefits as they are self-employed. Does this staffing arrangement work with district's policies?

This RFP is not for physicians.

Can the district provide formal position descriptions for each of the categories listed in the RFP?

Job descriptions are online for open positions.

Is there a Medical Director or clinical authority currently in place as a direct employee of the district to whom agency staff would report?

N/A

Would any of the categories in the RFP be expected to function in a Medical Director capacity? If so: No

- Would any agency staff be required to write/own policies, procedures, or training for the district? No
- Would any agency staff be directly responsible for any employment determinations (i.e. corrective action, hiring, termination etc.)? No
- Is there a district employee with a clinical background to whom this person would report, or would this individual be the ultimate clinical authority for the program? N/A