



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

Peter McWalters
Commissioner

TO: Vendors of Internet Access Services
FROM: William Fiske, Coordinator of Educational Technology
DATE: October 1, 2006
SUBJECT: Request for Proposals – Internet Access for Schools and Libraries

RHODE ISLAND INTERNET ACCESS RFP

The Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (RIDE) is seeking Internet Access bids on behalf of a consortium that includes all schools, public and private, in the State of Rhode Island. The complete list of sites which need Internet Access is provided in a spreadsheet which will be provided. This spreadsheet is the list of sites, current line services, and potential line capacities for which we are seeking bids. The telecommunications lines over which Internet Access will be provided are the subject of a separate telecommunications line bid. Under this INTERNET ACCESS Request for Proposals, the RIDE is limiting its request to the provision of basic conduit access to the Internet, and certain related services integral to the reaching the public Internet. Service Providers for Internet Access need not be eligible telecommunications providers, but they must be prepared to provide installation and services to all sites for the various technologies which might be deployed at the eligible schools. Firewall services are also of interest to some consortium members. On-premise leased equipment for Internet Access may be of interest to consortium members. Internet Access services should include those necessary features associated with adequate functionality and performance. Such features could include Domain Name Service (registration), to assist use of the standard Internet naming convention; Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol, to assist with providing devices with a unique address; firewall services if necessary for operation of the network; Web Hosting; and e-mail services. Such access may include transport of digital communication using any Internet-based protocols, including encapsulation of data, video, or voice so long as this is the most cost effective way to access the Internet.

HOW TO APPLY:

Telephone (401)222-4600 **Fax** (401)222-6178 **TTY** 800-745-5555 **Voice** 800-745-6575

Application - Page 1 of 2 - Rhode Island Internet Access RFP

The Board of Regents does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, sex, sexual orientation, race, religion, national origin, or disability

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Your response should be in the form of a price sheet illustrating the cost for Internet Access at all available bandwidths, describe the technologies used, and note other pertinent information describing any services that are integral or value added to your Internet Access. Be advised that services that are not integral to providing the basic internet Access will not be used in the evaluation of your offer in comparison to other offers.

The original and 4 copies of the completed application must be submitted no later than November 15, 2006 to:

Rhode Island Department of Education
Shepard Building
Attn: William Fiske
255 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903

Phone: (401) 222-8450

NOTE: Do not attach any additional support materials, tapes, videos, appendices, etc. They will not be considered in evaluating the merits of your application.