

Questions/Concerns FY25 Deaf and Hearing Impaired Bid

Are tele therapy services an acceptable delivery model? No
Are electronic signatures, such as DocuSign, acceptable? Yes
Who are the current vendors providing services? Deaf Net
Are your current vendors meeting your needs? Yes
What is the anticipated award date? Tentative date is June 11,2024
How will vendors be notified of award? Email
Do you anticipate awarding one or multiple vendors? 1
What are the current hourly bill rates by vendor? \$60 per hour
If we provide per eval rates, does the district require vendors to provide all of the assessments? N/A
Is the vendor expected to have a clinic or local office? No
Will services be provided on site or virtually or a hybrid of both for the 24/25 SY? On site at this time
Will assigned candidates have access to materials, supplies, equipment, evaluation kits, and protocols provided by your schools? N/A
Will assigned candidates have access to computers/laptops and printers provided by your schools? N/A
Do you require resumes of potential contracted candidates to be included in our submission? No
Do you require the candidate's license verification to be included in our submission? No
Is it the school's expectation to hire the candidates we will include in our proposal response if we get awarded? No
How many candidates/resumes will you need per discipline?
Can pricing increase during the term of the contract? No
Do contractors have to travel between schools during the workday? If so, are they required to clock out during travel between schools OR are they able to stay clocked in during travel between schools? No
Does the school district reimburse for mileage? ACPS pays administrative fees incurred for travel.
Does the District plan to issue RFPs for other related services? OT and PT
Do you have a preference for how we bind our bids, i.e. 3-ring binder, binder clip, stapled, etc? I prefer staple- no binding because I have to break down for binder, lol
Who is the Incumbent? Deaf Net
Historically, what has been ACPS's biggest challenge in covering assignments? Consistency of staff
Can ACPS provide historical data from the past year on
The total number of hours of services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The number of all-day on-call assignments (interpreters scheduled 7 or more hours per day on the same days each week) ○ The number of assignments that were 3 hours or less ○ The number of assignments that were 7 hours or more ○ The number of hours of evening/weekend work

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- The number of short-notice assignments (less than 5 business days' notice)
- The number of short-notice assignments (less than 1 business days' notice)

If there is no historical data, can ACPS provide a projected number of interpretation hours expected? **Currently 30 hours per week, however this amount could change.**

Concerning the bid delivery, which specifies vendors are to "Hand Deliver or mail two copies" - There has been a large push by the Federal Government (American business/educational institutions, etc) to reduce carbon footprint wherever possible, and most Government agencies now accept electronic submissions of proposals. With all the required documents and multiple copies from multiple vendors this is in direct conflict with the Government's policy of minimizing the waste of resources such as trees, and the unnecessary emission of CO2 for vehicles for those delivering the proposals to require hand delivery. Will ACPS accept electronic copies for the submission of a vendor's bid? **Yes**

The solicitation appears to be silent on interpreter qualifications and/or certifications. Interpreters who are not nationally certified have no obligation to adhere to the RID Code of Professional Conduct (CPC), therefore ACPS will experience more problems with services provided by these interpreters caused by lower skill levels and unprofessional behavior, leaving students struggling to understand and/or be understood by less qualified interpreters. Requiring only nationally certified interpreters will resolve most concerns in both areas. Will ACPS revise the requirements to state that interpreters must be nationally certified? **ACPS prefers that interpreters be nationally certified.**

In Miscellaneous Provisions, it states that "All Employees will have a background check maintained by the company and made available to the BOE." Most interpreters who work with the federal government have gone through a full and extensive government background investigation through OPM (e-QIP), which includes fingerprinting, criminal records check, credit checks and more; and have obtained suitability and government badges. Will ACPS offer reciprocity to those interpreters who possess the federal government ID badge (which is only provided after passing this suitability process) as evidence of the criminal background checks? **It will be the vendor's responsibility to ensure that candidates have passed a background check. A federal background check would be acceptable.**

Component 2, Continuing Education, is asking for interpreters to have continuing education training related to working with children with disabilities. Nationally certified interpreters are required to take 80 hours of continuing education units, preferably in the subject matter in which they will be working. In addition, most experienced interpreters have worked in the field of educational interpreting and have the knowledge and skills to work with children with disabilities. Will acknowledgement from interpreters that they have kept up with their CEUs as well as experience working with children with disabilities be acceptable to ACPS? **It will be the responsibility of the vendor to ensure that candidates have the required CEUs.**