

Questions for IFB #251-24-228– K-12 Science Curriculum

Reference	Vendor Question	Answers
<p>Note: The new science standards for North Carolina may be viewed via the link below. https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1iFGnI4ugvt180DJKQ2m5tkdQLiQjoq9k</p>		
IFB Section: References; Page 8	Can you please clarify what you mean by the following requirement: Solution is deployed in a production environment	The vendor's curriculum/solution shall be deployed in a real-time setting where the latest versions of software, products, or updates are pushed into live, usable operation for the intended end users.
IFB Sections: References and Award Criteria; Pages 8 & 9	On page 8, it states references should have a duration of one (1) year. However, on page 9 within the Award Criteria section, it states that each reference should demonstrate a record of quality work spanning at least three years. Can you please clarify if references need to demonstrate work for a duration of 1 year, or 3 years?	The vendor shall include 3 general references demonstrating a minimum of 3-years history. The specific solution being proposed by vendors (if proposing an existing product) should demonstrate a minimum 1-year history. The references for the specific curriculum being proposed may be different than those that are general references.
	Is the district only interested in programs that are being specifically developed for the district? Would pre-existing supplemental science text and materials be considered?	This is a possibility. Please submit your proposal and considerations will be made.
	Are you interested in programs that do not cover the full grade span (e.g., K-5 only)?	As stated, submit your proposal, and identify what grade levels they cover.
Technical Specifications	The system must allow for reporting of student progress at various levels (i.e., classroom teachers can run class level reports, principal or district admin can run school level or district level reports). Is reporting mandatory to submit a program?	Reporting will be a part of the rubric in the decision-making process.
Cost Proposal	Please provide the number of science teachers and students for grades 6-8 and 9-12 to allow us to prepare an informative cost proposal.	<p>Use this link to identify the number of students. The estimated class size is 27 for elementary classrooms and 32 for middle, 38 for high. All classrooms vary in size, use these data to make estimations.</p> <p>The number of science teachers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All elementary teachers, likely serve as science teacher • All middle school students will receive science instruction. Approximate number of teachers are: <u>350</u> • Approximately <u>150</u> biology teachers

Cost Proposal (kits)	How many sections of Biology do High school teachers teach?	Sections are not relevant. Please address costs for 1 class set and we will make the necessary adjustments.
Cost Proposal (kits)	How many sections do middle school teachers teach (6-8)?	Sections are not relevant. Please address costs for 1 class set and we will make the necessary adjustments.
Cost Proposal – Professional Learning	Since you are requesting an overall cost of the resource for a 12-month period, are you requesting only a 1 year “Professional Learning” initial training? A One year initial AND on-going training, and more than one year training? (from the RFP - professional development costs shall be broken out separately. Offers initial and ongoing training both on-site and virtual. All Professional Learning shall be quoted as a separate item on the cost proposal.	<p>The contract cycle for the district is for 1 year.</p> <p>Depending upon the product that might be awarded, decisions will be made.</p> <p>We will look at a professional learning plan that will align with effective implementation. Vendors should make a proposal and we will make decisions about what will best serve the district.</p> <p>Professional learning takes place in many ways and throughout implementation- how this takes place is up to the district. Vendors should make a proposal based upon what effective implementation should look like.</p>
Purpose and Background, Page 3	Can you please provide the approximate number of students and teachers by grade level that will be served through this IFB awarded contract?	<p>Use this link to identify the number of students. The estimated class size is 27 for elementary classrooms and 32 for middle, 38 for high. All classrooms vary in size, use these data to make estimations.</p> <p>The number of science teachers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All elementary teachers, likely serve as science teacher • All middle school students will receive science instruction. Approximate number of teachers are: __350__ • Approximately __150__ biology teachers
Purpose and Background, Page 3	What K-12 Science Curriculum is currently in place in WCPSS?	These are district resources
Scope of Work, Page 3	Is WCPSS seeking vendors to design a specific program or will WCPSS accept a program that is currently available?	WCPSS will vet and review programs that are currently available that align with new state standards.
Minimum Qualifications for the Program, Page 6 “Vendor will include a plan for how the resources meet the diverse strengths and needs of our students.”	What does WCPSS mean by “Plan”?	There needs to be explicit detail provided about how the instructional resource meets the needs of diverse learners and how this is accomplished.

Taxes, Page 10	Can you please provide the tax rate to be included for WCPSS?	The tax rate is 7.25%. For comparison purposes, please make sure any tax is broken out on the cost proposal as a separate line item.
Required Submittals, Page 10-11	The IFB cites five (5) items to be included in the response. Are vendors to include the response to the SOW and Minimum Requirements under cited section 5. Relevant Experience and Methodology or can additional sections be added to the response submission that include the descriptive literature and response to the SOW?	The five items are requirements. Additional sections can certainly be added as needed.
	Can we provide a comprehensive price quote, with all the support resources available for WCPSS, and still be considered if the district chooses to pare down the offering?	This is up to the vendor. You may also want to provide an "a la carte" option.
	Will the materials review rubric weigh more heavily on digital resources or a combo of print/digital?	The content provided is the primary focus of the rubric. We will consider digital/print as a component of the overall resource.
	Can you provide a district average (ballpark) of class size per teacher on average for elementary, middle school, and high school?	<p>Use this link to identify the number of students. The estimated class size is 27 for elementary classrooms and 32 for middle, 38 for high. All classrooms vary in size, use these data to make estimations.</p> <p>The number of science teachers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All elementary teachers, likely serve as science teacher • All middle school students will receive science instruction. Approximate number of teachers are: _350____ • Approximately ____150____ biology teachers, and students
	Can you provide an estimated number of teachers per grade level district wide?	<p>Use this link to identify the number of students. The estimated class size is 27 for elementary classrooms and 32 for middle, 38 for high. All classrooms vary in size, use these data to make estimations.</p> <p>The number of science teachers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All elementary teachers, likely serve as science teacher • All middle school students will receive science instruction. Approximate number of teachers are: _350____ • Approximately ____150____ biology teachers, and students

	Will district wide training be structured through the IRT's at each school building for K-5 or through district wide PD days for ALL teachers next August?	Professional learning plan will be designed and deployed based upon the resource(s) that are awarded. The mode of deployment will be designed after we know the breadth and scope of the needed professional learning.
	Will that training be mandatory for all teachers?	Depends on the resource, what is recommended, what is needed for implementation.
	Would there be some initial implementation and training in the Spring of 2024?	Possibly.
Scope of Work, pg. 3	Would Wake County be interested in reviewing any Advanced Placement course materials?	Not with this IFB.
Samples, pg. 15	Will material samples be required (digital and/or print)? And, if so, how should we address those samples?	If you would like to share print materials, the district will review them as well as digital materials. You may submit them along with the proposal. If they are sent separately, note in the proposal that samples are being sent, and address them the same way as the proposal response. The package should have the word "SAMPLE" written on the outside of the package.
Terms and Conditions, pg. 14	Should the need arise, will negotiation to the specifics of your terms be considered? And in what format would you prefer we submit any deviations	Deviations to WCPSS Terms & Conditions are handled on a case-by-case basis. Any deviations should be submitted with vendor's proposal. No specific format is required.
IFB Award Criteria, pg. 9	Are the four Award Criteria in order of significance from most important to least important or is each of them weighted differently, and if so, how?	Award criteria are not listed in any particular order.
IFB Highlighted Box, pg. 10	It states a Template is provided for use in responses, but it doesn't state where that template is available. Is there a link to that template or are Vendors supposed to create their own template/response form?	The specific forms listed in the Required Submittals section on page 10 are the only templates. Vendors may provide all other relevant information and their cost proposal in their own format and using their own documents.
IFB Required Submittals, #5, pg.11 and Award Criteria #2, pg. 9	Is the relevant experience & methodology submittal (#5, pg. 11) considered to be the same as what is defined as Quality of Service in Award Criteria (#2, pg. 9)? If not, where is relevant experience and methodology defined?	Yes. It refers to the Quality of Service, and how that is demonstrated in the vendor's proposal.