

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PART I: GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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**BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
PART I: GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

1. AN INVITATION TO BID

- a. Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) invites all interested and qualified bidders to bid on all proposals in accordance with directions available in the Office of Purchasing, 6901 Charles Street, Building "E", 1st Floor, Towson, Maryland 21204.
- b. In accordance with State law, all bids having a potential award value of \$25,000 or more shall be advertised for at least two (2) weeks before bids are to be filed.
- c. For the purpose and clarity of this document only, "BCPS" will mean the Baltimore County Public Schools and/or the Board of Education of Baltimore County. Also, for the purpose and clarity of this document the word "Bidder" will mean any reliable and interested broker, vendor, contractor and/or manufacturer who want to bid this contract.
- d. Only authorized dealers may bid on requested equipment. At the discretion of BCPS, a certificate, executed by the manufacturer, may be requested stating that the bidder is an authorized agent of the manufacturer and is duly authorized to service and maintain the equipment
- e. These specifications are intended to cover the various types of purchases of equipment, materials, supplies or services as shown to any or to each of the various public schools, or to any designated warehouse or warehouses in Baltimore County, Maryland whichever is specified, in quantities to be determined subsequent to the bid opening. There are approximately 200 schools and offices in BCPS.
- f. The Bidder will not be allowed to offer more than one price on each item even though he may feel that he has two or more types or styles that will meet specifications. Bidder must determine which to offer. IF SAID BIDDER SHOULD SUBMIT MORE THAN ONE PRICE ON ANY ITEM, ALL PRICES FOR THAT WILL BE REJECTED.
- g. Where provision is made on the proposal form for bidding items on an individual, group or aggregate basis, the award will be made on whichever basis is in the best interest of the BCPS. When an aggregate bid is requested, the unit prices for each item shall be identified on the proposal sheet for accounting purposes. The unit prices in an aggregate bid should be consistent with the total quoted price for an aggregate bid. No bid on a combination of items will be permitted except as provided for on the proposal sheet and/or in Part II, Specifications.
- h. BCPS shall receive sealed proposals until date and time indicated on bid cover. Bids must be delivered to the Office of Purchasing at the above address where they will be opened and publicly read at a stated time. Bids must be delivered in sealed opaque envelopes and clearly marked on the outside: Name of Bidder, Due Date and Time, Bid Number and Bid Title.

- i. Brand name and model numbers are offered as a reference for bidders as to the style, size, weight, and other characteristics of the item(s) in the specifications. The use of such brand names should not be interpreted as the exclusive brand desired unless so stated. The determination of the acceptability and/or the criteria for acceptability, of an alternate is solely the responsibility of the Office of Purchasing. (Refer to Part II, Specifications.)
- j. The product offered by the bidder shall be new, not used, and the latest version of the product. Should a product be discontinued and/or upgraded during the course of the contract, the bidder shall offer to BCPS a new alternate product meeting and/or exceeding the established specifications, under the same terms, conditions and prices as the originally offered item.
- k. The successful bidder, after award and before manufacture and/or shipment, may be required to submit working drawings or detailed descriptive data identified as acceptable to BCPS, which provide sufficient data to enable BCPS to judge the vendor's compliance with the specifications.

2. BID PREPARATION, PROPOSAL SHEET, BID OPENING

- a. Bidder must submit one (1) original, with original signatures, of their proposal using BCPS proposal forms, unless otherwise directed. The bidder shall retain one (1) copy of the bid for their files. Bids must be signed and submitted by an authorized representative of the company. Each bidder may attach a letter of explanation to the bid, if so desired, to provide an explanation of any detail(s) in the bid.
- b. Signed bids should be returned in a sealed envelope. BCPS shall not accept any facsimile transmission to agents, representatives or employees as meeting the requirement of the sealed bid. A facsimile document shall not be considered a valid response to the bid specification.
 - 1. Each bid must show the full business address, telephone number, and fax number of the bidder and be signed by the person or persons legally authorized to sign contracts. All correspondence concerning the bid and contract, including Notice of Award, copy of Contract, and Purchase Order, will be mailed or delivered to the address shown on the bid in the absence of written instructions from the bidder or vendor to the contrary.
 - 2. Bids by partnerships must be signed with the partnership name by one of the members of the partnership or by an authorized representative, followed by the signature and designation of the person signing, who shall also state the names of the individuals composing the partnership.
 - 3. Bids by corporations must be signed with the name of the corporation, followed by the signature and designation of the officer having authority to sign. When requested satisfactory evidence of authority of the officer signing in behalf of the corporation shall be furnished. Anyone signing the bid as agent shall file satisfactory evidence of their authority to do so.

4. Award Bidders shall be required under Article 56, Section 270(4), Annotated Code of Maryland, to provide proof of Certificate of Registry and must be licensed to do business in the State of Maryland and must provide a tax certification number. Visit the following website to ensure compliance: <http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/charter.html>
- c. All bidders shall be required to complete the certificates and/or affidavits, which are, incorporated into the proposal pages of this specification. Such documents are required by local, state or federal funding agencies of BCPS as part of the bidding process. The documents may include: Anti-Bribery Affidavit, Debarment Certificate, Sales Tax Certification, Small Business Enterprise and Certified Minority Business Enterprise Utilization Affidavit and when applicable, Asbestos Free Certification.
- d. Bid Opening
 1. At the public opening of the bids, the bidder's names and their prices will be read and posted.
 2. Complete evaluation of the proposals will not take place at the bid opening and no indication of award will be made. BCPS reserves the right to review all responses and analyze the results of the bidding process. A final recommendation(s) shall be prepared for review and approval by the Board of Education of Baltimore County.
 3. The recommended award will be available in the Office of Purchasing after the completed evaluation.
 4. Proposals will be available for review by the general public after Award of Contract by the Board of Education of Baltimore County. Upon acceptance and approval of the bid(s) by the Board of Education, a binding contract shall be established between BCPS and the bidder(s). Bidders may contact the Office of Purchasing to arrange a date and time to review bid documents.
- e. Bid Preparation Fees: BCPS will not be responsible for any costs incurred by a bidder in preparing and submitting a proposal in response to this bid request.

3. **BONDING**

- a. Bid Bonds may be required. Refer to Part II: Specifications--General Requirements.
- b. Performance Bonds and/or payment bonds are required on all bids meeting the following conditions. The successful bidder(s) of this contract may be required to submit either one or both of the following two (2) bonds to the Office of Purchasing within ten (10) days of receipt of the Notice of Award and in accordance with the terms stated below. The cost of the performance bond and/or payment bond will be borne by the bidder(s) in all instances. Bonds shall be made out in the name of the "**Board of Education of Baltimore County**".

They shall be provided to the **Office of Purchasing, Contracting Assistant, 6901 Charles Street, Building "E", 1st Floor, Towson, Maryland 21204.**

1. Performance Bond shall be required for contracts and/or awards over \$30,000 and all construction contracts in the amount of 100% of the contract price to cover faithful performance of the contract.
 2. Payment Bond (construction contracts only) shall be required for contracts and/or awards over \$30,000 and shall be required in the amount of 100% of the contract price as security for the payment of all persons performing labor and furnishing materials in connection therewith.
- c. Certified checks in the amounts stated above will be accepted in lieu of the performance bond and payment bond only upon prior approval of the Manager, Office of Purchasing. If checks are approved for acceptance in lieu of either bond, they should be in the same amount as these bonds; be separate checks; and should clearly designate the purpose - i.e., performance of payment.
1. Certified checks, if submitted, will be deposited in the BCPS bank account(s). Upon successful completion of the contract, check(s) will be drawn upon the Board's bank account(s) for the full amounts of both certified checks. Certified checks shall be made out in the name of the **"Board of Education of Baltimore County"**. They shall be provided to the **Office of Purchasing, Contracting Assistant, 6901 Charles Street, Building "E", 1st Floor, Towson, Maryland 21204.**
- d. Bonds must be underwritten by a surety company authorized to transact surety business in the State of Maryland.
- e. Upon receipt and approval of the performance bond and/or payment bond or the certified checks, an official purchase order will be issued and the contract initiated.
- f. A letter of credit drawn on a bank with a local branch may be used in place of bonds. Letters of credit shall be made out in the name of the **"Board of Education of Baltimore County"**. They shall be provided to the **Office of Purchasing, Contracting Assistant, 6901 Charles Street, Building "E", 1st Floor, Towson, Maryland 21204.**

4. COMPLIANCE WITH SPECIFICATIONS

- a. The bidder shall abide by and comply with the true intent of the specifications and not take advantage of any unintentional error or omission, but shall fully complete every part as the true intent and meaning of the drawings and specifications, as decided by the Controller, Division of Business Services.
- b. Whenever mention is made of any article, material, or workmanship to be in accordance with laws, ordinances, building codes, underwriter's code, A.S.M.E. regulations, or similar expressions, the requirements of these laws, ordinances, etc., shall be construed as to the minimum requirements of these specifications.

- c. Where the requirements of the specifications call for higher grade and are not in conflict with the laws, ordinances, etc., the specifications shall govern.
- d. Where the requirements of the laws, ordinances, etc., are mandatory, they shall govern.
- e. In case of any apparent conflict between the specifications and such laws, ordinances, etc., the vendor shall call the attention of the Purchasing Manager/Agent to such conflict for a decision before proceeding with any work.

5. DEVIATIONS TO SPECIFICATIONS

Any deviation from the specifications must be noted in detail by the bidder, in writing, at the time of submittal of the formal bid. The absence of a written list of specification deviations at the time of submittal of the bid will hold the bidder strictly accountable to BCPS to the specification as written. Any deviation by the vendor from the specifications, without prior documented approval, will be grounds for rejection of the goods and/or equipment when delivered.

6. BID PRICES

- a. Any bidder may withdraw his bid submission prior to the bid opening date and time specified. After this date and time, BCPS has a period of one-hundred twenty (120) calendar days to issue a Purchase Order or have the award of contract approved by the Board of Education, upon which, the bidder agrees to retain all prices and requirements of the bid until the completion of the contract period.
- b. Unit Prices must be rounded off to no more than two (2) decimal places unless so specified in Part II, Specifications.
- c. All unit prices on items bid shall be completed on the proposal sheet(s). A "NO BID" notation must be completed for each item not being bid. In case of error in extension of prices in the bid, the unit price shall govern.
- d. All prices bid shall include all delivery charges.
- e. Cash discounts will not be taken into consideration in determining a contract award. ALL DISCOUNTS, OTHER THAN PROMPT PAYMENT, TO BE INCLUDED IN BID PRICE.
- f. BCPS reserves the right to accept price reductions from the award vendor during the term of this contract to occur no less than thirty (30) days after award of contract.
- g. TAXES: BCPS is exempt from the payment of the Maryland Sales Tax and Federal Excise Tax. Prices quoted shall not include State Sales and Use Tax or Federal Excise Tax. Exemption certificates will be furnished upon request
 - 1. BCPS Tax Exempt Number is 30001110.

7. SAMPLES, CATALOGS AND CATALOG CUTS

- a. Upon request, a properly tagged sample shall be submitted by each bidder before the time of the bid opening. The tag on the sample shall indicate the item number, the name of the company submitting the sample and the bid number.
- b. BCPS will not be responsible for any samples not picked up within 30 days of the notification of bidders to do so. Samples may be retained by BCPS until bidders are notified to remove them. Bidders agree that BCPS will incur no liability for samples which are damaged, destroyed, or consumed in testing processes. Requested samples are to be delivered to the address given on the bid cover.
- c. **SPECIAL SAMPLES WITH CERTIFIED APPROVAL:** Some successful bidders shall be required to furnish two (2) samples of each product awarded with an affidavit stating that the chemical composition of the sample submitted is identical with the composition tested prior to the bid and all remain unchanged during the period of the contract. This requirement shall be part of the specifications of the product or products requested.
- d. Catalogue cuts and descriptive data shall be attached to the original copy of the bid, where applicable.
- e. Failure to submit the above information is sufficient grounds for rejection of the bid.

8. BIDDING PROCEDURE AND BID AWARDS

- a. The bid specifications shall vary with each individual bid issued and the award shall be made in accordance with the specifications in Part II, which identify an individual line item, group bid or an aggregate basis.
- b. Wherever BCPS indicates the unit of measure required for bidding purposes, BCPS shall not recalculate the bidder's price(s) if it is based on a different unit of measure than that indicated in the contract. All bids for the item(s) will be rejected if this requirement is not met. However, in the best interest of BCPS, the Manager, Office of Purchasing may have the option and latitude to recalculate the bids.
- c. BCPS will not accept any proposals with bidder escalator clauses, unbalanced figures or irregular features.
- d. While these specifications are intended to describe the principal features of the items bid, bidders are notified that the proposed items will be evaluated for compliance with detailed specifications, and also for other factors such as serviceability, functional suitability, workmanship, safety in use and overall product quality where acceptability may be determined on the basis of professional judgment and educational application. All bids shall be evaluated on all factors involved, i.e., quality and service.

- e. BCPS reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and re-advertise for other bids. Bids shall be awarded to the lowest responsive bidder with consideration of the quantities, delivery schedule, purpose of the goods/services, competency and responsibility of the bidder and the ability of the bidder to perform satisfactorily.
- f. In the event of tie bids, where all other factors such as past performance on purchases/contracts or bidder's service or delivery record are considered comparable, the award(s) shall be made to one of the tie bidders in the following order of preference: the Baltimore County based Minority and/or Small Business vendor, the Baltimore County based vendor, the out-of-county but Maryland based Minority and/or Small Business vendor, the out of county but Maryland based vendor, the out-of-state based Minority and/or Small Business vendor and the out-of state based vendor in that order of preference. In the event a tie bid still exists, the Coordinator of Purchasing or their designee shall conduct a coin toss for selection of the potential Award Bidder(s) or seek a geographical, proportional or divided award of contract whichever is in the best interest of the school system.
- g. Bidders or their authorized representatives are expected to fully inform themselves as to the conditions, requirements, and specifications before submitting bids: failure to do so will be at the bidder's own risk and he cannot secure relief on the plea of error. Neither law nor regulations make allowance for errors of omission or commission on the part of bidders.
- h. The bidder shall refer to "Part II: Specifications" for details regarding the Term of Contract.
- i. Upon evaluation of all responses, a recommendation for the award of contract will be presented to the Board of Education of Baltimore County for approval. Upon approval of the award of contract, the bidder(s) shall be notified either by mail, telephone, facsimile or purchase order of their award(s). When applicable, a BCPS contract document shall also be issued.
- j. American Disabilities Act: The Office of Purchasing routinely opens all sealed bids in a public setting identified within the language of each specification. If a prospective bidder has special needs, the bidder shall contact the Office of Purchasing at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the published bid opening date and time to arrange for such services.
 - 1. The Office of Purchasing is located at 6901 Charles Street, Building "E", 1st Floor, Towson, Maryland 21204, which is accessible to the disabled.

9. ANNULMENTS AND RESERVATIONS

- a. BCPS reserves the right to reject bids for any and all of the items and/or to waive technical defects, if in its judgment, the interest of BCPS shall so require.
- b. BCPS reserves the right to order the said equipment, materials, supplies or services as described within the specifications, and also reserves the right not to order any items(s) within the specification.

- c. BCPS reserves the right to annul any contract, if in its opinion there shall be a failure, at any time, to perform faithfully any of its stipulations, or in case of any willful attempt to impose upon BCPS, materials, products and/or workmanship inferior to that required by the vendor, and any action taken in pursuance of this latter stipulation shall not affect or impair any rights or claims of BCPS to damages for the breach of any covenant of the contract by the Award Bidder(s).
- d. Should the Award Bidder(s) fail to comply with the conditions of this contract or fail to complete the required work within the time stipulated in the contract, except for circumstances beyond their control, including but not limited to Act of GOD, war, flood, governmental restrictions or the inability to obtain transportation, BCPS reserves the right to purchase the required articles in the open market, or to complete the required work at the expense of the Award Bidder(s).
- e. Should the Award Bidder be prevented from furnishing any item or items, or from completing the required work included in the contract, by reason of such failures caused by circumstances beyond their control, including but not limited to Act of GOD, war, flood, governmental action or the inability to obtain transportation, BCPS reserves the right to withdraw such items or required work from the operation of this contract without incurring further liabilities.

10. **APPEAL PROCESS**

- a. The BCPS Office of Purchasing intends the appeal process to resolve contract disputes in a manner consistent with the effort to promote fair and open competition. Any bidder objecting to the recommendation for award or award of contract may appeal the action to the Office of Purchasing by formally notifying the designated Purchasing Agent no later than seven (7) calendar days after the basis for appeal is known. The bidder shall have an opportunity to meet with the Purchasing Agent to present the issues. A formal written response to the appeal shall be issued by the Purchasing Agent in a timely manner.
 - 1. For an appeal of recommendation of award of contract, the decision of the Purchasing Agent shall be reviewed by the Manager, Office of Purchasing. The Manager, Office of Purchasing may approve, modify or disapprove the decision of the Purchasing Agent. In disapproving the decision, the appeal will be remanded to the Purchasing Agent for resolution. In all other cases, the decision of the Manager, Office of Purchasing is the final action by BCPS. The decision shall include a statement of the decision, with supporting material. Bidders receiving a decision on an appeal of recommendation of award shall forfeit the right to continue the appeal process of the award of contract.
 - 2. In the event a bidder determines cause to appeal an award of contract which has been approved by the Board of Education of Baltimore County, said action must be filed in writing to the Executive Director, Business Services. This action shall occur not later than seven days from the date of award of contract. The Executive Director, Business Services reserves the right to meet with the Bidder as part of the appeal investigation. A

formal written decision will be issued by the Executive Director, Business Services in a timely manner.

- b. Should the Bidder wish to pursue the appeal of award of contract further, administrative procedures have been established for such action, which will be outlined at the time of the event.
- c. Appeal of Termination for Non-Appropriation of Funds of for loss of Appropriated Funds: NONE
- d. Any costs incurred in the appeal process will be borne by the bidder(s) in all instances.

11. DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS

- a. All materials, supplies and equipment for BCPS shall be delivered F.O.B. Destination. See Part 1, Specifications: "Section 6, Bid Prices", and "Section 14, Billing and Payment Discounts".
- b. All school deliveries shall be made during the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. local time and only on regular school days, except where noted by Purchasing Office.
- c. All warehouse deliveries shall be made during the hours of 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. on all regular scheduled school days, except where noted by Purchasing Office.
- d. All deliveries shall be made inside school, warehouse and office buildings.
 - 1. Special Instructions for: delivery dates, delivery of heavy equipment, materials or machinery requiring special handling, to schools/sites under construction and/or renovation, or refrigerated goods will be defined in "Part II, Specifications" of each bid.
- e. The Award Bidder(s) shall be held responsible for and shall be required to make good at their expense, any and all damage done or caused by their employees in the execution of the contract.
- f. The Award Bidder(s) shall be held responsible for clean-up and removal of all packing cartons, boxes, crates, packing materials, etc., from the premises after delivery and set up of any furniture and equipment.
- g. PACKING:
 - 1. All materials must be securely packed in accordance with accepted trade practices.
 - 2. BCPS purchase order number must be plainly visible on the exterior of each container.

3. A packing slip and/or delivery ticket shall be included in each shipment. This ticket shall contain the following information: Purchase Order Number, Vendor Name, Name of the Article, Item Number, Quantity and Delivery Location, (Example: ABC Elementary School Library). Failure to comply with this condition may be considered sufficient reason to refuse to accept the goods.

12. INSPECTIONS

- a. The Coordinator of Purchasing/Purchasing Agent reserves the right to have inspectors on the premises of the manufacturer during the process of manufacture of any products being furnished under this contract for as long as may be considered necessary by BCPS. All expenses of the inspectors shall be borne by BCPS.
- b. The presence of the inspectors at the site of manufacture of the products shall not relieve the vendors of responsibility for faulty workmanship of materials which may be discovered at any time after delivery and prior to final acceptance in accordance with the specifications. In case of factory inspection of items being manufactured for BCPS, every facility shall be afforded inspectors by the manufacturers for the prosecution of their work.

13. GUARANTEE AND WARRANTIES

- a. The vendor shall unconditionally guarantee the materials and workmanship of all equipment, furniture and materials furnished by the vendor, its subcontractors or suppliers for a period of at least TWO (2) YEARS from the date of acceptance and/or substantial completion of the installation by BCPS. If the manufacturer warrants equipment for a period longer than two years the vendor shall pass through this time frame to BCPS. All warranty work shall be accomplished to the satisfaction of the owner within SEVENTY TWO (72) HOURS of notification of the work to be done.
 1. Furniture and Equipment: If, within the guaranteed period, any defects or signs of deterioration are noted, which in the opinion of BCPS are due to faulty design and installation, workmanship or materials upon notification, the vendor, at their expense, shall repair or adjust the equipment or parts to correct the condition, or he shall replace the part or entire unit to the complete satisfaction of BCPS. These repairs and/or replacement shall be made at such times as will be designated by BCPS to avoid any interruption to the instructional programs.
 2. Office Equipment: Physical service response time by Award Bidder for all service calls shall not be greater than four (4) working hours from when request is made by BCPS. "Service response time" shall be defined as the number of working hours it takes the on-site technician to begin actual work on the equipment from the time that the service request is made by BCPS. Loaner equipment shall be supplied; free of charge, during the warranty period if the office equipment cannot be repaired within three working days.

- b. Certain pieces of equipment, machinery, and refrigeration will require guarantees other than detailed above. Refer to Part II, Specifications for requirements on specific equipment.
- c. The vendor must act as the manufacturer's agent for all warranty claims.
- d. In the event the vendor fails to repair, replace, adjust, rectify, remedy, correct or complete the items, defects, deterioration, faulty design or installation and/or unworkmanlike performance, then BCPS may have the right to secure the services of another vendor to correct the work or complete the performance required by the award of this bid. The vendor shall be solely responsible for any and all cost, expenses and monies due the new contractor plus ten percent (10%) for BCPS to reimburse the Board for the expenses of obtaining a new contractor.

14. BILLING AND PAYMENT DISCOUNTS

ALL INVOICE MUST INCLUDE THE BCPS CONTRACT NUMBER

- a. All invoices are to be submitted in duplicate and mailed in accordance with instructions as shown on purchase order (unless otherwise noted). A third copy (Delivery Ticket) shall be sent with the material to the appropriate location at the time of delivery.

Invoice Mailing Address:
Baltimore County Public Schools
Office of Accounting
6901 Charles Street, Building "E"
Towson, Maryland 21204

- b. Invoices will be returned for correction unless they contain the following information: Item Numbers; Description of Item; Quantity; Unit Price extensions and total. Each invoice shall identify the BCPS Purchase Order Number, and the items shall be listed in the same order as on the Proposal and/or Purchase Order.
- c. Payment in full will only be made upon final acceptance of items as shown on Purchase Order. Partial payments may be paid if partial shipments have been made.
- d. Standard BCPS payment terms are net 30 days. Payments made directly by BCPS will be made within 30 days from invoice date or receipt of goods, whichever is later. Payments made by any other agency may not meet these terms.
- e. BCPS will not pay freight bills. Delivery shall be F.O.B. to the destination(s) as noted on Purchase Order.

15. LAWS, REGULATIONS AND PERMITS

- a. The bidder shall comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, ordinances and regulations pertaining to work under their charge, and shall, at their expense, procure any permits which may be required.
- b. The bidder shall comply with the national safety standards as detailed in Section 17.
- c. The bidder certifies that their firm adheres to or follows non-discriminatory practices with respect to the employment and promotion of personnel without regard to color, creed, race, sex, or national origin.

16. INSURANCE

- a. In the event the vendor, as part of the award is responsible for installation and/or product demonstration, the vendor will be responsible for hiring personnel to perform such services at their own costs. Such personnel will be considered employees of the vendor and are under their control and direction. The vendor shall maintain Worker's Compensation in the statutory amount in accordance with the laws of the state in which the work of this contract is to be performed.
- b. The vendor shall also maintain Employer's Liability Insurance with a limit of at least \$100,000 for each occurrence to cover diseases and injuries excluded under the Worker's Compensation Act.
- c. Prior to the commencement of any work, the vendor may be required to submit a certificate of insurance evidencing Worker's Compensation and Employer Liability Insurance in the amounts required above. This certificate will indicate the amounts of insurance carried by the vendor of the following types: Comprehensive General Liability Insurance, Comprehensive Automobile Insurance, Excess Liability Insurance, and any other insurance coverage maintained by the vendor. The Certificates of Insurance will state that such insurance is in force and cannot be canceled or released except upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to the Board of Education of Baltimore County.
 - 1. The Certificate of Insurance must name the Board of Education of Baltimore County as an additional insured.
- d. All required insurance coverage must be underwritten by insurers allowed to do business in the State of Maryland and acceptable to the Board. The insurers must also have a policyholders' rating of AB@ or better, and a financial size of AClass VII@ or better in the latest evaluation by A.M. Best Company. The Board hereby grants specific approval for the acquisition of workers compensation and employer's liability insurance from the Injured Worker's Insurance Fund of Maryland.

17. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- a. The bidder/vendor shall provide all equipment and machinery furnished and delivered to BCPS complying with the Safety regulations as required by OSHA and the Maryland State Safety Health Act known as MOSHA.
- b. The vendor shall sign the safety section if attached in the bid proposal certifying the regulations for the type equipment furnished shall meet all regulations applying to this type equipment meeting the CFR-1910 MOSHA Standard.
- c. The vendor shall submit Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for all items awarded to that vendor provided under the terms of this proposal in accordance with OSHA Communication Standard 29 CFR 1910.101, 29 CFR 1910.1200 and 29 CFR 1926.58 or any other applicable state, federal, or local regulation. Prior to delivery of the items awarded, the vendor must submit MSDS sheets to:

Baltimore County Public Schools
Office of Environmental Services
9610 Pulaski Park Drive
Baltimore, MD 21220

- d. No materials shall contain asbestos or lead.
- e. No new, replacement or restoration materials shall contain asbestos or asbestiform minerals in an amount greater than 0.0% as determined by polarized light microscopy (PLM) as prescribed in Federal Regulation 40 CFR 763.87. For ceiling tile and materials that are tightly bound (e.g. floor tile, roofing asphalt and felts, adhesive/mastic, caulk, glaze, etc.) and for which PLM analysis is not conclusive, transmission electron microscopy must be used for analysis. If no commercially available material meets this criterion, written authorization for use of the material shall be obtained from the BCPS Project Manager. All materials delivered to or used on BCPS property must be accompanied by a manufacturer's certification to be asbestos free, based upon criterion above. The Material Safety Data Sheet may not be used for this purpose.

18. SUB-CONTRACTORS

- a. The Award Bidder(s) shall give their constant personal attention to the faithful execution of this contract, shall keep the same under their own control, and shall not assign by power of attorney or otherwise, the work or any part thereof without the previous written consent of Purchasing Manager. The Award Bidder(s) shall provide the name of the sub-contractor(s) he intends employing, the portion of the materials/labor to be furnished, their place of business, and such other information as requested by the bid specifications and/or Purchasing Agent/Manager. The information may be used in considering the potential performance capabilities of the sub-contractor(s).
- b. The Award Bidder(s) shall not, without prior written consent of BCPS, assign any of the moneys payable under the contract.

19. LIQUIDATED DAMAGES

In the event the Award Bidder(s) fails to deliver the goods or services of the contract in accordance with the specifications, BCPS reserve the right to purchase the goods/services on the open market in sufficient quantities to assure the continued operation of BCPS. All additional expenses incurred by BCPS as a result of such purchases will be deducted from the moneys owed or moneys which may become due.

20. TERMINATIONS OF CONTRACT

- a. Termination for Non-Appropriation of Funds: BCPS may terminate this contract, in whole or in part due to insufficient funding with written notice to the vendor. BCPS shall pay for all of the purchases, if any, incurred up to the date of the termination notice.
- b. Termination for Default: When the vendor has not performed or has unsatisfactorily performed the contract payment shall be withheld at the discretion of BCPS. Failure on the part of a vendor to fulfill contractual obligations shall be considered just cause for termination of the contract, and the vendor is not entitled to any costs incurred by vendor up to the date of termination.
- c. Termination for Convenience: BCPS has the right to withdraw from the terms of the contract, without showing cause, by providing thirty (30) calendar days written notice to the vendor. BCPS shall pay all reasonable costs incurred by the vendor up to the date of termination. The vendor shall not be reimbursed for any anticipatory profits which have not been earned up to the date of termination. The Award Bidder agrees that the Award Bidder does not have a right to termination for convenience.
- d. Each participating jurisdiction and/or local education agency (LEA)/public school district has the right to withdraw from the terms of the contract, without showing cause, by providing thirty (30) calendar days written notice to the vendor(s). The participating jurisdiction/ LEA shall pay all reasonable costs incurred by the vendor(s) up to the date of termination. The vendor(s) shall not be reimbursed for any anticipatory profits which have not been earned up to the date of termination.

Language to support Termination for Convenience by the vendor(s) shall be so stipulated in the contract document between jurisdiction/ LEA and the vendor(s). Such language, when included, shall take precedence over the language of this specification.

21. GOVERNING LAW AND VENUE

The bid shall be construed in accordance with, and interpreted under, the laws of the State of Maryland. Any lawsuits arising out of such bid shall be filed in the appropriate State Court of competent jurisdiction located in Baltimore County, Maryland.

22. WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL

The Vendor and board hereby waive trial by jury in any action or proceeding to which the board and/or the Vendor are parties arising out of or in any way pertaining to this agreement. It is agreed and understood that this waiver constitutes a waiver of trial by jury of all claims against all parties to such actions or proceedings, including claims against parties who are not parties to this agreement. This waiver is knowingly, willingly and voluntarily made by the board and the Vendor and the board and the Vendor hereby represent and warrant that no representations of fact or opinion have been made by an individual to induce this waiver of trial by jury or to in any way modify or nullify its effect. The board and the Vendor further represent and warrant that they have been represented or have had the opportunity to be represented, in the signing of this agreement and in the making of this waiver by legal counsel, selected of their own free will, and that they have had the opportunity to discuss this waiver with counsel.

23. ADDENDA

- a. All changes to the bid specification will be made through the appropriate addenda issued from the Office of Purchasing.
- b. Addenda will be available to all who are known by the Office of Purchasing to have received a complete set of Bid Documents.
- c. Copies of Addenda will be made available for inspection wherever Bid Documents are on file.
- d. All changes to the bid documents will be made through the appropriate addenda. Any and all such interpretations and any supplemental instructions will be available to all bidders listed on the BCPS vendor listing. Addenda will be issued a minimum of five (5) business days prior to the date fixed for the opening of bids, excluding date of bid opening, unless the addendum issued extends the due date of the bid.
- e. Each Bidder shall ascertain prior to submitting a Bid that they have received all Addenda issued and the Bidder shall acknowledge their receipt on the Addenda Affidavit Form. The Addenda Affidavit Form shall be completed and returned with the bid proposal response. Failure to return the Addenda Affidavit Form may be reason for rejection of the bid. Failure of any bidder to receive any addenda or interpretation shall not relieve that bidder from any obligations under this bid and as amended by all addenda. All addenda so issued shall become a part of the award and contract documents.

24. INDEMNIFICATION

The Award Bidder(s) will, at its sole cost and expense, indemnify and hold the Board, its agents, employees, attorneys and representatives harmless from all claims, liens or demands that result in losses, liabilities, defense costs and expenses (including, but not limited to attorney's fees) under the terms of this contract.

25. LIMITED LIABILITY

The Board of Education of Baltimore County is subject to the provisions of Md. Code Ann., Educ. '4-105 and Md. Code Ann., Cts. & Jud. Proc. '5-518 limiting liability to \$100,000.00. Pursuant to the provisions of the aforementioned statutes, the Board of Education of Baltimore County is a member of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education Group Insurance Pool for comprehensive liability coverage to \$100,000.00.

26. CONFLICT OF INTEREST, LOBBYING, AND ETHICS REVIEW PANEL

- a. In accordance with §5-815 through §5-820 of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the Board of Education of Baltimore County has promulgated Ethics Policies, which cover conflict of interest, financial disclosure and lobbying. All bidders are expected to comply with any and all Board Ethics Policies that may apply to them individually or as a business entity.
- b. All bidders should review carefully the conflict of interest policies. Specific attention should be accorded to the Board Ethics Policies (Board Policy 8363) prohibiting Baltimore County Public Schools employees from benefiting from business with the school system.
- c. All bidders are placed on notice that all questions/interpretations concerning the Board Ethics Policies may be submitted to the Ethics Review Panel in accordance with Board Policy 8366.

27. MULTI-AGENCY PARTICIPATION

- 27.1 BCPS reserves the right to extend the terms and conditions of this solicitation to any and all other agencies within the state of Maryland as well as any other federal, state, municipal, county, or local governmental agency under the jurisdiction of the United States and its territories. This shall include but not limited to private schools, parochial schools, non-public schools such as charter schools, special districts, intermediate units, non-profit agencies providing services on behalf of government, and/or state, community and/or private colleges/universities that require these goods, commodities and/or services. This is conditioned upon mutual agreement of all parties pursuant to special requirements, which may be appended thereto. The supplier/contractor agrees to notify the issuing body of those entities that wish to use any contract resulting from this bid and will also provide usage information, which may be requested. A copy of the contract pricing and the bid requirements incorporated in this contract will be supplied to requesting agencies.
- 27.2 Each participating jurisdiction or agency shall enter into its own contract with the Award Bidder(s) and this contract shall be binding only upon the principals signing such an agreement. Invoices shall be submitted in duplicate "directly" to the ordering jurisdiction for each unit purchased. Disputes over the execution of any contract shall be the responsibility of the participating jurisdiction or agency that entered into that contract. Disputes must be resolved solely between the participating agency and the Award Bidder. BCPS does not assume any responsibility other than to obtain pricing for the specifications provided.

28. INCLEMENT WEATHER

- 28.1 **PRE-BID:** If Baltimore County Schools are **closed** (either the "schools" and/or "offices") on the day a pre-bid is scheduled, **"THE PRE-BID IS CANCELLED"** and **will not be rescheduled unless an addendum is issued.** Bidders are advised that they are to email or FAX questions to the purchasing agent by the date and time required within this solicitation.
- 28.2 **BID OPENING:** If Baltimore County Schools "**offices**" are closed on the day a bid is "DUE", or prior to the due time, that bid will be due at the same time the next day that the Baltimore County Schools "**offices**" are open. The bid opening shall not be impacted if Baltimore County Schools "**schools**" are closed.
- 28.3 If Baltimore County Schools (either the "schools" and/or "offices") open late, due to inclement weather, the Bid Due Date and Time of Opening will be conducted AS SCHEDULED. If Baltimore County Schools "**offices**" close early, due to inclement weather, the Bid Due Date and Time of Opening will be conducted at the same time the next day that the Baltimore County Schools "**offices**" are open. If Baltimore County Schools "**schools**" close early, due to inclement weather, the Bid Due Date and Time of Opening will be conducted AS SCHEDULED.

29. ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT LABOR

The use of illegal immigrant labor to fulfill contracts solicited by BCPS is in violation of the law and is strictly prohibited. Contractors and subcontractors must verify employment eligibility of workers in order to assure that they are not violating Federal/State/Local laws regarding illegal immigration. A compliance audit may be conducted.

30. FOREIGN LANGUAGE TRANSLATOR REQUIREMENT

- 30.1 BCPS requires an Award Bidder that has an employee on site that does not speak English to have on site, full time, an interpreter that is fluent in speaking and understanding that employee's native language.
- 30.2 Failure of an Award Bidder to have on site, full time, an interpreter that is fluent in speaking and understanding an employee's native language for those employees that do not speak English is reason for immediate termination of the contract for cause.

31. EMPLOYMENT OF CHILD SEX OFFENDERS AND PERSONS WITH UNCONTROLLED ACCESS TO STUDENTS

- 31.1 Maryland Law requires certain child sex offenders to register with the State and with the local law enforcement agency in the county in which they will reside, work and/or attend school. Section 11-722(c) of the Criminal Procedure Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland states, "[a] person who enters into a contract with a County Board of Education or a non-public school may not knowingly employ an individual to work at a school if the individual is a registrant. A person

who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding five years or a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or both.” If a child sex offender, sexually violent predator, or sex offender, as defined in the Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure Articles of the Annotated Code of Maryland, is employed by the Award Bidder, the Award Bidder is prohibited from assigning that employee to perform management, delivery, installation, repair, construction or any other type of services on any BCPS property, including the project property. Violation of this provision may result in immediate Termination for Cause.

- 31.2 Additionally, in accordance with Md. Ed. Code Ann., §6-113 (b), the Award Bidder and any of its subcontractors will not knowingly assign any employee to work on school premises with direct, unsupervised and uncontrolled access to children, if that employee has been convicted of a crime identified in Md. Ed. Code Ann., §6-113(a).

32. FORCE MAJEURE

Force Majeure is defined as an occurrence beyond the control of the affected party and not avoidable by reason of diligence. It includes the acts of nature, war, riots, strikes, fire, floods, epidemics, or other similar occurrences. If either party is delayed by force majeure, said party shall provide written notification to the other within 48 hours. Delays shall cease as soon as practicable and written notification of same provided. The time of contract completion may be extended by contract modification, for a period of time equal to that delay caused under this condition. BCPS may also consider requests for price increase for raw materials that are directly attributable to the cause of delay. BCPS reserves the right to cancel the contract and/or purchase materials, equipment or services from the best available source during the time of force majeure, and Contractor shall have no recourse against BCPS. Further, except for payment of sums due, neither party shall be liable to the other or deemed in default under this contract, if and to the extent that such party's performance of this contract is prevented by reason of force majeure as defined herein.

33. ASSIGNMENT

The Award Bidder shall not assign or transfer the Award Bidder's interest or obligation under this Agreement to any third party, without the prior written consent of the Board. Nothing herein shall be construed to create any personal or individual liability upon any employee, officer, elected official of the Board, nor shall this Agreement be construed to create any rights hereunder in any person or entity other than the parties to this Agreement.

34. DRUG, TOBACCO, AND ALCOHOL

- 34.1 All Baltimore County Board of Education and BCPS properties are "drug, tobacco, and alcohol free zones" as designated by federal, state and local laws and by Board of Education policy. Neither the Contractor nor any of the Contractor's employees, subcontractors or agents will be permitted to have any illegal drugs; tobacco products; or alcohol products while performing their duties under this Contract and while working on Board of Education and BCPS property. Use or possession of illegal drugs, tobacco products, or alcohol

products on school property will result in immediate removal of the offending individual(s). BCPS reserves the right to issue, at a minimum, a verbal directive to the offending individual(s) to comply with this prohibition and to cease use. The Contractor will be notified in writing of any violation(s).

- 34.2 Any subsequent offense by any individual or individuals may result in a permanent ban from the project for the offender(s), with appropriate formal notice to the Contractor. BCPS reserves the right to document any offenses in the Contractor's file maintained by the Office of Purchasing. BCPS further reserves the right to address any substance use infraction by any means it deems necessary, up to and including termination of the Contract. In the event that a Contract is terminated as a result of a substance abuse infraction, BCPS will provide an "unsatisfactory" reference when references are requested.

35. ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS ACT NOTICE

The Board of Education of Baltimore County is subject to the Maryland Public Information Act, State Government Article § 10-611, et.seq. As a result, the Board may be required to disclose, upon request, certain public records. However the Act excludes from disclosure records that contain commercial information when the record is identified as: (1) a trade secret; (2) confidential commercial information; (3) confidential financial information; or (4) confidential geological or geophysical information.

If your bid documents contain any of the following classifications of records, you must note this specifically, on each relevant page that the document contains information that can be classified as confidential commercial, confidential financial information or a trade secret. Any pages that do not contain such a statement will be disclosed upon request under the Act.

36. CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

- 36.1 Bidder's employees that have unsupervised or direct access to children or that are assigned duties in a school where unsupervised contact with children is likely, are required to be fingerprinted by BCPS and will complete the Background Investigation process with the exception of the I-9 form. The cost will be borne by the Award Bidder and all records will remain in the control and custody of the school system. The school system reserves the right to reject the Bidder's employees based on information received from said background investigations.
- 36.2 Bidder's employees who will work at facilities where no contact with children is anticipated are not required to be fingerprinted, however, such employees will complete the Background Check Application form and Authorization and Release for the Procurement of an Investigative Consumer Report. A Consumer Investigative Report (Commercial Background Check) will be prepared on each of these employees. The cost will be borne by the Award Bidder. Further instructions for this process will be provided to the Award Bidder.

37. REPORTS

Award Bidders must submit semi-annual statistical reports via email in an Excel format prescribed by BCPS for the periods of January to June and July to December each year. Reports are due, without notice, to BCPS on August 1 and February 1, respectively, following the end of each six-month period. Failure of the BCPS to remind Award Bidders that the reports are due does not relieve the Award Bidders of the responsibility of submitting the reports on time. The semi-annual reports must show the dollars spent in connection with this contract by the participating entities and may show other reporting categories mutually agreed upon by BCPS and Award Bidders. Failure to submit the reports on time may constitute unsatisfactory performance under the terms of the contract.

END OF PART I: GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS