

Windsor Central Supervisory Union

(doing business as the Mountain Views Supervisory Union)

RFP 24-01

Request For Proposal:

Firewall Installation

PROPOSAL DUE DATE

RFPs must be submitted by
February 9, 2024

SUBMIT RESPONSE TO
Mountain Views Supervisory Union
Raphael Adamek
raphael.adamek@mtnviews.org

70 Amsden Way
Woodstock VT 05091

Notice to Responders

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Windsor Central Supervisory Union (doing business as Mountain Views School Union), hereinafter referred to as “the District” will receive up to, but no later than February 9, 2024 sealed RFPs from qualified responders for the award of contracts for the following:

RFP 24-01 Firewall Installation

Questions

All questions regarding this RFP are due on or before January 24, 2024 via email to raphael.adamek@mtnviews.org with the subject line of “MVSU Firewall RFP 24-01 questions”. Only questions submitted through this process will be accepted. All responses to questions regarding this RFP will be posted on our website by January 26, 2024. It is the responsibility of the prospective responder to check the website:

<https://mtnviews.org/requests-for-proposals>

Due Date

RFPs are due on or before February 9, 2024. RFP responses must be emailed to raphael.adamek@mtnviews.org with the subject “MVSU RFP 24-01 Submission” with a read receipt confirmation email. Sole responsibility rests with the Responder to see that their RFPs are received on time at the stated location. If no RFP responses are received, applicant reserves the right to proactively solicit for RFP responses. Faxed or mailed RFPs will not be accepted.

The RFP will be posted to the District website under <https://mtnviews.org/requests-for-proposals> . Any additions or corrections will be addressed in the form of addenda posted to the same location on the website.

The District reserves the right to reject any and all RFPs for any reason whatsoever. The District may waive informalities or irregularities in RFPs received where such is merely a matter of form and not substance, and the correction or waiver of which is not prejudicial to other RFPs. The issuance of this RFP and receipt of responses does not commit the District to award a contract. The District may cancel this RFP, or may reject in whole or in part any and all Proposals if the District determines that cancellation or rejection is in its best interest. The District also reserves the right to award a contract based on certain portions of the proposed Scope of Work. Decisions to award contract(s) as a result of this RFP are final and without appeal.

The Mountain Views School Union reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to determine the criteria and process whereby RFPs are evaluated and awarded.

The following documentation is required in the RFP Submittal:

1. Address all items in the RFP Scope of Work
2. Address all items in the RFP Proposal Format
3. Signed copies of addendums if applicable
4. Cost Proposal

Purpose

The Mountain Views Supervisory Union is soliciting quotes for firewall configuration, installation, and support at the following sites:

- Barnard Academy
- Killington Elementary School
- Mountain Views Supervisory Union Central Office
- Reading Elementary School
- The Prosper Valley School
- Woodstock Elementary School
- Woodstock Union High School Middle School

The firewall replacement must be done over summer vacation when students are not present in the buildings. During the 2023-24 school year the summer vacation is from **June 20, 2024 through August 9, 2024.**

An overview of the work needing to be done at each location is listed below:

- Replicate the existing firewall configuration, including firewall rules, routing, DHCP settings, DNS settings, web filtering policies, web filtering exemptions, VPN settings, Interface settings, etc.
- Setup and configure the new firewall.
- Install the new firewall and create user accounts.
- Test and verify that features are working properly.
- Document the setup and configuration.

Materials, equipment, or hardware identified in the RFP are intended to establish a standard. Any material, equipment, or hardware of other manufacturers which will perform the same duties imposed by the general design may be considered equally acceptable if, in the opinion of the District, the material or equipment is of equal substance and function. Any substitutions must be approved in writing by the District, who shall have sole discretion to determine the acceptability of the proposed substitute.

Proposals may be withdrawn by the proposer prior to the time fixed for the opening of RFPs, but may not be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days after the date set for submission of proposals.

Compliance with Laws

The successful firm(s) shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes, rules, regulations and codes.

Installation Schedule

Location	Purpose	Date
Barnard Academy	Installation and Configuration	June 20, 2024 - August 9, 2024
Killington Elementary School	Installation and Configuration	June 20, 2024 - August 9, 2024
Mountain Views Supervisory Union Central Office	Installation and Configuration	June 20, 2024 - August 9, 2024
Reading Elementary School	Installation and Configuration	June 20, 2024 - August 9, 2024
The Prosper Valley School	Installation and Configuration	June 20, 2024 - August 9, 2024
Woodstock Elementary School	Installation and Configuration	June 20, 2024 - August 9, 2024
Woodstock Union High School Middle School	Installation and Configuration	June 20, 2024 - August 9, 2024

About the District

The Mountain Views School Union serves six schools and a little over 1,000 students in central Vermont. You can learn more about the district and each of the schools by visiting the Mountain Views School Union website at: <https://mtnviews.org/>

Scope of Work

The Mountain Views School Union is soliciting quotes for a firewall installation at the following locations:

Location	Request Type	Manufacturer	Users	Minimum Specs	Quantity	Installation and Initial Configuration
Barnard Academy	Firewall Service and Components	No Preference	100	>1 gbps throughput	1	Yes
Killington Elementary School	Firewall Service and Components	No Preference	150	>1 gbps throughput	1	Yes
Mountain Views Supervisor y Union Central Office	Firewall Service and Components	No Preference	75	>1 gbps throughput	1	Yes
Reading Elementary School	Firewall Service and Components	No Preference	50	>500mbps throughput	1	Yes
The Prosper Valley School	Firewall Service and Components	No Preference	125	>1 gbps throughput	1	Yes
Woodstock Elementary School	Firewall Service and Components	No Preference	300	>1 gbps throughput	1	Yes
Woodstock Union High School Middle School	Firewall Service and Components	No Preference	550	>2 gbps throughput	1	Yes

The projects consist of providing hardware, initial installation and configuration, any required licenses until the end of support date and continued user support. The District is requiring that the entire project be completed by August 9, 2024.

Firewall Requirements

The district requires that the firewalls included in RFP responses meet the following requirements:

- Provide access to the minimum number of users and throughput for each location, as outlined in the table above.
- Provide services that allow each location to meet the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and block internet access to websites that are obscene, pornographic, or harmful to minors.
- Create log files of any CIPA blocked sites, and send an alert to IT staff when these events occur.
- Provide geoblocking or country blocking.
- Allow for SSL/SSH/HTTPS packet inspection. Please provide information about the throughput of packet inspection on the firewall models for each location.
- Allow site-to-site VPN or IPSEC tunnels to be created between all sites.
- Allow all firewalls to be managed through a single portal.
- Handle DHCP, DNS, routing, and all basic firewall functions.
- Provide the necessary licensing for 5 years of updates, support, and features.
- Provide next business day RMA for 5 years.

RFP Requirements

This section defines specifications of firewalls for the Mountain Views School Union:

1. All plans proposed should include detailed billing.
2. Prices to remain firm through bid approval, execution, and duration of the proposed contract. In the event of a price decrease for service or from the manufacturer, said decrease shall be passed on to the Mountain Views School Union and documented with a new price sheet sent to the District Office.
3. All equipment/services costs must be new and included and identified separately.
4. Manufacturer must warrant all parts and equipment.
5. Vendor must be a certified reseller of parts and equipment.
6. Vendor must maintain an office within 150 miles of the District office.
7. Vendor must certify that their equipment is neither manufactured by, nor contains any components from Huawei, ZTE, or any other CCP owned companies.
8. The bidding contractor must provide evidence of insurance with a minimum of a million in coverage with the bid.

Proposal Format

Proposals shall include the following as a minimum:

1. Responder Information
 - a. Qualifications, education, and experience
 - b. References from similar projects
2. Cost Proposals
 - a. Detailed description of the hardware chosen and how it meets all of the firewall requirements outlined above

- b. Cost of the hardware
 - c. Cost of the configuration and installation
3. Installation Schedule
4. Addendums

Evaluation Criteria

The Mountain Views Supervisory Union reserves the right to select the firm that best meets the needs of the District, based on the criteria set forth herein. The District reserves the right to waive minor irregularities in the RFP and in the proposals submitted in response to the RFP.

Each response will be reviewed prior to the selection process for completeness and adherence to format. A response will be considered complete if all requested sections are included in the proper order and properly completed. Responders may also provide any and all recommendations for consideration such as installation, maintenance, support and design that is relevant to the total solution of the District's technology needs.

Proposals will be evaluated on the following:

- Responder cost, including unit prices, labor rates, travel/trip charges, etc. (40% of the score)
- Installation schedule and timeline (10% of the score)
- Extent of experience with the District (10% of the score)
- Client references from other education agencies where equal services have been provided for projects of a similar size and complexity (10% of the score)
- Qualifications, education, and experience of the personnel (prime and subcontractor) proposed for this project (10% of the score)
- Quote preparation, thoroughness, and responsiveness to the RFP requirements (20% of the score)

The successful responder will be chosen based upon best value. The district reserves the right to reject any or all bids.