

ATTACHMENT A – AMEMDMENT NO. 3

Private Transportation Vendors Questions

Technical

Question 1: What are the geographical service boundaries for the State of Maryland and Virginia, respectively?

Response 1:

- a. Maryland: Primarily PG County and Montgomery County, infrequently but potentially Howard County, Anne Arundel County, and Baltimore.
- b. Virginia: Alexandria, Fairfax County, infrequently but potential Loudoun County

Question 2: Do any of the children being transported travel in a wheelchair?

Response 2: Yes, some students will use a wheelchair.

Question 3: Has any consideration been given to allowing the vendor to charge per vehicle instead of per passenger?

Response 3 No

Question 4: Is there a maximum ride time per passenger?

Response: 4 Occasionally, a student may have maximum ride times per their IEP, but this typically hasn't been an issue in the past. If it posed an issue with private transportation, we would likely just not consider it as an option

Question 5: What is the expected "no show" rate?

Response 5: It can be estimated at 5-10% of the time

Question 6: How are "no shows" billed for?

Response 6: DCPS should be charged one flat rate for no shows

Question 7: Are you experiencing any service issues with the current vendor?

Response 7: No Current Vendor

Question 8: Is there a specific budget for this project?

Response 8: Yes, we do have a budget for the project.

Question 9: Our pricing is not based on a traditional bus route pricing model. Instead, our pricing is a base price fee + a per-mile fee. May we adjust the proposal to reflect our pricing structure rather than the pricing outlined on B.3?

Response: 9 No. We cannot adjust the proposal to reflect your price model.

Question 10: Can the district provide the average trip distance (miles) traveled?

Response 10: The general geographic boundaries are Rockville to the north, Fairfax County (Annandale, Springfield) to the south, and within DC and Capitol Heights in PG County to the northeast. 90% of it will be in that "circle" around DC.

Question 11: Would the use of company decals on cars, drivers utilizing a uniform, and ID confirmation via our mobile application, be acceptable to the district in lieu of physical ID badges?

Response 11: Yes, that is acceptable

Question 12: Our drivers are required to have at least five years of caregiving experience. With our drivers' caregiving experience in mind, would the district be amenable to our drivers acting as both driver and attendant?

Response 12: Yes, for lower cost

Question 13: What percentage of rides require an attendant? What percentage of rides require a wheelchair?

Response 13: DCPS would appreciate if all rides required an attendant. We are unable to provide the number of rides one would expect to provide to students in wheelchairs. This number will depend upon the number of students who will require private transportation during the stopgap period

Question 14: Typically, our company implements a TB risk assessment for drivers, where only those identified to be at risk for TB would need to be tested. A certificate of completion of a TB risk assessment for drivers found to have no risks can be accepted for clearance for being a candidate for our driver pool for the region. Would our TB risk assessment, which is widely acceptable for employment or volunteering within schools throughout the country, be acceptable to the district?

Response 14: No, this would not be acceptable.

Question 15: Our company enforces a strict Zero Tolerance policy against being under the influence of drugs or alcohol during rides. Under reasonable suspicion by law enforcement post-accident, our company would support drug and alcohol testing.

Would our zero-tolerance policy and reasonable suspicious post-accident be acceptable to the district?

Response 15: Yes, this would be acceptable, but drivers and attendants must also clear drug testing and fingerprinting BEFORE providing services to students

Question 16: Will you please clarify what "other DCPS-authorized activities" are, as noted in the RFP?

Response 16: This would be categorized as extra-curricular activities that are either a form of enrichment or additional instruction time.

Question 17: Will the district accept an online transportation request submission form in lieu of the Authorization Letter (C.3, p6)?

Response 17: The authorization letter comes from DCPS; the vendor does not submit it. This is consistent with the way other services are authorized, so that we wouldn't change this.

Question 18: Are independently contracted drivers allowed under the agreement resulting from this bid?

Response 18: Yes, on condition that they satisfied all the necessary DCPS requirements.

Question 19: What is included in the "suitability investigation" referenced in C.3.q (p7)? Who performs this investigation?

Response 19: The suitability investigation assesses the overall appropriateness of the vendor and the services they are providing. Any team in DCPS who's students are transported by way of private transportation services can conduct this investigation.

Question 20: C.5.1.e and C.5.1.s: Are we to understand that every vehicle must have both a driver and an attendant; that the attendant is to ride in the back of the vehicle with the student(s) unless there is a 1:1 student/aide ratio already in the back, and then the attendant would ride in the front seat?

Response 20: This is correct.

Question 21: C.5.1: Due to COVID-19 recommendations issued by the CDC, many contractors are working under a no-touch policy meaning the drivers and attendants would not be able to load/unload the students. Would the district consider revising the requirement in this section to account for the current recommendations for social/physical distancing and/or no-touch policies?

Response 21: No, while we understand that COVID is playing a significant factor in the way that we operate, we cannot allow students to enter and exit the vehicle on their own. A significant portion of the students is known to abscond in certain situations.

SOLICITATION NO. GAGA-2020-R-0086
AMENDMENT NO. 3 Q&A RESPONSES

Question 22: C.6.3. a vs. Definition of allowable vehicle – are sedans allowable for this contract?

Response 22: Yes

Question 23: Will the district be providing the forms required for the background checks of the drivers/attendants? And will the district be running a background check in addition to the ones run by the contractor?

Response 23: DCPS has an actual system and vendor company that performs background checks on employees and contractors. In addition to the vendors' background check, DCPS must also conduct their own.

Question 24: Can you provide an estimated/average number of students to be transported under this contract?

Response 24: This number is hard to estimate due to all the varying factors that play into a student needing private transportation. Private transportation is needed for a myriad of reasons: processing time for transportation requests that have been submitted late, court orders, students may have been removed from transportation due to attendance, behavior, etc. Also, consider the response

Question 25: Can you provide your average one-way mileage per trip for the most recent school year?

Response 25: See responses # 1 and 10

Question 26: Can you provide student data for the most recent school year? This can be limited to student pick up/drop off addresses, school addresses, and bell times. If applicable, please provide equipment requirements (car seats, safety vest, wheelchairs, etc.), and monitor requirements.

Response 26: Yes, this information can be provided for students who are assigned to private transportation.

Contractual

Question 27: Please provide the most recent incumbent's contract, any addendums, pricing pages, and any other contractual updates with the incumbent(s).

Response 27: There is no current contract.

Question 28: Considering our service is specific to the non-commercial sedan and SUV based transportation, will the district consider lowering the \$15,000,000 Commercial Umbrella Liability amount?

Response 29: All the risks associated with the project have been evaluated by the office of Risk Management (ORM) before setting up the Commercial Umbrella liability amount. Lowering the amount is not an option

Question 30: Does the district intend to award one vendor or multiple vendors?

Response 30: Yes, The District contemplates multi-award of Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) Contract(s) **Section B.2**

Question 31: Number 9 on page one says to submit three hard copies and one electronic copy on a flash drive. Section L.4.1, on page 40, states to submit the proposal via email. Which form of submission is expected?

Response 31: No. 9 is corrected to read: Offers should be received at the address in No. 8 Address Offer to: dcpsoca.inquiries@k12.dc.gov and in accordance with Section **L.4.1**. Bids must be submitted electronically via email at: via dcpsoca.inquiries@k12.dc.gov **no later than Monday, September 14, 2020, at 1:00 PM EST.**

Question 32: Can you please confirm through addendum that you will be accepting alternate pricing proposals?

a. Another way we've asked this in the past is: Will you accept alternate pricing with a base fee plus per-mile pricing format?

Response 32: No. We cannot accept the alternate pricing with a base fee plus per-mile pricing format.

Question 33: Who is the current vendor?

Response 33: There is no current vendor.

Question 34: What are the current vendor rates?

Response: 34: There are no current vendor rates

Question 35: Will you provide sample invoices from the current vendor?

Response 35: There is no current vendor.