

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**BUREAU OF CONTRACTS, GRANTS AND PROCUREMENT
MANAGEMENT SERVICES
325 West Gaines Street
332 Turlington Building
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400**

Addendum #1

RFI NO.: RFI 2020-11

**STATEWIDE DATA COLLECTION AND STUDENT INFORMATION
SOLUTION**

JUNE 18, 2019

This addendum is being issued to provide the Answers to Questions submitted timely by vendors during the Question and Answers period.

Please be advised all questions are keyed as submitted.

Vendor: Deltek

1. The RFI discusses FDOE's use of IBM's DB2 relational database management system, would this system be considered the current student information system solution? Or, would this RFI be a brand new requirement for the state?

ANSWER: As stated in the RFI, the IBM DB2 system is used for data storage of student and staff data from the districts. It is not a student information system (SIS).

2. Is there a value or budget amount currently reserved for this project?

ANSWER: This RFI is issued for the purpose of obtaining information regarding solution options, vendor's availability and cost analysis to develop the solution requested.

3. Is there a potential timeline the FDOE is hoping to follow for a possible RFP?

ANSWER: No timeline has been set.

Vendor: Skyward

1. The RFI says pricing is voluntary. Since the state is subject to open records- how can vendors be sure if pricing is submitted that any numbers would remained confidential during this entire RFI to RFP procurement process?

ANSWER: If Respondent considers any portion of the documents, data or records submitted in response to this RFI to be confidential, trade secret or otherwise not subject to disclosure pursuant to Chapter 119, F.S., the Florida Constitution or other authority, Respondent should clearly mark and identify in its Reply those portions which are confidential, trade secret or otherwise exempt. Respondent shall be responsible for defending its determination that the redacted portions of its Reply are confidential, trade secret or otherwise not subject to disclosure. Further, Respondent shall protect, defend, and indemnify the Department for any and all claims arising from or relating to Respondents determination that the redacted portions of its Reply are confidential, proprietary, trade secret or otherwise not subject to disclosure.

If Respondent fails to submit a Redacted Copy with its Reply, the Department is authorized to produce the entire documents, data or records submitted by Respondent in answer to a public records request for these records.

2. How does the state envision Choice/Charter Schools to report to the state in the future? I.E. through the local district or directly to the state?

ANSWER: As stated in the RFI (**Page 2**), Choice/Charter Schools must be able to collect state and federal data in the least burdensome manner possible according to the mandated data elements and reporting periods and support existing reporting functionality. The Department is interested in receiving information about all products and services available (**Page 1**).

3. Is the state going to provide funding for Choice/Charter Schools to purchase a Student Information System?

ANSWER: As stated in the RFI, (**Page 6**) Department management will review and analyze information received in response to this RFI to determine feasibility. Cost information received will be used solely to gain a perspective of the potential budgetary magnitude.

4. Since FDOE reporting requirements are some of the most stringent across the country- is the state only going to accept vendors with deployed SIS FL customers?

ANSWER: The state will accept any vendor who feels they have a solution to meet the needs of this system. (**Based on Page 1, Department encourages all vendors...**)

5. Many of our FL SIS customers are hosted in the Cloud. Is that the goal of the FDOE?

ANSWER: As indicated in the RFI, **(Page 7)** respondents are requested to address in their response with detailed technical architecture recommendations for the Division solution including remote or cloud-based hosting options. The Department is interested in receiving information about all products and services available **(Page 1)**.

6. Skyward has more Finance districts in the state than any other vendor. We have reached out to the state to discuss the Cost Report and offering our software to non-Skyward districts. I know this RFI only reflect the SIS, but what about the ERP side also? Is there also discussion on helping these charters/choice schools with finance/payroll solutions?

ANSWER: As indicated in the RFI **(Page 1)**, the purpose of the RFI is to obtain information regarding available solutions to create a statewide data collection and SIS solution. At this time, this RFI will not address finance/payroll solutions.

Vendor: Infinite Campus

1. Section VI. Response Format on page 5 of the Complete RFI document includes the following requirement: For appendix responses, provide responses in table provided. This requirement suggests that there may be an appendix or table to be filled out. We were unable to locate an appendix or table in the RFI document. Is there a separate attachment that is missing?

ANSWER: Appendix questions were removed from RFI.

2. The RFI does not mention confidentiality regarding the proposals. Can vendors request that certain parts of the response be confidential? How should confidential materials be identified? Will RFI responses remain confidential in their entirety until after an RFP is released and a winner is selected?

ANSWER: If Respondent considers any portion of the documents, data or records submitted in response to this RFI to be confidential, trade secret or otherwise not subject to disclosure pursuant to Chapter 119, F.S., the Florida Constitution or other authority, Respondent should clearly mark and identify in its Reply those portions which are confidential, trade secret or otherwise exempt. Respondent shall be responsible for defending its determination that the redacted portions of its Reply are confidential, trade secret or otherwise not subject to disclosure. Further, Respondent shall protect, defend, and indemnify the Department for any and all claims arising from or relating to Respondents determination that the redacted portions of its Reply are confidential, proprietary, trade secret or otherwise not subject to disclosure.

If Respondent fails to submit a Redacted Copy with its Reply, the Department is authorized to produce the entire documents, data or records submitted by Respondent in answer to a public records request for these records.

Vendor: BrightBytes

1. Is the Department seeking a data collection tool for survey distribution in addition to collection of other data from districts within the state?

[Answer:](#) Please see Section III. Program Goals for scope.

2. Will the Department consider a proposal that does not include the ability to provide complete SIS functionality?

[Answer:](#) The Department will consider any proposal that meets the program goals outlines in Section III.

3. How many years of historical data does the Department seek to migrate into the new system?

[Answer:](#) Undetermined

4. Does the Department have a state-wide mechanism for Single Sign On (e.g. ADFS)?

[Answer:](#) Yes

5. How often does the Department alter the survey questions that are distributed each school year?

[Answer:](#) As needed by Florida statute and State Board of Education rule.

Vendor: IBM

1. Current FL DOE Student Information (SIS) Solution – Below are a number of questions on the specific details of the current FL DOE SIS Solution:

a. Page 2 of the RFI provides some details of current IBM DB2 relational database, and the various surveys utilized to update that data along with frequencies. Other than the fact that “mainframe technology” is utilized, what other details can you share? For example, overall data storage requirements and anticipated growth? Current vendor(s) providing support and/or maintenance services? Any vendor supplied data model and/or Intellectual Property utilized?

[Answer:](#) Refer to information provided in the RFI.

2. Existing FL DOE SIS related Software - In addition IBM DB2, what other SIS related software is in place or preferred. Please provide details if available.

- a. Database (DB - DB2, SQL, Oracle, etc.) software.
- b. Extract Transfer & Load (ETL – InfoSphere, Informatica, MS, Oracle, etc.) tool.
- c. Business Intelligence (BI – Cognos, Power BI, Tableau, etc.) software.
- d. Predictive Software product.
- e. Is there a preference for an Hosted or On-site solution?

[Answer:](#) Scope provided in RFI.

3. FL DOE SIS Data Sources – In addition to the survey data explained in the RFI, what other data sources are planned for the new SIS? What data transfer methods are planned and/or preferred? Is Ed-Fi to be the standard?

Answer: Not at this time.

4. SIS Number of Users, Types and Anticipated Growth – Please provide some details as to the FL DOE SIS user population by the types described below:

- a. Anticipated “concurrent user” population by type:
 - i. SIS System Administrators
 - ii. SIS Report/Dashboard/ETL Developers
 - iii. SIS Power Users
 - iv. SIS Report/Dashboard Viewers (Consumers)
- b. Are any other organizations besides LEA’s and FL DOE to add to the above user population?
- c. Additionally, what is the Department’s anticipated growth in total users by the types (above) over the anticipated period of performance?

Answer: To be determined.

5. Help Desk/Future Support – Please provide some details on the Department’s existing SIS Help Desk structure, operations, and processes.

- a. We presume the Department seeks to integrate future, on-going support for the SIS solution into that existing structure? Please confirm.
- b. Who will be responsible for future operations and maintenance? The Department, The solution provider? A combination of both?
- c. If the solution provider or a combination, what level of support is anticipated from the selected vendor?

Answer:

- a. Yes
- b. To be determined
- c. To be determined

6. Department Resources Planned for Project – Please provide an outline of the number and duration of (FTE’s) and type (Project Manager, Subject Matter Experts, IT Technical, etc.) of

Department Staff/Resources to be assigned to the Implementation portion of this project. Please include the same for the Maintenance and Support portions of the project, if any?

Answer: To be determined

7. Project Organizational Change/Communications Scope – What is the Department’s plans to address the organizational change and communication aspects of the new SIS roll-out? To what degree is the selected vendor anticipated to participate and/or drive those plans?

Answer: Refer to Appendix 2.

8. Data Privacy and Security Requirements – In addition FERPA and FL Agency for State Technology rule 74-2, are there any other Data Privacy and Security Requirements for the SIS Solution that vendor respondents should be aware of?

Answer: None at this time.

9. Contract/Budget – Can the Department share the anticipated period of performance and specific budgeted amounts for the SIS project? Is the project fully funded for the duration of the anticipated contract term?

ANSWER: This RFI is issued for the purpose of obtaining information regarding solution options, vendor's availability and cost analysis to develop the solution requested.