



HOLMES COUNTY CONSOLIDATED DISTRICT REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Elementary ELA Textbook Adoption (K - 5)

I. PURPOSE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

The Holmes County Consolidated School District is seeking to adopt a comprehensive elementary English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum for grades K - 5 for our elementary schools. The goal in this adoption cycle is to provide up-to-date, research-based, relevant, and appropriate materials that will effectively support teaching and learning practices in our K - 5 ELA classrooms that will also offer teachers and all students greater access to relevant digital resources/tools.

Moreover, through the curriculum adoption process, HCCSD aims to advance the Board of Education's mission, vision, and values by improving access to (a) meaningful content, (b) increasing awareness of sound instructional practices, (c) providing technological assets that promote creativity, connections, and innovation, and (d) engaging students in rigorous activities/assessments.

The purpose of the RFP is to solicit complete proposals in accordance to the Proposal Response Format listed in the RFP, from agencies with expertise in providing high-quality, standards-aligned primary curricular resources public-school districts. The selection and implementation of a primary curriculum is a complex process as it will serve a broad range of stakeholders. Therefore, experience with successful management of similar projects is integral to this project's success.

This RFP is designed to provide interested parties with sufficient basic information to submit proposals meeting minimum requirements but is not intended to limit a proposal's content or exclude any relevant or essential information. Respondents are at liberty and are encouraged to expand upon the specifications as to provide further evidence of service capability under any proposed agreement. Bids will be evaluated, and each requirement will be scored. Emphasis will be placed on alignment to the Mississippi College and Career Readiness Standards, research/evidence base for instructional strategies/resources, quality of supporting texts, support for improved literacy practices, complimentary digital resources, data privacy, set-up costs, initial training, and ongoing support.

The Holmes County Consolidated School District reserves the right to reject all proposals or waive any non-statutory informality. The HCCSD further reserves the right to make the contract award deemed by the Holmes County Consolidated School District Board of Education to be in the best interest of the district regardless of the selection committee's evaluation and scoring. The Board's decision to accept or reject the contract will be final. Upon completion of the curriculum adoption process and selection, HCCSD will assume ownership of all materials provided as part of the proposal.

The Elementary ELA Curriculum Adoption Committee is composed of highly qualified teachers, district content specialists, and school administrators. To ensure diverse, representational evaluations, the Committee is made up of members from various schools, grade-levels, and backgrounds. Each member will personally review all materials submitted for approval. The committee will then review all evaluations and submit the final recommendation directly to the HCCSD Board of Education. This multi-level evaluation process, involving numerous people, guarantees to each publisher equity and fairness in the bidding, evaluation, and selection process.

Respondents are strongly encouraged to carefully read the entire request for proposals. It is anticipated that this RFP may result in a contract award to a single contractor.

This RFP is designed to provide interested offerors with sufficient basic information to submit proposals meeting minimum requirements but is not intended to limit a proposal's content or exclude any relevant or essential data. Offerors are at liberty and are encouraged to expand upon the specifications to evidence service capability under any agreement.

HCCSD will not be liable for any costs proposers may incur in the preparation or presentation of this proposal.

II. BACKGROUND

The Holmes County Consolidated School District has a K – 5th grade student enrollment of approximately 1,400. The HCCSD currently operates four (4) elementary schools. Holmes County Consolidated School District offices are located at 313 Olive Street, Lexington, MS 39095.

III. ISSUING OFFICE AND RFP REFERENCE NUMBER

The District's Academic Department is the issuing office for this document and all subsequent addenda relating to it, on behalf of the HCCSD Academics Department.

IV. LENGTH OF CONTRACT

The Contract resulting from this RFP will be for a period of 5 years.

HCCSD reserves the right to review contract(s) on a regular basis regarding performance and cost analysis and may negotiate price and service elements during the terms of the contract.

V. PRICE GUARANTEE PERIOD

All pricing must be guaranteed for entire term of the contract. Following the guarantee period, any request for price adjustment must be for an equal guarantee period and must be made at least 30 days prior to the effective date. Requests for price adjustment must include sufficient documentation supporting the request. Any adjustment or amendment to the contract will not be effective unless approved by the Chief Finance and Operations Officer. HCCSD will be given the immediate benefit of any decrease in the market, or allowable discount.

VI. STANDARD CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Any contract resulting from this RFP will include but not be limited to the District's Standard Terms and Conditions and the FERPA Student Level Data Protection Standard Terms and Conditions.

The District retains the right to refuse to negotiate on exceptions should the exceptions be excessive, not in the best interest of the District, negotiations could result in excessive costs to the state, or could adversely impact existing time constraints.

If negotiations are required, contractor must provide all documents in MS Word format for redline editing. Contractor must provide the name, contact information, and access to the person(s) that will be directly involved in legal negotiations.

VII. DETAILED SCOPE OF WORK

The desired outcome for this adoption cycle is to provide up-to-date, research-based, relevant, and appropriate materials that will effectively support teaching and learning practices in our K – 5 elementary ELA classrooms and will offer all teachers and students greater access to relevant digital resources/tools.

The following list of requirements, although extensive, is not exhaustive and is intended to provide interested parties with sufficient basic information to submit proposals meeting minimum requirements but is not intended to limit a proposal's content or exclude any relevant or essential information. Moreover, the Committee members will be expected to introduce their knowledge of HCCSD's learning communities' needs and classroom requirements as they evaluate the curricular resources in relation to the selection criteria.

Curricular/Design Requirement

1. Mississippi College and Career Readiness Standards (MS CCRS)
 - a. Instructional materials in all formats, including print, digital and online materials, are aligned to the MS CCRS for Elementary ELA.
 - b. Curriculum materials must have a clear and documented research base by an outside evaluator.
2. Elementary ELA Content and Emphasis
 - a. Materials focus coherently on the “major work” of the grade in a way that is consistent with the progressions in the Standards and literacy development.
 - b. Progression of standards across grade-levels are clearly identified.
 - c. Text(s) measure within the grade-level text complexity band and are of sufficient quality and scope for the state purpose.
 - d. Text(s) address the key shifts of the MS CCRS: Reading Text Closely, Text-Based Evidence, Writing from Sources, and Academic Vocabulary.
3. Access for all Students
 - a. Materials should be thoughtfully designed to support all students, including special populations (e.g., English language learners, accelerated learners, students with disabilities) in accessing and meeting the MS CCRS.
 - b. Materials provide appropriate level and type of scaffolding, differentiation, intervention, and support for a broad range of learners.
 - c. Materials are visually balanced, age-appropriate, and accessible to student learners.
4. Pacing and Program Design
 - a. Pacing guides outline reasonable timeframes for instruction and assessment.

- b. Lesson design incorporates direct instruction, guided practice, differentiated grouping, and independent practice.
There is an appropriate balance of conceptual and procedural practices with identified connections between the two.

5. Assessment

- a. Diagnostic/formative and summative assessments support teachers in differentiating instruction to meet the needs of individuals and groups of students.
- b. Assessments monitor student growth over time with prediction of performance on end- of-level assessments.
- c. Use of standardized-type assessment questions.
- d. Ability to customize, edit, share, and lock assessments at the district, school, and teacher levels.
- e. Assessment reports are accessible at the district, school, and teacher levels.

6. Digital Resources/Tools Requirements

- a. Robust and dynamic digital materials/tools engage students in meaningful learning experiences using innovative online content and visual representations to enhance or extend classroom instructional practices.
- b. Digital tools regularly and systematically offer assessment opportunities that genuinely measure progress, as well as mastery of grade level standards.
- c. User friendly access (e.g., Single Sign On) and navigation for all users.
- d. All digital/electronic/online resources and tools meet all federal and state student data privacy requirements.
- e. Parent/home connection is designed to support student learning.

7. Training, Service, and Support

- a. Agency has knowledgeable and capable curriculum deployment/implementation specialists who will guide our district employees through the implementation process.
- b. Agency offers initial and ongoing training both on site and digital.
- c. Agency offers initial and ongoing on-site training, training of trainers, and refresher trainings, as necessary.
- d. Agency has knowledgeable client support staff who are available to personally provide immediate assistance.
- e. Access to digital and physical materials, for professional development and preparation, available for summer (June - August) teacher trainings.

VIII. ANTICIPATED SOLICITATION TIMELINE

Release RFP	6/26/20
RFP Due	7/24/20, 10:00 am
Evaluation Period	7/24 – 7/31/20
Board of Education Approval	8/13/20

QUESTIONS

All questions must be emailed to: shwilliams@holmesccsd.org

VIII. PROPOSAL RESPONSE FORMAT

All proposals must include a technical proposal and cost proposal. Formats for both documents follow:

A. Technical Proposal Format

Hard copies are to be tabbed by section.

Tab 1. **Executive Summary.** The one or two page executive summary is to briefly describe the offeror's proposal. This summary should highlight the major features of the proposal. It must indicate any requirements that cannot be met by the offeror. The reader should be able to determine the essence of the proposal by reading the executive summary. Protected information requests should be identified in this section.

Tab 2. **Detailed Response.** This section should constitute the major portion of the proposal and must contain at least the following information:

1. A complete narrative of the offeror's assessment of the work to be performed, the offeror's ability and approach, and the resources necessary to fulfill the requirements. This should demonstrate the offeror's understanding of the desired overall performance expectations. Clearly indicate any options or alternatives proposed.
2. A specific point-by-point response, in the order listed, to each requirement in the RFP.

Tab 3. **Protected Information.** All protected information must be included in this section of proposal response. Do not incorporate protected information throughout the proposal. Rather, provide a reference in the proposal response directing reader to the specific area of this Protected Information section. To ensure the information is protected, you must include all protected information in Tab 3 of the proposal response. Any protected information incorporated in other sections of the proposal response may result in release of data at no fault of the District.

All materials submitted become the property of HCCSD. Materials may be evaluated by anyone designated by the District as part of the proposal evaluation committee. Materials submitted may be returned only at the District's option.

B. Cost Proposal Format

The proposal must be set forth in such a way that it will allow the merits of the proposal to be evaluated in conjunction with applicable cost.

IX. SUBMITTING YOUR PROPOSAL

Proposals must be received by the posted due date and time. Proposals received after the deadline will be late and ineligible for consideration.

Hard copy proposals must be delivered to Sharon Williams. For this RFP one original and two identical copies of your proposal must be received at Holmes County Consolidated School District Academics Department, 313 Olive Street, Lexington, MS 39095.

All submitted proposals will consist of a technical proposal and a cost proposal. A document titled "Technical Proposal" and a document titled "Cost Proposal". The hard copy these documents should be separate of each other. The cost proposal should be in a sealed envelope with the RFP Title and the phrase "Cost Proposal" clearly printed on the envelope.

Cost will be evaluated independent from the technical proposal, and as such, is to be submitted separate from the technical proposal. Failure to submit cost separately may result in your proposal being determined non-responsive. Inclusion of any cost or pricing data within the technical proposal may also result in your proposal being determined non-responsive.

NOTICE: By submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, offeror is acknowledging that the requirements, scope of work, and the evaluation process, outlined in the RFP are fair, equitable, not unduly restrictive, understood and agreed to. Any exceptions to the content of the RFP must be protested to the purchasing agent prior to the closing date and time for submission of the proposal.

X. PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

A committee will evaluate proposals against the criteria in section VII Curricular/Design Requirements. Each area of the evaluation criteria must be addressed in detail in the proposal. All proposals in response to this RFP will be evaluated in a manner consistent with the Mississippi Procurement Code, rules, policies and the evaluation criteria established in the RFP.

Understandability and comprehensiveness of information supplied in this RFP will affect the evaluation of the above criteria.

XI. DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFERORS (ORAL PRESENTATION)

An oral presentation by an offeror to clarify a proposal may be required at the sole discretion of the District. However, the District may award a contract based on the initial proposals received without discussion with the Offeror. If oral presentations are required, they will be scheduled after the submission of proposals. Oral presentations will be made at the offerors expense.

XII. AWARD OF CONTRACT

Award shall be made to the offeror whose proposal is the most advantageous to the District taking into consideration price and the other evaluation factors set forth in this request for proposals.

The District reserves the right to award the contract(s) to a technically qualified lower cost offeror(s) in the event the high scoring offer is determined to not be the best value offered to the District, based on a cost benefit analysis.

COST PROPOSAL FORM

HCCSD has approximately 1,400 students and 60 teachers in grades K - 5 per year. The student population in grades K - 5 varies slightly each year. Student licenses need to be transferable between grades, to accommodate the fluctuations in student populations.

COSTS:

- Cost per student license/materials \$_____ (5 years)
- Total cost for student licenses \$_____ (5 years)
- Cost per site/school license \$_____ (5 years)
- Total cost for site/school licenses \$_____ (5 years)
- Cost per teacher license \$_____ (5 years)
- Total cost for teacher licenses/materials \$_____ (5 years)
- Shipping and handling fees \$_____ (5 years)
- Professional development costs \$_____ (if not included)
- TOTAL

List all materials included in package costs, as well as any discounts related to the number of student licenses purchased.