

# Questions and Answers for RFP 2024.01

1. How many Public IPs are required with the Dedicated Internet Access circuit?

**Answer:** A /24 is sufficient as a total number of usable IPs, but we'll need it broken down into /28 (5), /29 (remainder) and a /30 for each COI VLAN that goes into 10Gb COI (15).

2. Is this DIA with VLANs a required service? Can the vendor provide a DIA circuit with equipment to provide 5 separate handoffs. Internet traffic will not be on separate VLANs?

**Answer:** No, we require a single circuit with VLANs to not incur larger interconnect fees from colocation facility.

3. "The DIA connection shall be provided such that the overall bandwidth can be partitioned to provide multiple circuits/vlans. For example, a 5 Gbps DIA may be configured with up to five 1Gbps circuits/vlans each dedicated to an external IP range." How many VLANs do you need? Is it 5 separate VLANs per DIA?

**Answer:** Please see the answer to question 13.

4. Do you need separate DIAs for the South and North networks?

**Answer:** No, we don't do that now as we have a single Cox COI.

5. Do the DIA and Private Line network circuits at the data center need to use diverse fiber?

**Answer:** No, the preference is for as few cross-connects as feasible.

6. What circuit bandwidth is required for the Aecero data center head end for the point-to-point circuit network?

**Answer:** 10Gb handoff for each VLAN tagged (assuming a single 10Gb circuit partitioned into 1Gb segments that may serve multiple schools), but this will need to be able to increase per the RFP.

7. What are the bandwidth/speed requirements at the Host or Aggregate site (2463 W. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, CA 92801, Second floor meet-me room)?

**Answer:** Please see the answer to question 6.

8. What Size IP Block do you require for the DIA or Internet access?

**Answer:** Please see the answer to question 1.

9. The RFP requires a digital copy. Can this copy be sent as a PDF attachment?

**Answer:** Yes, the digital original should be a PDF file.

10. In order to quote the P-T-P circuits, we will need both the A LOC and Z LOC. I didn't see that on the spreadsheet. Can you please provide that info?

**Answer:** The hub is the Aecero datacenter, it is the destination point for all point to point circuits. The address is: Aecero Colocation Data Center, Second Floor Meet-Me Room, 2463 W. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, CA, 92801.

11. I'm assuming all locations pointing to the same A point? If yes, which location is our A location?

**Answer:** Please see the answer to question 10 above.

12. Our question is would the Diocese be willing to Request funding Before July 1 for special construction to allow other vendors to build into these locations? If the Diocese is not willing to Request funding Before July 1, would they be willing to extend their contract with their existing service providers beyond the July 1 date in order to allow a new vendor to complete their construction?

**Answer:** Under E-rate rules, the winning vendor can start work as early as January 1 for services starting July 1, 2024. The Diocese of Orange, Department of Catholic Schools prefers the costs to be amortized over the length of the contract, with no special construction charges.

13. For the EVPL circuits that would connect from Aecero (2463 W La Palma Ave) to each of the remote schools under North or South regions. Our service is billed where the host or aggregate port(s) has a cost associated at the hub. With a separate cost for the service or port at the remote school. To properly reflect this cost on the pricing schedule. On your Pricing Sheet, is it acceptable to insert 1 row for the North region and 1 row for the South region to reflect these service or interface cost for Aecero (2463 W La Palma Ave)?

**Answer:** Yes, the pricing sheet will be revised with optional collector/aggregation circuits. One for the North region and one for the South region. Please also see the answer to question 18.

14. Can Spectrum provide customer pricing sheet as a supplemental document in order for us to provide best proposal pricing?

**Answer:** The Diocese of Orange, Department of Catholic Schools cannot speak for Spectrum or provide any information regarding a customer pricing sheet.

15. For the DIA request on page 5 has the following statement "The DIA connection shall be provided such that the overall bandwidth can be partitioned to provide multiple circuits/vlans. For example, a 5 Gbps DIA may be configured with up to five 1 Gbps circuits/vlans each dedicated to an external IP range." Due to the request for multiple circuits with separate IP allocation. Should bidder submit quotes as 5x 1Gbps, 5x 2Gbps, or 5x 5Gbps with each circuit having their own IP allocation instead of a single circuit?

**Answer:** The reference to 5 was an example to explain the configuration. The requirement is for one circuit with enough IPs to support the creation of up to 10 VLANs to allow virtual partitioning of the circuit. Additionally, refer to question 1.

16. Can you confirm the URL for Net Vendor?

**Answer:** <https://www.netvendor.com/rcbo>

17. Can you please provide the information to register to be an approved vendor for the Diocese of Orange?

**Answer:** Go to the web page linked in the answer to question 14. Follow the instructions there.

18. Will you consider a separate award for the Category 2 items, Cisco hardware and licensing noted on the RFP 2024\_02 Pricing Sheet FINAL, if a no bid is submitted for Category 1 items?

**Answer:** The two RFPs are not contingent on each other. Each RFP stands on its own.

19. On page 12 of the RFP, the SLA calls for a 99.99% availability. Please clarify what you mean by 99.99%. Typically a single DIA circuit has a 99.9% SLA. From a Crown Castle perspective, an SLA of 99.99% signifies a single POE with diverse circuits to the same Hub/POP. Would the 99.99% SLA apply to all locations or just the Data Center?

**Answer:** 99.99% uptime is a downtime of 4 and a half minutes per month. Yes, this applies to all locations.

20. Our ERATE compliance team has identified the following issue below with how the 470 Filling is written. Since this is Hub/Spoke EVPL Solution, the current 470 does not incorporate the Hub Collector circuit which would need to be greater than the 5Gig maximum written on the 470. Perhaps it may be a good idea to file a new 470 to include the higher bandwidth needed for the Hub circuit?

**Answer:** On the Form 470 there are 3 entries for circuits. One is for the WAN circuits for the school sites (200 Mbps to 5 Gbps), one is for the ISP circuits (5 Gbps to 25 Gbps), and one is for additional bandwidth at (5 Gbps to 25 Gbps). While many vendors only charge for the “Location A” and “Location Z,” vendors with a configuration that also includes a collector circuit configuration can reference the line item for the additional 5 Gbps to 25 Gbps. There is language in the RFP and the Form 470 to allow for the purchase of additional circuits by amendment if bandwidth needs to increase.

**The following modifies and adds to the scope of work section on page 6:**

**Costs to provide network and Internet connections (circuits).**

Bidder’s price shall include the following:

1. The proposal should include monthly pricing for each school point to point circuit for the following bandwidths, for each geographic region:

Bandwidth	North Region (PTP)	South Region (PTP)
200 Mbps	\$	\$
500 Mbps	\$	\$
1 Gbps	\$	\$
2 Gbps	\$	\$
5 Gbps	\$	\$

- a. If the proposal includes a collector circuit, indicate the pricing in the pricing sheet by using the “Optional Collector Circuit (North)” and Optional Collector Circuit (South) lines.

Bandwidth	North Region (Collection)	South Region (Collection)
5 Gbps	\$	\$
10 Gbps	\$	\$
15 Gbps	\$	\$
20 Gbps	\$	\$
25 Gbps	\$	\$