



JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE  
—1901—

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL  
R#18013  
**LOCAL PHONE AND LONG DISTANCE  
SERVICES**

June 19, 2018



## **Joliet Junior College Request for Proposal**

### **LOCAL PHONE AND LONG DISTANCE SERVICES**

**RFP Opening June 19, 2018**

#### **Background**

Joliet Junior College (JJC), the nation's first public community college, offers pre-baccalaureate programs for students planning to transfer to a four-year university, occupational education leading directly to employment, adult education and literacy programs, workforce development services, and student support services. America's first public community college began in 1901 as an experimental postgraduate high school program. It was the "brain child" of J. Stanley Brown, Superintendent of Joliet Township High School, and William Rainey Harper, President of the University of Chicago. The college's initial enrollment was six students. Today, JJC serves more than 35,000 students in credit classes and noncredit courses.

JJC is the only public postsecondary institution within District 525 boundaries. JJC is located approximately 45 miles south of Chicago, the third largest city in the United States. Today, the 1,442-square mile district serves over 700,000 residents in Will, Grundy, Kendall, LaSalle, Kankakee, Livingston, and Cook counties. Multiple locations exist to serve residents throughout the district. The College consists of one (1) main campus (2) extended campuses (Romeoville and downtown Joliet), three (3) education centers (Morris, Frankfort, Weitendorf) and multiple satellite locations throughout the district.

JJC has approximately 15,000 students enrolled per year in credit courses.

#### **Vision Statement**

Joliet Junior College will be the first choice.

#### **Mission Statement**

Joliet Junior College is an innovative and accessible institution, dedicated to student learning, community prosperity, cultural enrichment, and inclusion. Joliet Junior College delivers quality lifelong learning opportunities empowering diverse students and the community through academic excellence, workforce training, and comprehensive support services.



## OVERVIEW

The Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College (hereinafter, "JJC") is requesting proposals from Providers for services relating to LOCAL PHONE AND LONG DISTANCE SERVICES.

Additional scope is discussed in the **SCOPE OF WORK** section of this proposal.

## I. RFP SCHEDULE

Date (2018)	Event
May 23, 2018	Vendors contacted via email / advertised
May 31, 2018 by 10:00 a.m. CST	Last date/time for submission of written questions via email to purchasing@jjc.edu
June 5, 2018 by 4:00 p.m. CST	Responses to questions emailed
<b>June 19, 2018 by 2:00 p.m. CST</b>	Proposals must be submitted to the attention of: Janice Reedus, Director of Business & Auxiliary Service, Campus Center Building A, Room 3100, 1215 Houbolt Road, Joliet, IL 60431
June 19-28, 2018	JJC Evaluation Team reviews proposal
July 11-12, 2018	Possible presentations by 2-3 top short-listed firms
August 9, 2018	Notification of Award

## II. INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS

**ADVICE:** The department responsible for this RFP is the Business and Auxiliary Services located at Campus Center, Building A, Room 3100, 1215 Houbolt Rd., Joliet, IL 60431-8938. The JJC contact will be Janice Reedus, Director of Business & Auxiliary Services, telephone (815) 280-6640; fax (815) 280-6631.

Questions concerning this RFP will be answered if sent to the Purchasing Department via email to [purchasing@jjc.edu](mailto:purchasing@jjc.edu) on or before **May 31, 2018 by 10:00 a.m. CST.**

All questions and answers will be published and provided to all potential suppliers by end of business day on **June 5, 2018 by 4:00 p.m. CST.**



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**SUBMISSION:** the submission of a response shall be prima facie evidence that the supplier has full knowledge of the scope, nature, quality of work to be performed, the detailed requirements of the project, and the conditions under which the work is to be performed.

Faxed proposals ARE NOT acceptable. All RFPs must be submitted by the date and time of public opening (see above). RFPs must be submitted on the forms provided in a sealed envelope clearly marked (typed or blocking lettering only) with the vendor's name, return address, RFP for LOCAL PHONE AND LONG DISTANCE SERVICES, the opening date and time. An original and five (5) copies of the RFP, and a complete electronic copy (DVD or flash drive) of the proposal shall be provided. Each hard copy shall be submitted in a binder. RFPs must be addressed to: Joliet Junior College, Janice Reedus, Director of Business & Auxiliary Services, Campus Center Room A3102, 1215 Houbolt Rd., Joliet, IL 60431-8938.

RFPs not submitted in the format as instructed by this RFP will not be accepted. Addendums to this RFP, once filed, may be submitted in a sealed envelope only, properly identified, prior to the opening hour.

Receipt of RFP / Late RFP: Sealed RFPs shall be received at the place and until the time indicated in this RFP. It is the sole responsibility of the vendors to ensure timely delivery of the RFP. JJC will not be responsible for failure of service on the part of the U.S. Postal Service, courier companies, or any other form of delivery service chosen by the vendor.

RFPs received after the date and time specified shall be considered LATE, and shall not be opened.

Accuracy of Proposals / Withdrawal of Proposals prior to RFP Opening: Proposals will represent a true and correct statement and shall contain no cause for claim of omission or error. Proposals maybe withdrawn in writing or by facsimile (provided that the facsimile is signed and dated by vendor's authorized representative) at any time prior to the opening hour. However, no proposal may be withdrawn for a period of one hundred twenty (120) days subsequent to the opening of the RFP without the prior written approval of the Director of Business and Auxiliary Services or Joliet Junior College.

**ADDENDA:** The only method by which any requirement of this solicitation may be modified is by written addendum.

**PROPOSAL DUE DATE:** The proposal must be received on or before **June 19, 2018 by 2:00 p.m.** at the Business and Auxiliary Services Department, Campus Center, Room A3100, 1215 Houbolt Rd., Joliet, IL 60431-8938.



## **INSURANCE:**

The supplier performing services for JJC shall:

Maintain worker's compensation insurance as required by Illinois statutes, for all employees engaged in the work.

Maintain commercial liability, bodily injury and property damage insurance against any claim(s), which might occur in carrying out the services, referenced in this RFP. Minimum coverage will be TWO MILLION DOLLARS (\$2,000,000) liability for bodily injury and property damage including product liability and completed operations.

Provide motor vehicle insurance for all owned, non-owned and hired vehicles that are used in carrying out the services described in this RFP. Minimum coverage shall be TWO MILLION DOLLARS (\$2,000,000) per occurrence combined single limit for automobile liability and property damage.

## **TAXES:**

JJC is exempt from all federal excise, state and local taxes unless otherwise stated in this document. In the event taxes are imposed on the services purchased, JJC will not be responsible for payment of the taxes. The supplier shall absorb the taxes entirely. Upon request, JJC's Tax Exemption Certificate will be furnished.

## **INDEMNIFICATION:**

The supplier shall protect, indemnify and hold JJC harmless against any liability claims and costs of whatsoever kind and nature for injury to or death of any person or persons and for loss or damage to any property occurring in connection with or in any incident to or arising out of occupancy, use, service, operations or performance of work in connection with the contract, resulting in whole or in part from the negligent acts or omissions of the supplier.

## **DISCLOSURE:**

Vendor shall note any and all relationships that might be a conflict of interest and include such information with the bid.

## **TERM OF CONTRACT:**

Any contract, which results from this RFP, shall be for a period of up to five (5) year(s) from the date of the contract award.



## **BLACKOUT PERIOD:**

After the College has advertised for proposals, no pre-proposal vendor shall contact any College officer(s) or employee(s) involved in the solicitation process, except for interpretation of specifications, clarification of bid submission requirements or any information pertaining to prebid conferences. Such vendors making such request shall email Janice Reedus, Director of Business & Auxiliary Services, at [purchasing@jjc.edu](mailto:purchasing@jjc.edu). No vendor shall visit or contact any College officers or an employee until after the proposal is awarded, except in those instances when site inspection is a prerequisite for the submission of a proposal. During the black-out period, any such visitation, solicitation or sales call by any representative of a prospective vendor in violation of this provision may cause the disqualification of such bidder's response.

## **III. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**Applicability:** These general terms and conditions will be observed in preparing the proposal to be submitted.

**Purchase:** After execution of the contract, purchases will be put into effect by means of purchase orders or suitable contract documents executed by the Director of Business and Auxiliary Services.

**Right to Cancel:** JJC may cancel contracts resulting from this RFP at any time for a breach of any contractual obligation by providing the contractor with thirty-calendar days written notice of such cancellation. Should JJC exercise its right to cancel, such cancellation shall become effective on the date as specified in the notice to cancel.

**Governing Law and Venue:** This contract shall be construed in and governed under and by the laws of the State of Illinois. Any actions or remedies pursued by either party shall be pursued in the State and Federal Courts of Will County, Illinois, only after Alternate Dispute resolution (ADR) has been exhausted.

**Dispute Resolution:** JJC and the contractor shall attempt to resolve any controversy or claim arising from any contractual matter by mediation. The parties will agree on a mediator and shall share in the mediation costs equally.

**Costs:** All costs directly or indirectly related to preparation of a response or oral presentation, if any, required to supplement and/or clarify a proposal shall be the sole responsibility of and shall be borne by the vendor.



**Proprietary Information:** Vendor should be aware that the contents of all submitted proposals are subject to public review and will be subject to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act. All information submitted with your proposal will be considered public information unless vendor identifies all proprietary information in the proposal by clearly marking on the top of each page so considered, "Proprietary Information." The Illinois Attorney General shall make a final determination of what constitutes proprietary information or trade secrets. While JJC will endeavor to maintain all submitted information deemed proprietary within JJC, JJC will not be liable for the release of such information.

**Business Enterprise Program (BEP):**

Minorities, Females, and Persons with Disabilities Participation and Utilization Plan:

Joliet Junior College will make every effort to use local business firms and contract with small, minority-owned, and/or women-owned businesses in the procurement process. This solicitation contains a goal to include businesses owned and controlled by minorities, females, and persons with disabilities in the College's procurement and contracting processes in accordance with the State of Illinois' Business Enterprise for Minorities, Females, and Persons with Disabilities Act (30 ILCS 575). Because these goals vary by business ownership status and category of procurement, we urge interested businesses to visit the Department of Central Management Services (CMS), [Business Enterprise Program \(BEP\)](#) web site to obtain additional details. To qualify, prime vendors or subcontractors must be certified by the CMS as BEP vendors prior to contract award. Go to (<http://www2.illinois.gov/cms/business/sell2/bep/Pages/default.aspx>) for complete requirements for BEP certification. For applicable projects, vendors may be asked to submit a [utilization plan](#) and [letter of intent](#) that meets or exceeds the identified goal. If a vendor cannot meet the goal, documentation and explanation of good faith efforts to meet the specified goal may be required within the utilization plan.

**Negotiation:** JJC reserves the right to negotiate all elements, which comprise the vendor's proposal to ensure the best possible consideration, be afforded to all concerned. JJC further reserves the right to waive any and all minor irregularities in the proposal, waive any defect, and/or reject any and all proposals, and to seek new proposals when such an action would be deemed in the best interest of JJC.

**Award:** The successful vendor, as determined by JJC, shall be required to execute a contract for the furnishing of all services and other deliverables required for successful completion of the proposed project. The supplier may not assign, sell, or otherwise transfer its interest in the contract award or any part thereof without written permission from JJC.

**Retention of Documentation:** All proposal materials and supporting documentation that is submitted in response to this proposal becomes the permanent property of JJC.

**Opening of Proposals:** Proposals will be opened in a manner that avoids disclosure of the contents to competing vendors. Contents for proposals will remain confidential during the negotiations period. Only the proposal number and the identity of the vendor submitting the proposal response will be made available to the public.



## IV. FORMAT FOR RESPONSE

To achieve a uniform review process and obtain the maximum degree of comparability, it is required that the proposal be organized in the format specified.

An original and five (5) copies of the RFP and a complete electronic copy (DVD or flash drive) of the proposal shall be provided. Each hard copy shall be submitted in a binder. The original copy should be so noted and signed.

### 1. Title Page

Show the RFP subject, the name of the vendor's firm, address, telephone number, name of contact person, and date.

### 2. Table of Contents

Clearly identify the materials by sections and page number(s).

### 3. Letter of Transmittal

Limit to one or two pages.

- a. Briefly state the vendor's understanding of the scope of services to be provided and make a commitment to provide the services within the time period.
- b. List the names of the persons who will be authorized to make representations for the vendor, their titles, address, and telephone numbers.

### 4. Profile of the Vendor

Indicate the number of people in the organization and their level of experience and qualification and the percentage of their time that will be dedicated to this process.

- a. Provide a list of the vendor's top ten current and prior two-year clients indicating the type of services the organization has performed for each client.
- b. Submit independently audited financial statements (one copy only). Such information will be considered in strict confidence.
- c. Indicate any third-party firms involved with your program and state their role(s). Please note Joliet Junior College reserves the right to disregard proposals if, based solely on the College's discretion, a third party is deemed to be unable to fulfill the requirements of this RFP.
- d. Provide contact information (name, phone number, and email address of at least three (3) references for projects of similar size and scope.





## 5. Scope Section

Clearly describe the scope of services to be provided based upon the information in the scope section. Respond to each item listed.

## 6. Responses to Addendum

## 7. Prices Responses

## 8. Invoicing Procedure

- a. Describe the firm's invoicing procedures.
- b. Include documentation identifying all of the vendor's fees.

## 9. Proposed Contract

Please submit a draft contract for the services being offered.

## 10. Bidder's Certification Statement

## V. EVALUATION

In evaluating the proposals submitted, JJC will apply the "Best Value" standard in selecting the supplier to be awarded a contract for this project. Purchase price is not the only criteria that will be used in the evaluation process. Any award resulting from this RFP will be made to that vendor whose offer conforms to the RFP and it is determined to be the most advantageous, of "best value" to JJC, in the sole judgment of JJC. The selection process will include, but not be limited to, the following considerations:

1. The quality and range of services the firm proposes to provide.
2. The extent to which the goods or services meet JJC needs.
3. The firm's overall experience, reputation, expertise, stability and financial responsibility.
4. The vendor's past relationship with JJC, if any.
5. The experience and qualifications of the staff that will be assigned to service JJC's account.
6. The ability to provide service in an expedient and efficient manner.
7. Quality and range of management reports
8. Vendor's financial terms offered to JJC.
9. The training options available (if applicable).
10. The total, long-term cost to JJC to acquire the vendor's goods and services.
11. Any other relevant factor that a private business entity would consider in selecting a supplier.



## VI. SCOPE OF WORK

Joliet Junior College currently uses AT&T for local phone service, analog phone lines, and PRIs but are looking at SIP trunking in the near future. Joliet Junior College currently uses AT&T and Midwest Telecom of America, Inc. for long distance service. The following specifications are to be used as guidelines in quoting or recommending a proposed solution. Joliet Junior College uses an Avaya VoIP telephone system using PRI's and analog trunking with its main system located at Main Campus and its redundant fail over system at City Center campus. Each campus is interconnected with a Comcast high-speed fiber connection.

Joliet Junior College may award a single contract for local phone and long distance services or two (2) separate contracts - one (1) for local service and one (1) for long distance service.

**Joliet Junior College currently uses a series of numbers with the prefix of 280. This prefix is mandatory and must remain with the awarded company; however, individual invoices must be mailed for 1215 Houbolt Road, Joliet, IL**

### Joliet Junior College Building Locations

Main Campus	City Center	Romeoville Campus	Weitendorf Agricultural Education Center	Morris Education Center	Frankfort Education Center
1215 Houbolt Road	235 N. Chicago Street	1125 W. Romeo Road (135th Street)	17840 Laraway Road	725 School Street (Door 27)	201 Colorado Avenue (West Entrance 4)
Joliet, IL 60431	Joliet, IL 60432	Romeoville, IL 60446	Joliet, IL 60433	Morris, IL 60450	Frankfort, IL 60423

Main Campus has three (3) PRIs and 10 analog lines.

City Center Campus has one (1) PRI and six (6) analog lines.

Romeoville Campus has one (1) PRI and 12 analog lines.

Morris Campus has seven (7) analog lines.

Weitendorf Agricultural Center has five (5) analog lines.

There are five (5) additional analog lines that are not located at any of the campuses used for offsite registration and other services.



PRI lines/calls are split into three zones A, B, and C. Zone coverage is as follows: Zone A covers area code 815 (0 – 8 miles), Zone B covers area codes 630, 708 and 815, and Zone C covers 224, 312, 630, 708, 773, 815, and 847.

For the period of February – April of 2018, the college averaged 51,833 minutes of band A calls, 3,458 minutes of Band B calls, 62 minutes of Band C calls, 14 minutes of Intralata calls, and 23,083 minutes of intralata/interlata long distance.

## **VII. QUANTITY**

There is no guaranteed amount of services intended either expressly or implied, to be purchased or, contracted for by JJC. However, the supplier awarded the contract shall furnish all required services to JJC at the stated price, when and if required.

## **VIII. PROPOSED PRICING**

The vendor should furnish a list of proposed prices for all services and materials to be used during the term of the contract. Vendor should provide pricing options for a multi-year contract. Please specify the specific number of years and associated pricing.

Joliet Junior College also requires that fees be stated for Intralata, Indiana Corridor and International Directory Assistance calls.

The list of proposed prices should be structured to allow for the calculation of unit cost analyses.

The prices included herein are to be firm through the contract term, unless noted otherwise by the vendor.



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## CERTIFICATION OF CONTRACT/BIDDER

The below signed contractor/bidder hereby certifies that it is not barred from bidding on this or any other contract due to any violation of either Section 33E-3 or 33E-4 of Article 33E, Public Contracts, of the Illinois Criminal Code of 1961, as amended. This certification is required by Public Act 85-1295. This Act relates to interference with public contracting, bid rigging and rotating, kickbacks and bribery.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF CONTRACTOR/BIDDER

\_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

THIS FORM **MUST** BE RETURNED WITH YOUR BID TO:

Joliet Junior College District #525  
Director of Business & Auxiliary Services, A-3100  
1215 Houbolt Road  
Joliet IL 60431