

Pierce County Library System
2022 Request for Proposals for Wireless Access points (WAPs)
E-Rate 470 #: 220004280
Q&A and Updates to the RFP

01/03/2022

Due to the inclement weather and its impacts on PCLS and other business closures over the past week, the Library is extending the deadline for submitting bids for this RFP until Friday, January 7, 2021 at 5 p.m.. Vendors who have already submitted bids are welcome to re-submit a Best And Final Offer during this time period.

12/21/2021

The deadline for submitting bids for this RFP has been extended until December 31, 2021 at 5 p.m..

12/03/2021

Q: Would PCLS find it beneficial to provide an alternate solution for an AP with an upgraded radio configuration; 4x4 on the 5Ghz and 2x2 on the 2.4Ghz?

A: PCLS will not benefit from the upgraded configuration. While the Library currently has 20 public venues, it does not have, or expect to have, high-density locations (like campuses or stadiums) requiring the benefits of the additional radios.

Q: Does the PCLS consider certification by the Wi-Fi Alliance of an AP for Wi-Fi 6 a functional requirement?

A: Yes. Per the Wi-Fi Alliance, Wi-Fi CERTIFIED 6™ networks support the IEEE 802.11ax standard. Additionally, these products provide, *"...quality connectivity in locations with hundreds of devices...as well as corporate networks utilizing time sensitive, high bandwidth applications, Wi-Fi CERTIFIED 6 networks ensure each connected device performs at an optimum level. Wi-Fi CERTIFIED 6 devices meet the highest standards for security and interoperability, and enable lower battery consumption..."* These benefits, among others, meet the future business, and customer, connection needs of the Library.

11/23/2021

Q: Do we have blueprints on all of these locations?

A: Most of the new wireless access points will replace existing access points using existing cable runs. Blue prints should not be needed for bidders to prepare a proposal. As stated in the RFP, PCLS will

work with the winning bidder to determine the final quantities and locations of WAPs and the winning proposal can be adjusted accordingly.

Q: Is there an expectation that switches will be provided as they would be needed for these deployments?

A: Current switches at all locations meet the technical specifications for POE and will be used for connecting the new WAPs.