

Request for Proposals No. 2025-19

Addendum 01 – Pre-Bid Conference Q&A

This document is posted to capture the questions received, and agency answers provided, during the Pre-Bid Conference, which was held on January 8, 2025.

All amendments, addenda, and notifications related to this procurement will be posted on the [OSPI website](#) (if this was an open procurement) and on the Washington Electronic Business Solution ([WEBS](#)) website. Additional questions concerning this procurement must be submitted to contracts@K12.wa.us. Communication directed to other parties will be considered unofficial and non-binding on OSPI, and may result in disqualification of the Consultant.

1. **Question:** Is OSPI looking for a COTS system or custom development?
Answer: Our Feasibility Study recommended development using a Low Code Application Platform (LCAP), but we are not rejecting proposals based on other approaches.
2. Can we see screenshots or documentation of the legacy system?
Answer: Apportionment, Enrollment, and Fiscal Reports produced for public school districts are available on the OSPI's [School Apportionment](#) webpage. You may also review the [Enrollment Reporting User Guide](#) for a customer facing view of SAFS systems. Technical documentation of the current system is not available at this time.
3. What is the legacy SAFS System written in?
Answer: The legacy system was a custom development using C#.
4. How do you feel about the notion of running your systems concurrently as recommended by the feasibility study?
Answer: The current system will stay active until the new system is up and running; there can be no downtime between systems. Not so much a technical challenge as an operational problem. We're not opposed to running the two systems concurrently every single month, but we could keep the legacy system running in the background and make run a month's transactions two or three times a year to see that both systems are providing the same outputs.
5. Does the organization want a term license product or rather a custom build?
Answer: We want to own the coding and development and also have it hosted. If it's hosted and maintained, we'll have a service contract.



6. Do all team members need to be onshore, or can we use an offshore approach for implementation? How about continued support?
Answer: We want US-based workers working on this system. Remote work is acceptable.
7. There was an RFP for this project released in July 2024. Why are you re-releasing the RFP?
Answer: We had an insufficient number of respondents, probably because the process was rushed the first time through.
8. What concerns do you have about the legacy system and its development approach?
Answer: From the technical side, we don't have any major shortcomings, except that there are portions that are extremely old, which impacts the interchanges with other systems, and we'd like to update this. On the business side, not everything is interconnected and requires considerable manual efforts. Because things are done manually, it takes us a long time and considerable testing to respond to new legislative mandates.
9. Is this project's workforce required to be on-site or is remote work a possible option?
Answer: We are comfortable with off-site work, but as mentioned above, we'd like the workers to be based in the US.
10. In what format is the data collected from non-SAFS systems? Is it integration or collection?
Answer: For non-SAFS, basically Excel, which then needs to be manually reformatted to CSV or HTML. Another subset comes in via CSV.
11. Is the current SAFS system hosted on cloud infrastructure, or is it maintained on-premises or within a dedicated data center?
Answer: The current system is hosted on-prem.
12. Does the future state infrastructure plan indicate whether to be on prem or in the cloud?
Answer: The recommendation from the feasibility study is to explore in-cloud hosting, and the state recommends moving to in-cloud hosting.
13. Do you use external consultants for the current system?
Answer: Yes, we currently use external consultants to work on the system.
14. Can we deploy our product to your azure instance if you have one?
Answer: We are open to this option, however, we would need a detailed proposal describing how this work.

15. Can you provide the name of current vendor maintaining the system?

Answer: Kiehl NW

No questions or responses included in this document require any changes to the solicitation document; this document stands alone.