

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL HYPERCONVERGED VIRTUALIZED STORAGE HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE

Submission Guidelines & Requirements

You are hereby notified that Grant Wood AEA (GWAEA) is seeking sealed proposals for a hyperconverged virtualized storage solution as described in the information included herein. Proposals will be received at the GWAEA Business Office, 4401 6th St SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404, until 10:00 AM on Friday, May 2, 2025. Attention to Barb Harms. Only proposals received at the location described and in the time frame given will be considered.

GWAEA is looking for a Hyperconverged Virtualized solution to replace our existing virtual environment.

Requirements

- Minimum 3 node solution that can accommodate a single node being offline and still being able to run at full capacity.
- Minimum specifications for each node:
 - Single Intel Gold 5317 12-Core 3.4 Ghz processor
 - 192 GB Memory
 - 3x 4TB SAS Hard drives plus a single 3.84 Solid State Drive
 - 4 ports 10GBase-T Network Card
 - Dual power supplies
- System can logically automatically assign virtual disks in order to either the Solid State Drive or the spinning SAS drives
- 5-year license/warranty/full support on the entire system.

The award of the contract will be made by the Board of Directors of GWAEA to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, taking into consideration the quality of materials, support services, response times and any other factor which the Board may permissibly consider. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of 30 days after the bid opening has passed. The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids, or any part thereof, and to waive informalities and to enter into such contract as shall be deemed in the best interest of GWAEA in their sole and absolute discretion.

General Terms and Conditions

The offeror shall provide hardware and software in accordance with the technical specifications described herein. Warranties and support agreements for the hardware and software shall be made available by the offeror. Hardware and software shall be accepted by the Agency when in accordance with all specific terms and conditions of this RFP.

The offeror shall arrange for training in accordance with the technical specifications

described herein. Such training shall occur at a mutually agreed upon time and location.

Proposal

All clarifying questions regarding any part of the RFP will be submitted via email to Brandon Watson, Network Administrator, at bwatson@gwaea.org. The subject line of the email message must read "GWAEA Storage Project".

The proposal must be signed by a duly authorized representative of the offeror. The offeror will be assumed to be familiar with all specifications of the RFP and any and all special provisions by reference made a part of these specifications.

A signed copy of the proposal shall be submitted by 10:00 AM on Friday, May 2, 2025 to Grant Wood AEA, Attn: Barb Harms, 4401 6th St SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404 or by email to bharms@gwaea.org.

Proposed Price

Hardware shall be a current model under standard production by the manufacturer and shall be furnished complete with necessary standard equipment and accessories. Software shall be the latest available general release unless otherwise specified.

Proposal price shall be for hardware/software complete, delivered to Grant Wood AEA, 4401 6th St SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404. Unless otherwise specified, prices are to be firm for at least a 90-day period. Offerors are asked to state a longer firm price period, if possible. It is the intent of the Agency to purchase the hardware and software within 90 days from the date of the opening.

Prices quoted shall not include state or federal taxes from which the Agency is exempt. The necessary exemption certificate will be furnished upon request.

Manufacturer's Rebates

If, as a result of this proposal, the Agency becomes eligible for a factory authorized rebate, the full amount of the rebate shall pass to the Agency without reservations by the offeror. If the rebate stipulates specific requirements for eligibility (such as order dates, delivery dates, etc.) the offeror shall, to the best of their ability, assist the Agency in meeting the requirements.

Contract Award

The contract between the Agency and the offeror shall be a combination of the specifications, terms and conditions of this RFP, offeror's response and any written clarifications or changes made in accordance with the provisions herein.

Receiving and Inspection

All hardware and software must be delivered in accordance with the specifications. It will

SIXTH STREET FACILITY

4401 Sixth Street SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
800-332-8488 • Fax: 319-399-6457

33RD AVENUE FACILITY

1120 33rd Avenue SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
800-332-8488 • Fax: 319-399-6474

CORALVILLE FACILITY

2301 Oakdale Boulevard
Coralville, IA 52241
800-854-0446 • Fax: 319-626-1101

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be the offeror's responsibility to inspect hardware. Any deficiencies or corrections must be rectified in a timely manner at the offeror's expense. Full satisfactory acceptance by the Agency will occur when the hardware and software are received and functioning in full compliance with the specifications.

Warranty

Hardware specified herein and furnished shall be fully warranted by the manufacturer against any and all defects. The warranty period(s) for any items herein are not exclusive remedies, and the Agency has recourse to any warranties of additional scope given by the manufacturer to the Agency and all other remedies available at law or in equity. Proposal shall include all pertinent warranty information on proposed hardware. The manufacturer's warranties shall commence with full satisfactory acceptance of the hardware by the Agency.

The offeror accepts the risk of loss or damage until full satisfactory acceptance of hardware by the Agency.

Payment Terms

Original invoice must be mailed to:

Grant Wood Area Education Agency
Accounts Payable
4401 6th St SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

An invoice for the hardware and software received by the Agency that conforms to the requirements of the purchase contract and is in proper order will be paid after approval of the Agency Board of Directors. Invoices received by the end of a month that are in proper order will be paid within 20 days.

If any portion of any invoice or any item on the invoice is not in proper order, the Agency shall have the right to withhold payment of the entire invoice without the imposition of late fees or charges, until the invoice and all items on the invoice are in proper order. A copy of said invoice, along with an explanation of corrective action needed to be taken by the offeror for compliance, will be provided by the Agency to the vendor orally or in writing.

Remedies Upon Default

Any of the following events shall constitute cause for the Agency to declare a vendor in default of its obligations under this contract:

- non-performance of this contract;
- a failure by vendor to make substantial and timely progress toward performance of this contract;

- a failure of items provided by vendor to meet the specifications noted herein;
- a breach of any term of this contract.

The Agency shall issue a written notice of default providing therein for a fifteen-day period in which the vendor shall have an opportunity to cure, provided that cure is possible and feasible.

If, after opportunity to cure, the default remains, the Agency may do one or more of the following:

- procure goods or services in substitution from an alternate source and charge the difference between the contract price and alternate price to the defaulting vendor;
- exercise any remedy provided by law;
- immediately terminate the contract agreement.

Disclosure of Proposal Content

The laws of the State of Iowa require that at the conclusion of the selection process, the contents for all proposals will be placed in the public domain and be open to inspection by interested parties. Trade secrets or proprietary information that are recognized as such and are protected by law may be withheld if clearly identified as such in the proposal.

Contact Information

Barb Harms
Director of Business Services
319-399-6704
bharms@gwaea.org

Technical Contacts
Jason Marshall
Coordinator of Information and Education Technology
319-399-6408
jmarshall@gwaea.org

Brandon Watson
Network Administrator
bwatson@gwaea.org