

OFFEROR QUESTIONS – RFP 25-2700, Idaho Reading Indicator

All questions submitted by Offerors have been answered below.

Question	RFP Section	RFP Page	Question	Response
1	8.4.1H and 8.4.1J	41	The numbering of the items skips from 8.4.1H to 8.4.1J. Is it intentional that there is no item numbers 8.4.1i?	This was intentional to not confuse numbers and letters. There is no 8.4.1i.
2	5.3	16	A revised version of the RFP was released on May 10. This is not indicated as an "Amendment". Please confirm	The update on May 10 only replaced the blank PDFs with fillable versions. Nothing substantive was amended.
3	8.1.4A and 8.1.4B	27-29	8.1.4A (ME) and 8.1.4B (E) include the text "An assessment package that can be administered on paper/pencil whose results will be comparable to those obtained through digital testing." 8.1.4A is shown as (ME) while 8.1.4B is (E). Should this requirement be deleted from 8.1.4A as it is covered in 8.1.4B? If not deleted, any computer adaptive assessment that does not include an equivalent paper/pencil version would be eliminated from consideration due to not meeting the requirements of 8.1.4A (ME).	"An assessment package that can be administered on paper/pencil whose results will be comparable to those obtained through digital testing" should only be included in 8.1.4B (E). The language will be deleted from 8.1.4A (ME).

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4	8.1.1.B	24	<p>(a mandatory and evaluated component of the RFP) notes that the resulting data from the K-3 assessment package, “be appropriate for use for statewide accountability and funding allocations,” and that the offeror should describe how their proposed solution “ can be used as an end-of-year summative assessment.” Can you please explain, 1) for which components of your statewide accountability system are you seeking data from the results of the K-3 reading assessment, and 2) can you elaborate on the term, “can be used as” as summative assessment.</p>	<p>The Idaho Reading Indicator (IRI) is administered twice annually to all K-3 students in Idaho. The first administration serves as a screening tool at the start of the school year, while the second takes place in May as a summative assessment. Funding allocation is linked to this second assessment, with districts receiving funds based on student growth from one spring to the next.</p> <p>IRI is not a federally mandated assessment. Idaho Code sections 33-1809 and 33-1002(r) outline the use of this assessment in a summative nature.</p> <p>The summative assessment needs to measure the mastery of Idaho content standards in each grade level and have its own secure item bank that prevents excessive testing and rote memorization.</p>
5	1.3	8	<p>The stated purpose of the RFP (Section 1.3) is to develop and provide the statewide early literacy assessment that serves our K-3 population, known as the Idaho Reading Indicator, IRI, pursuant to Idaho State Statute section 33-1806. The assessment program system will encompass a screener, progress monitoring, and an end-of-grade summative assessment. It is imperative that the screener meets the dyslexia screener requirements outlined in Idaho State Statute 33-1811”; however, neither State Statute 33-1806 or -1811 mention an end of grade summative assessment. Can you expand on where the summative portion of the RFP requirement comes from?”</p>	<p>The Idaho Reading Indicator (IRI) is administered twice annually to all K-3 students in Idaho. The first administration serves as a screening tool at the start of the school year, while the second takes place in May as a summative assessment. Funding allocation is linked to this second assessment, with districts receiving funds based on student growth from one spring to the next.</p> <p>Idaho Code sections 33-1809 and 33-1002(r) outline the use of this assessment in a summative nature.</p>

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6		Attachment 4	Attachment 4 (the Cost Proposal) asks that offerors, "provide an itemized breakdown to support the Offeror's cost." Do you have a preferred format (or a template) for that itemized breakdown?"	No, the Department does not have a preferred format or template.
7	N/A	N/A	How many students in grades K-6 will need to be assessed?	Only students in grades K-3 will be assessed. The state of Idaho has approximately 90,000 students in grades K-3.
8	N/A	N/A	How many teachers in each grade will require training on the chosen program?	The teacher training will be conducted regionally (6 regions in Idaho) with at least 1 teacher/admin from each building or district.
9	8.4.3A	42	Do you have any specific LMS's in mind, and what functionality?	No, the Department does not have specific LMS's in mind. The functionality would be rostering and importing scores.
10	8.4.3D	42	EdFi will be available for BTS 25, does that meet the requirement? Clarification: Does requirement 8.4.3D need to be met for the pilot year, or is having an API ready for the start of the 2025-2026 year satisfactory?	8.4.3D is not a mandatory requirement; if the functionality is available, it will be evaluated and scored.

<p>11</p>	<p>IDE GENERAL TERMS & CONDITION S, Section 5.</p>	<p>Contractor respectfully requests that a new paragraph be added to Section 5. Intellectual Property and Ownership of Materials. Rationale - to recognize the Contractor's rights in its preexisting IP. Explanation - Contractor owns IP that is used to deliver services proposed herein, as well as to multiple other clients. Recommended verbiage - Contractor seeks to add a new paragraph as follows:</p> <p>Contractor Intellectual Property. Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing to the contrary, Contractor shall retain all right, title and interest in and to any work, derivative works, ideas, inventions, discoveries, tools, methodology, computer programs, processes and improvements and any other intellectual property, tangible or intangible, that has been created by Contractor prior to entering into this Agreement and any derivations thereof ("Contractor Intellectual Property"). Contractor Intellectual Property includes, but is not limited to, Contractor's test items and associated metadata, proprietary digital applications and systems for student registration, item authoring, test delivery and online results reporting and related systems. Should IDE require a license for the use of Contractor Intellectual Property in connection with the development or use of the items that Contractor is required to deliver under this Agreement, the Contractor shall grant a royalty-free license for such development and use during the term of this Agreement.</p>	<p>The Department does not accept the proposed term. Section 5, Intellectual Property and Ownership of Materials does not pertain to Contractor's pre-existing intellectual property.</p>
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12	IDE GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS, Section 7.		<p>Contractor respectfully requests changes to Section 7. Contractor's Performance. Rationale – the phrase “highest professional standard” is not defined. Explanation – Contractor seeks to use “industry standard” as the more conventional standard. Recommended verbiage - Contractor seeks Section 7 to read as follows:</p> <p>All work done by the Contractor shall be of the industry standard and shall be performed to the IDE's reasonable satisfaction. The detailed manner and method of performing the work is under the control of Contractor, with the IDE being interested only in the results obtained. The IDE and Contractor agree that Contractor is an "Independent Contractor" as defined by law as to all work performed under this Agreement.</p>	The Department does not accept the proposed revision.

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13	IDE GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS, Section 13.1.		<p>Contractor respectfully requests changes to Section 13.1 Contractor's Indemnification. Rationale and Explanation – amend language to include a negligent standard to conform to other sections found within the IDE's terms and seek additional phrasing amendments. Recommended verbiage - Contractor seeks Section 13.1 to read as follows:</p> <p>Contractor shall indemnify, and hold harmless the State, its officers, agents, and employees from and against any and all damages, losses, expenses, including attorneys' fees, and suits whatsoever caused by, arising out of, or in connection with Contractor's negligent acts or omissions under this Agreement or Contractor's failure to comply with any state or federal statute, law, regulation, or rule during performance or applicable to the performance of the Agreement.</p>	The Department does not accept the proposed revision.

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14	IDE SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR CLOUD SERVICES, Section 18.		<p>Contractor respectfully requests changes to Section 18 Audits. Rationale and Explanation – amend language to reflect Contractor’s ISO audit procedures and requirements. Recommended verbiage - Contractor seeks Section 18 to read as follows:</p> <p>Contractor maintains ISO 27001 and ISO 27018 certification which are independently audited on an annual basis. As part of Contractor’s annual certification process, Contractor reviews and verifies datacenter certifications and SOC 2 reports. Contractor shall only use certified datacenters located within the United States. In addition, the Contractor shall annually conduct its own internal security audit and address security gaps. If requested, and under an executed non-disclosure agreement, the Contractor shall give the IDE a copy of the most current report from each audit listed above.</p>	The Department does not accept the proposed revision.
15	4.3 Format	14	The RFP states, “In the response, restate the RFP section and/or Section, followed with the response.” Please confirm vendors only need to indicate the section number and title, and not repeat the RFP requirement text.	Yes, that is correct.

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16	Section 2.3, Questions	12	<p>Section 2.3, Questions, Last Paragraph on Page 12, states, "Proposals which condition the Proposal based upon the Department accepting other terms and conditions not found in the RFP, or which take exception to the Department's terms and conditions, will be found non-responsive, and no further consideration of the Proposal will be given."</p> <p>Will the state allow the chosen vendor to negotiate legal terms later, prior to the contract execution?</p>	No, the Department will not negotiate legal terms later.
17	Section 5 Mandatory Submission Requirements, Subsection 54	16	If a vendor offers a solution that largely meets the objectives of the scope of work, but cannot meet one or more "M" or "ME" requirements, will their proposal be evaluated?	No, failure to respond or comply with any mandatory specification or requirement in an (M) or (ME) section will render the Proposal non-responsive and it will not be further evaluated.
18	Section 8.1.4 Accessibility Features, Subsection 8.1.4A General Accommodations	27	Requirement 8.1.4A is Mandatory and Evaluated and requires, "An assessment package that can be administered on paper/pencil whose results will be comparable to those obtained through digital testing." Requirement 8.1.4B is Evaluated and says, "An assessment package that can be administered on paper/pencil (including Braille) whose results will be comparable to those obtained through digital testing." Please confirm whether an assessment package that can be administered on paper/pencil is "Mandatory and Evaluated" or "Evaluated".	"An assessment package that can be administered on paper/pencil whose results will be comparable to those obtained through digital testing" should only be included in 8.1.4B (E). The language will be deleted from 8.1.4A (ME).

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19	Section 8.1.4 Accessibility Features,	29	Per our question regarding RFP requirement 8.1.4A, please confirm whether an assessment package that can be administered on paper/pencil is "Mandatory and Evaluated" or "Evaluated".	Evaluated only.
20	Section 8.2, Psychometrics	39	Are the numbered requirements 8.1.17-8.1.19 meant to be numbered as 8.2.17-8.2.19?	Yes. That will be corrected.
21	Section 8.4.5, User Management	44	Item 8.4.5H states "In the Offeror's Solution authorized IDE System Managers must be able to make changes to the system (e.g., cut scores, tiers etc.) at no additional costs (whether technical support is required)." Is the department seeking the ability to have IDE System Managers make changes to aspects such as rostering support OR looking to update cut scores, knowing this may affect validity and reliability?	The department has determined that 8.4.5H is not relevant and will be deleted.
22	Attachment 2, Cover Form, Table Item 5	54	Attachment 2, Cover form, Page 54, Item 5 of the Table, states, "Other than modifications/exceptions identified on Attachment 2, does Offeror accept, and is Offeror willing to comply with, the requirements of this RFP and attachments, including but not limited to those identified in the Idaho Department of Education General and Special Terms and Conditions?" Will the state allow the chosen vendor to negotiate legal terms later, prior to the contract execution?	No, the Department will not negotiate legal terms later.

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23	4.1	14	<p>Page 14 of the RFP document notes that the “RFP Lead may waive minor informalities as well as minor deviations. The RFP Lead also reserves the right to seek clarification on any M, ME, or E requirement).” Does this mean the State will consider programs that do not meet all of the “Mandatory” and “Mandatory and Evaluated Response” requirements?</p>	<p>No, failure to respond or comply with any mandatory specification or requirement in an (M) or (ME) section will render the Proposal non-responsive and it will not be further evaluated.</p>
24	Att. 1	52	<p>Will a new question form be coming?</p>	<p>Fillable PDFs were substituted for the non-fillable PDFs on May 10, 2024.</p>
25	8.2.4	34	<p>The question asks providers to "Attach an alignment study if applicable." Is it desired that providers include such an attachment in the ultimate PDF, as a separate attached document, or as a link? Does this answer change if the attachment is extensive (more than 100 pages)?</p>	<p>Please include in the ultimate PDF, even if the attachment is extensive.</p>