



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP 25042

FIBER LOOP

RFP Number: The above Request for Proposal Number has been assigned to the Request and **MUST** be shown on all correspondence or other documents associated with this Request and **MUST** be referred to in all verbal and written communications. *All inquiries, written or verbal, unless otherwise specified herein, shall be directed to purchasing@washburn.edu only.*

Purpose: This document constitutes a request from Washburn University for competitive proposals from vendors in accordance with the terms, conditions, requirement and instructions stated herein.

READ THIS REQUEST CAREFULLY

Failure to abide by all of the conditions of the Request for Proposal (RFP) may result in the rejection of a bid.

Section I. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of Request

Washburn is seeking proposals for a cable installer to install a new Fiber Backbone and Network infrastructure loop on the Washburn University Main campus. **Phase 1 must be completed by July 1, 2026. Phase 2 to be completed by July 1, 2027.**

1.2 RFP Details

Important Dates

RFP Issued	April 28, 2025
Recommended Walk-Through	May 2, 2025 at 10 AM CST
(Meet in the main lobby of Morgan Hall – North side of the building along 17 th Street)	

RFP Inquiry Questions Due	May 9, 2025
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Proposal Due Date **May 16, 2025 at 2 PM CST**

*Proposals must be received by **May 16, 2025 at 2 PM (CST)** local time. Proposals must be in electronic format or delivered in sealed envelope to the Purchasing Office, Morgan 214 and must be received by the date, time, and place stated herein in order to be considered.*

Inquiries

All inquiries about the RFP must be submitted either electronically (PREFERRED) or by United States Postal Service in a sealed envelope. Please be mindful that if USPS is selected as your method of delivery, that the bid **MUST** be received by the University in the Purchasing Office by **May 16, 2025 at 2 PM CST**:

Gabrielle Rye
Buyer
1700 SW College Ave
Morgan 214
Topeka, KS 66621
purchasing@washburn.edu

Questions arising subsequent to the issuance of the RFP that could have an impact on the responses should be submitted by **May 9, 2025** to purchasing@washburn.edu. All official answer to questions submitted will be in the form of an addendum and be in written form **ONLY**. No other answers given in any other format will be deemed not valid for this RFP.

Submission

Email your proposal to Washburn Purchasing (purchasing@washburn.edu) by 2:00 pm, Central Time on **May 16, 2025**. Adobe PDF document type is preferred, but Microsoft Word and Excel document types are accepted.

Washburn University reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive or refuse to waive errors or omissions in any proposal, to extend the time for submission of proposals, or to withdraw this request at any time. In no event shall a vendor submit its own standard contract terms and conditions as a response to this RFP. The vendor should address specific language or exact contract deviations that its firm wishes to negotiate in a section entitled exceptions.

Acceptance

Washburn University may award the contract to the vendor whose proposal is determined to be the most beneficial to the University. The University will contact the vendor upon acceptance of a proposal. Washburn University will also notify all unsuccessful proposers as to the outcome of the evaluation process. This RFP does not obligate the University to award a contract and reserves the right to cancel this RFP if cancellation is in the University's best interest.

Parties to the RFP

Parties to the contract will be Washburn University and the vendor. Invoices for all services and reimbursable expenses will be submitted to the Washburn University department of record for

payment. Approved payments will be subsequently made by Washburn University in accordance with the contract.

Costs of Proposal Preparation

The cost of developing and submitting the proposal is entirely the responsibility of the vendor. This includes costs to determine the nature of the engagement, preparation of the proposal, submitting the proposal, negotiating for the contract and other costs associated with this RFP.

Competition

The purpose of this RFP is to seek competition. The vendor shall advise the Washburn University Purchasing Office if any specification, language or other requirement inadvertently restricts or limits bidding to a single source. Notification shall be in writing and must be received by the Washburn University Purchasing Director no later than five (5) business days prior to the bid closing date. The Washburn University Purchasing Director reserves the right to waive minor deviations in the specifications which do not hinder the intent of this RFP.

News Releases

Only Washburn University is authorized to issue news releases relating to this RFP, its evaluation, award and/or performance of the contract.

SECTION 2 INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL

- 2.1 **Submittals:** Proposals shall consist of electronic copy attached to submission email including supporting documents to Washburn University at purchasing@washburn.edu or by hard copy delivered to Gabrielle Rye, Buyer, to Morgan 214. Bidder's proposal shall be received by the closing date and time listed on the cover sheet.

Alternate Bids (If Applicable) Each Bidder shall bid all alternates included in the Bid Proposal Form except, should he desire not to bid an alternate, he may insert the words "no bid" in the space provided for prices for such alternate. However, when a Bidder writes "no bid" for one or more alternates, he thereby waives any claim to the contract award if that alternate (or those alternates) becomes the basis for determining the low bid and/or change contract award. If an alternate price called for involves no change in price, Bidder shall so indicate by writing the words "no change" in the space provided. If the space provided for an alternate price is left blank, the blank space shall mean no bid. All amounts shall be clearly marked to indicate whether Alternate Price is an "ADD" or a "DEDUCT" price from the BASE BID Price. If neither is indicated, then "ADD" shall be implied

- 2.2 **Signature of Proposals:** Each proposal shall give the complete mailing address of the vendor and be signed by an authorized representative by original signature with his or her name and legal title typed below the signature line.

- 2.3 **Acknowledgment of Addenda:** All vendors shall acknowledge receipt of any addenda to this RFP by returning a signed hard copy with the bid. Failure to acknowledge receipt of any addenda may render the proposal to be non-responsive. Only Washburn University shall issue changes to this RFP, which will be in writing.
- 2.4 **Modification of Proposals:** A vendor may modify a proposal by email at any time prior to the closing date and time for receipt of proposals.
- 2.5 **Withdrawal of Proposals:** A proposal may be withdrawn by email from the vendor to Gabrielle Rye in the Purchasing Office at Washburn University prior to the closing date. Unless otherwise provided in any supplement to these Instructions, no Bidder shall modify, withdraw, or cancel a bid or any part thereof for ninety (90) days after the opening time of bids.
- 2.6 **Proposal Disclosures:** At the time of closing, only the names of those submitting proposals shall be made public information. No pricing or other proposed information will be released. Interested vendors or their representatives may be present at the announcement.
- 2.7 **Proposal Format:** It is the vendor's responsibility to submit complete responses in accordance with the format and instructions requested. It is the vendor's responsibility to submit information related to the evaluation categories and the University is under no obligation to solicit any information not included in the submitted proposal. Failure to submit information may cause an adverse impact on the evaluation of the vendor's proposal.

Vendors are requested to provide a point by point response to all requirements listed in the Request for Proposal.

Vendors are requested to organize their proposal into distinctive sections that correspond with the requested format stated below.

Tab 1: Contractor Qualifications

Exhibit A – General Information

Exhibit B – Project-Specific Information

Exhibit C – Past Project Experience *similar to project being bid*. Provide Subcontractor names, if known.

Tab 2: Technical Requirements

Provide point by point response to all requirements listed

Exceptions to RFP noted, if applicable

Methodology

Timeline

Tab 3: Proposal Pricing

Signature Sheet

Provide pricing for Base Bids & Alternates

W-9 <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf>

Certificate of Insurance (COI) Acord 25

Tax Clearance Certificate

2.8 Evaluation of Proposals:

Proposals will be evaluated using, but not necessarily limited to, the following criteria:

- Cost - Vendors are not to inflate prices in the initial proposal as cost is a factor in determining who may receive an award or be invited to formal negotiations; The University reserves the right to award to the lowest responsive proposal without conducting formal negotiations if recommended by the PNC and approved by the Director of Purchasing. Price – Vendor’s total project price will be compared to other vendors. Award will be made on best overall value.
- Vendor Experience – Vendor has successfully completed similar projects and has the qualifications necessary to undertake this project as evidenced by provided references and examples of past work.
- Response format as required by this Request;
- Adequacy and completeness of proposal;
- Vendor's understanding of the project;
- Compliance with the terms and conditions of the Request;
- Experience in providing like services;
- Qualified staff;
- Methodology to accomplish tasks.

2.9 Pre-Award Presentation and Negotiations

2.9.1 As part of the evaluation process, the University may require presentations from the highest ranked proposals.

2.9.2 Prior to award, the University may elect to communicate with the highest ranked vendors submitting a proposal for purposes of:

1. Resolving minor differences and informalities;
2. Clarifying necessary details and responsibilities;
3. Emphasizing important issues and points; or
4. Examining ways to improve any subsequent contract and/or its constituent documents.

2.10 **Additional Information:** The University reserves the right to request additional information or clarification on any matter included in a proposal. The University reserves the right to negotiate with any vendor or vendors to arrive at a final decision.

2.11 **Washburn University Purchasing Consortium/Cooperative Memberships** Washburn University is a member of E&I, Sourcewell, Omnia Partners, Choice Partners, Greenbush, BuyBoard, PACE and GSAdvantage. The University is also eligible to receive pricing available on State of Kansas

contracts that indicate 'Yes – All Political Subdivisions'. Vendors/Manufacturers who participate in more than one of these should quote the lowest available contract cost for materials/services. Contact Gabrielle Rye at Gabrielle.Rye@washburn.edu for assistance in determining whether you or your supplier is a participating contract/consortium vendor.

- 2.12 **New Vendor:** Please submit a W-9 with your proposal if you are a new vendor. You can find this form at: <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf?portlet=3>

Section 3. Scope of Services Requested

Washburn is seeking proposals for a cable installer to install a new Fiber Backbone and Network infrastructure loop on the Washburn University Main campus.

Washburn University is reconstructing the fiber-optic data network. The reconstruction is to accomplish the following goals:

1. Increase network redundancy and availability by connecting all campus buildings to a second active network hub to be built at Henderson Learning Resources Center, such Internet and other network services can be maintained to campus buildings even in the event of the total loss of Bennett Computer Center.
2. Provide increased redundancy and availability to principal buildings by creating a second fiber-optic entry point that is physically separated from the first, such that both links cannot be severed by a single isolated event (such as damaging cable by a mistake in excavation).
3. Conform to modern standards for construction, materials, terminal equipment, and documentation.
4. Provide spare unused (or "dark") fiber to meet unexpected needs in the future.
5. Allow operation of the existing network without interruption until Washburn is ready to cut over to the new network.

Washburn and its partners have created a design to meet these goals.

The result will be a fiber-optic network to carry TCP/IP network service to all parts of campus, with redundancy and flexibility for the future. The fiber-optic network will primarily be used as an IEEE 802.3 Ethernet to support TCP/IP traffic. Washburn intends to run the network at 10 Gbps first, but the physical plant must support up to 100 Gbps if needed in the future by substituting improved electronics and optical terminal equipment.

3.1 Phases of Construction and Timeline

The construction design is split into two logical phases. Phase 1 must be done first and must be done as an integral unit. Phase 2 may be divided into sub-phases for construction or financial reasons. The contractor may propose ways to subdivide Phase

2 in a way that is most economical for Washburn University. Any subdivisions or other exceptions to the given phasing and timeline must be approved by Washburn ITS POC. It could be possible that Phases 1 and 2 become a single project added together if budget allows.

3.1.1 Phase 1 (Fiber Backbones to Bennett)

Provide new fiber backbones from Bennett Data center to 15 buildings on campus. Contractors shall provide new fiber cables, fiber housings, splice cases, adapter plates, pathways, splice points, terminations, testing, and all other requirements as specified within the plans and specifications.

3.1.2 Phase 2 (Fiber Backbones to Henderson)

Provide new fiber backbones from Henderson Data center to 27 buildings on campus. Contractors shall provide new fiber cables, fiber housings, splice cases, adapter plates, pathways, splice points, terminations, testing, and all other requirements as specified within the plans and specifications.

No changes or exceptions to the timeline and phasing will be made without approval of the Washburn Point of Contact.

3.2 Expectations of the Contractor

- Furnish and supply all necessary labor, equipment, and materials for a complete project as shown on plans/specifications. This project is to be a complete operating system with all material and labor necessary for a complete system and not limited to what is shown on plans, specifications, or work description.
- Contract with a Utility marking company to flag and stake where all utilities are located prior to any digging or trenching on campus.
- Contractor to establish a firm schedule for each phase and manage to that schedule.
- Route cable, per plans and specifications, in some locations in existing conduit.
- Route cable, per plans and specifications, in some locations in new conduit as part of this proposal. Route cable, per plans and specifications, in some locations in existing tunnels which may require the addition of cable trays.
- Route cable, per plans and specifications, into buildings at locations shown on plans.
- Furnish and install all telecommunications equipment and hardware as shown on plans. Furnish and install all backbone cable termination bars as shown on plans.
- All transitional situations will have and use conduit (IMT sleeve) when transitioning from and to buildings, tunnels and underground excavation.

- Furnish all excavation as necessary.
- Furnish all necessary bedding material per plans and specifications.
- Furnish an as built survey on all new and existing underground conduits. Coordinate with WU contact to schedule survey work.
- Furnish and install trace wire as per WU specifications and plans.
- All new conduit, cable, and any items that will be covered or backfilled must be inspected and approved before any cover installed or backfilled. Any items covered without inspection will have to be uncovered, inspected, and recovered or backfilled and compacted.
- The contractor will be responsible for coordinating and scheduling all inspections and testing. The contractor must coordinate with the Washburn Project Manager for contact of the testing company hired by WU if independent from Engineer of record. Washburn for inspections prior to hiring the inspector. These are to be coordinated and recorded with the Washburn University Project Manager.
- Furnish and install all necessary conduit (EMT).
- Furnish all the necessary drilling.
- Furnish all necessary under floor or over ceiling or in wall installation.
- All existing concrete surfaces such as sidewalks, drives, curbs, retaining walls and any other permanent surface will need to be bored under said surface to avoid damage. Any area that cannot be bored shall be discussed with Washburn personnel ahead of any work being performed.
- This bid includes all necessary patching, cleaning, caulking or any other building back leaving buildings and property in the same condition as before. This also includes aerating the soil, seeding with bluegrass fescue and covering with straw.
- Terminate cables per plans and specifications with all new materials including but not limited to; cassettes, housings, conduits, fittings, fixtures, racks, and any other items listed or not.
- Cabling Contractor will be responsible for One Call for utility locates and contact Washburn University for WU private utility locations.
- Furnish and install all handholes specified on plans.
- Furnish and install any cable tray that needs to be repaired as directed by WU personnel. This will be added to the contract by change order and preset unit price.
- WU has schools and classrooms being used throughout the summer and school year. Work closely with WU personnel on scheduling for work in the building interiors.
- Safety of students and personnel are always the highest priority.
- Workers must maintain high standards of professionalism while on campus at all times.
- Provide General Contractor services as described in AIA document A101-2017.
- Coordinate the creation of the Critical Path Method construction schedule with all prime subcontractors and keep the schedule throughout the construction

phase, showing all phases of work. Provide schedule updates at all Owner, Architect, Contractor progress meetings.

- The contractor will attend all construction progress meetings on a weekly basis or as needed. Invitees will be Contractor, Architects and engineering associates, all subcontractor supervisor(s) or project manager or both and anyone else as required by Washburn University.
- Schedule and manage site operations. Always keep the interior and exterior clean. Traffic and pedestrian control are the responsibility of the subcontractor.
- Temporary fencing and signage will be kept intact upright, and site kept and maintained in a professional manner.
- Assist with all federal, state, and local permit requirements.
- Review all contractor's safety programs and keep a copy of each safety program on site. Electronic copies are all acceptable and must be available for inspection by Washburn University staff.
- The construction schedule will be updated and presented at each weekly on-site construction meeting by the contractor. The schedule will show adjustments that were made and will be made to keep the project on schedule.
- The contractor will provide construction services for the entire project. The project will be phased and pricing for each phase to be included priced separately. The contractor will be expected to develop a detailed schedule that will allow the University to plan for notification of the different schools and buildings on site during work.
- A modified AIA 101 Standard form of agreement between Owner and Contractor will be negotiated by the Owners representative after a Contractor has been selected.
- Washburn University requires a breakdown of all materials and cost of materials for each Phase. Washburn may opt to purchase the materials for Phase 2 during the Phase 1 contract.
- Washburn University requires a breakdown of all labor charges and cost of labor charges for each Phase. If there will be a labor increase after August 1, 2026, it should be figured into the Phase 2 labor pricing.

COST PROPOSAL

Vendor Name:

PHASE 1 Labor:

_____ Dollars, (\$ _____)

(above to be written out)

PHASE 1 Materials:

_____ Dollars, (\$ _____)

(above to be written out)

PHASE 2 Labor:

_____ Dollars, (\$ _____)

(above to be written out)

PHASE 2 Materials:

_____ Dollars, (\$ _____)

(above to be written out)

Please provide and attach cost sheets for the above amounts.

SIGNATURE SHEET

The below stated Vendor submits a proposal for Services in accordance with the terms, conditions, and requirements stated herein. The Vendor hereby certifies it does not have any substantial conflict of interest sufficient to influence the bidding process on this proposal. A conflict of substantial interest is one which a reasonable person would think would compromise the open competitive bid process.

The Vendor submitting this bid and any person associated with this Vendor in the capacity of owner, partner, director, officer, principal, investigator, project director, manager, auditor, or any position involving the administration of federal, state or local funds:

1. Are not currently suspended, debarred, voluntarily excluded or disqualified from bidding by any federal, state or local agency;
2. Have not been suspended, debarred, voluntarily excluded or disqualified from bidding by any federal, state or local agency within the past three years;
3. Do not have a proposed debarment pending;
4. Within the past three years, have not been convicted or had a criminal or civil judgment rendered against them by a court of competent jurisdiction in any matter involving fraud, anti-trust violations, theft, official misconduct, or other offenses indicating a lack of business integrity or business honesty; and
5. Are not currently indicted or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a federal, state, or local government with fraud, anti-trust violations, theft, official misconduct, or other offenses indicating a lack of business integrity or business honesty; and
6. Have not had one or more federal, state, or local government contracts terminated for cause or default within the past three years.

A detailed response for any item in which the vendor has a positive answer must be included in 'Exceptions to the RFP, if any' and may be marked confidential.

Addenda: The undersigned acknowledges receipt of the following addenda:

#1 (___) #2 (___) #3 (___) None (___)

Legal Name of Person, Firm or Corporation _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

E-Mail _____

Mailing Address _____

City & State _____ Zip Code _____

FEIN Number _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Typed Name of Signature _____

Title _____

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Firm Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Firm Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Firm Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

SECTION 4.0 TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 4.1 **Right to Reject Proposals:** Washburn University reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted and waive any formality, informality, or irregularity in any proposal received.
- 4.2 **Compliance with Laws:** The vendor shall comply with any and all applicable federal, state and/or local laws, regulations, ordinances, rules and orders of appropriate governmental authorities, including without limitation, those relating to payment of taxes, obtaining licenses and securing permits.
- 4.3 **Compliance Of Construction Site Waste:** Contractor MUST comply with All Federal, State, and local laws or regulations applicable to the management of all waste disposal. All waste removed for abatement MUST be disposed of at a state and federally approved waste site for accepting hazardous materials. All non-hazardous waste must be disposed of at a state and if applicable, federally, approved site for accepting non-hazardous waste materials. Certificates from waste sites must be copied to Washburn University upon disposal of waste. Contractor is responsible for any damage or liability caused by incorrect disposal or improper dumping of waste, both hazardous and non-hazardous, from the job site.
- 4.4 **Award of Contract:** Any award of contract and/or purchase order resulting from this Request for Proposal will be made in accordance with the following:
- 4.4.1 Evidence of the experience, qualifications and financial responsibility of each vendor and the time of completion are all acceptable to the University.
 - 4.4.2 The award of a contract will be made on the basis of the best, qualified, and responsive proposal as determined by the University, and not necessarily the lowest price proposal. The University may reject for consideration any proposal not prepared and submitted in accordance with the provisions herein; and hereby reserves the right to waive any informalities in, or to reject any or all proposals which, in the opinion of the University, will best serve the interest of the University.
 - 4.4.3 No contract shall be considered to have been entered into by the University until all statutorily required signatures and certifications have been rendered and a written contract has been signed by the successful vendor.
- 4.5 **Contract Documents:** The response to this Request for Proposal (RFP) will be considered as an offer to contract. After final negotiations, any award of contract and/or purchase order resulting from this Request for Proposal will consist of the following:
- 4.5.1 The RFP and any addenda to the RFP;
 - 4.5.2 The provisions of the vendor's RFP response that conform to and are consistent with the University's RFP; and;
 - 4.5.3 Washburn University Purchase Order

- 4.5.4 Any changes must be agreed to in writing by both parties prior to executing any change.
- 4.6 **Force Majeure:** The vendor shall not be held liable if the failure to perform under this contract arises out of causes beyond the control of the vendor. Causes may include, but are not limited to, acts of nature, fires, tornadoes, quarantine, strikes other than by vendor's employees, and freight embargoes, etc.
- 4.7 **Indemnification and Institutional Requirements:**
- 4.7.1 The successful vendor shall agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless Washburn University and their respective officers, officials, consultants, agents and employees from any liability for damages or claims for damages to the extent arising from personal injury, including unauthorized disclosure by the vendor, its officers, employees or agents of any information required to be held confidential under the provisions of the contract and/or property damage caused by acts alleged to be negligent in performance of any services pursuant to this Agreement by the successful vendor or the vendor's contractors, subcontractors, agents or employees under this Agreement.
- 4.7.2 **Contract Law:** Any contract and/or purchase order(s) resulting from this RFP will be subject to the laws of the State of Kansas and all other applicable statutes. The total contract and/or purchase order(s) will include only the negotiated and executed contract and/or purchase order(s) and this RFP.
- 4.7.3 **Contract Assignment:** No portion of the operation or of any negotiated and executed contract and/or purchase order(s) for the services may be sublet, subcontracted, or otherwise assigned by the vendor without the prior written consent of the University.
- 4.7.4 **Contract Cancellation:** The University reserves the right to cancel the contract if:
- (1) The quality of goods and/or services does not meet the specifications or needs of the University as specified;
 - (2) Delivery requirements, if any, cannot be guaranteed;
 - (3) Any other terms of the Request for Proposal are not met.
- 4.8 **Conflict of Interest:** The Vendor shall not knowingly employ, during the period of his contract or any extensions to it, any professional personnel who are also in the employ of Washburn University and who are providing services involving this contract or services similar in nature to the scope of this contract to the University. Furthermore, the vendor shall not knowingly employ, during the period of this contract or any extensions to it, any Washburn University employee who has participated in the making of this contract until at least two years after his/her termination of employment with Washburn University.
- 4.9 **Nondiscrimination and Workplace Safety:** The Vendor agrees to abide by all federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations prohibiting discrimination in

employment and controlling workplace safety. Any violations of applicable laws, rules and regulations may result in termination of this contract.

- 4.10 **INSURANCE:** Upon request, the vendor shall present Certificates of Insurance to the Washburn University Director of Purchasing evidencing the following coverage during the performance of services:
- A. Worker's Compensation with present limit of at least \$1,000,000.
 - B. Employers Liability, with a minimum of \$1,000,000 limit of liability per occurrence.
 - C. Commercial General Liability, including contractual liability coverage, with the following minimum limits of liability: \$1,000,000 per occurrence for Bodily Injury and Property damage, Personal and Advertising injury, \$2,000,000 General Aggregate and,
 - D. Professional Liability in the minimum of \$1,000,000 per claim

All required insurance coverage hereunder, must be written by an insurance company authorized by the state in which the Project is located to provide such insurance coverage in such state and approved by Owner, and must be written under either standard form approved by the Department of Insurance of the state in which the Project is located or policies in form and content satisfactory to Owner. Carrier shall have an AM Best rating of A or better. Any certifications requested and provided shall contain a provision that the coverage offered under the policies shall not be canceled, non-renewed, or materially changed until at least 30 days prior written notice has been given to the University.

- 4.11 **Independent Contractor:** Both parties, in the performance of this contract, shall be acting in their individual capacity and not as agents, employees, partners, joint ventures or associates of one another. The employees or agents of one party shall not be construed to be the employees or agents of the other party for any purpose whatsoever. The successful vendor accepts full responsibility for payment of unemployment insurance, workers compensation and social security as well as all income tax deductions and any other taxes or payroll deductions required by law for its employees engaged in work authorized by this contract.

- 4.12 **Responsibility of the Vendor:** No consideration will be granted for any alleged misunderstanding of the requirement of the Request for Proposal documents, it being understood that the tender of a proposal carries with it the agreement to all provisions of the proposal documents. All vendors are expected to read the proposal documents and respond in the manner directed. All questions asked herein should be answered and all information requested herein should be supplied.

Before submitting a proposal, all bidders shall satisfy themselves as to the existing conditions under which he/she will be required to operate in performing their work. The bidder is not required to visit the job site prior to submitting a bid. No allowance will be made subsequently in behalf of the Vendor for any errors or negligence on their part.

In cases where work is to be let to subcontractors, the Contractor letting any such work will be held responsible for the proper performance of the work. The bidder is to provide the names and trades for their subcontract bidders to whom they propose to sublet portions of the work and/or warranty. The University reserves the right to approve subcontractors prior to their being hired by the vendor. References for any subcontractors listing their prior works shall also be included in the proposal. Responses to subcontractor references will also be made in the response document as required or necessary. The Contractor will be responsible for the effective coordination and supervision of his subcontractors. The Contractor shall coordinate all activities with the University and subcontractors.

The specifications and Drawings exhibit the intent and purpose of the University regarding the work, and they shall be so considered by the bidders. Accordingly, the bidders admit and agree that they are not complete in every detail and that work and materials not indicated or expressly mentioned in the specifications, but which are manifested necessary for the full and faithful performance of the work in accordance with the true intent, will be included in their proposal and incorporated into the work the same as if indicated and specified. In the case of ambiguity with regard to quantity and/or quality, the bidder shall include in the proposal the better quality and/or greater quantity and all costs therewith shall be included in the proposal.

The University will not consider a proposal for change of materials which would be inferior to those drawn or specified. The decision of the University in each instance shall be final.

Date of Completion shall be the number of Calendar days as submitted on the Bid Proposal Form by the Contractor added to the Notice to Proceed or Earliest Starting Date as determined by the Project Coordinator, whichever comes last.

The bidder shall be responsible for all scheduling and coordination of all activities and contracts. The bidder shall keep the Project Coordinator informed of all such scheduling. The Contractor shall maintain a superintendent/foreman on the premises at all times while installation/assembly is in progress by the contractor or contractor's subcontractors.

- 4.13 **Payments:** Parties to the contract will be Washburn University and the vendor. Invoices for all services and reimbursable expenses will be submitted to the Washburn Board of Regents on a monthly basis for approval by the Board President. Approved payments will be subsequently made by Washburn University in accordance with the contract.

Payment Terms are NET 30.

- 4.14 **Taxes:** The University is exempt from federal and state taxes including sales, excise and transportation taxes.
- 4.15 **Shipping Terms:** All items awarded shall be provided F.O.B. Destination as specified herein. This shall include unloading, inside delivery and unpacking.
- 4.16 **Prohibition of Gratuities:** Neither the contractor nor any person, firm or corporation employed by the contractor in the performance of this contract shall offer or give any gift, money or anything of value or any promise for future reward or compensation to any University employee, officer, or Board of Regents member at any time.
- 4.17 **Notification of Award:** An award is made on execution of a written contract or purchase order. Only the University is authorized to issue news releases relating to this Request for Proposal, its evaluation, award and/or performance of the contract.
- 4.18 **No Liens:** Vendor shall keep the University free and clear of any and all liens asserted by any person or organization for any reason arising out of or as a result of the furnishing of goods and/or services by the vendor or by a third party.
- 4.19 **Governing Law:** This contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of Kansas and shall be deemed executed at Topeka, Shawnee County, Kansas.
- 4.20 **Jurisdiction:** The parties shall bring any and all legal proceedings arising hereunder in the State of Kansas, District Court of Shawnee County. The United States District Court for the State of Kansas sitting in Topeka, Shawnee County, Kansas, shall be the venue for any federal action or proceeding arising hereunder in which the University is a party.
- 4.21 **Competition:** The purpose of this Request is to seek competition. The vendor shall advise the Director of Purchasing if any specification, language or other requirement inadvertently restricts or limits proposals to a single source. Notification shall be in writing and must be received by the Purchasing Office no later than five (5) business days prior to the request for proposal closing date. The Director of Purchasing reserves the right to waive minor deviations in the specifications which do not hinder the intent of this Request.
- 4.22 **Acceptance:** No contract provision or use of items by the University shall constitute acceptance or relieve the vendor of liability in respect to any expressed or implied warranties.
- 4.23 **Breach:** Waiver or any breach of any contract term or condition shall not be deemed a waiver of any prior or subsequent breach. No contract term or condition shall be held to be waived, modified, or deleted except by a written instrument signed by the parties thereto. If any contract term or condition or application thereof to any person(s) or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other terms, conditions, or applications which can be given effect without the invalid term, condition or application. To this end the contract terms and conditions are severable.

If the Vendor shall fail, refuse and/or neglect to comply with the terms found herein, such failure shall be deemed a total breach of the contract and contract may be terminated, canceled, or suspended, in whole or in part. If the contract is terminated, canceled, or suspended for failure to comply with this section, the Contractor shall have no claims for damages against the University on account of such termination, cancellation or suspension or declaration of ineligibility.

4.23 Disclosure of Proposal Content:

Kansas Open Records Act

All proposals become the property of Washburn University. In providing a proposal to the Washburn University Board of Regents, the vendor attests to an understanding that the Kansas Open Records Act, K.S.A. 45-215 *et seq.*, applies to the documents provided by the vendor, and thus pursuant to K.S.A. 45-221(a)(28) all such documents will become publicly available if requested, once a bid has been accepted or all bids rejected.

No proposals shall be disclosed until after a contract award has been issued. The University reserves the right to destroy all proposals if the RFP is withdrawn, a contract award is withdrawn, or in accordance with Kansas law. Late Technical and/or Cost proposals will be retained unopened in the file and not receive consideration.

Trade secrets or proprietary information legally recognized as such and protected by law may be requested to be withheld if clearly labeled "Proprietary" on each individual page **and** provided as separate from the main proposal. Pricing information is not considered proprietary and the vendor's entire proposal response package will not be considered proprietary.

All information requested to be handled as "Proprietary" shall be submitted separately from the main proposal and clearly labeled, in a separate envelope or clipped apart from all other documentation. The vendor shall provide detailed written documentation justifying why this material should be considered "Proprietary". The Washburn University Purchasing Office reserves the right to accept, amend or deny such requests for maintaining information as proprietary in accordance with Kansas law.

At the time of closing, only the names of those who submitted proposals shall be made public information. No price information will be released.

4.24 Inspection: The University reserves the right to reject, on arrival at destination, any items which do not conform to the specifications of this Request.

- 4.25 **Notices:** All notices, demands, requests, approvals, reports, instructions, consents or other communications (collectively "notices") which may be required or desired to be given by either party to the other shall be **IN WRITING** and addressed as follows:

Gabrielle Rye, Buyer
RFP 25042
Morgan Hall Room 214
1700 SW College Ave
Topeka, KS 66621
Purchasing@washburn.edu

- 4.26 **Data Security:** In the performance of this contract, the vendor will become a holder of and have access to private data on individuals. In performance of the contract, the vendor agrees it will comply with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations relating to confidentiality of information received as a result of the contract. The vendor agrees that it, its officers, employees and agents will be bound by confidentiality laws and that it will establish procedures for safeguarding the information.

Upon selection for a contract, the vendor agrees to notify its officers, employees and agents of the requirements of confidentiality and of the possible penalties imposed by violation of these laws. The vendor agrees that neither it, nor its officers, employees or agents will disclose or make public any information received by the vendor while executing this contract.

The vendor shall not use the names, home address, phone numbers, or any other information obtained by implementation or execution of this contract about employees, citizens, vendors or other information for any purpose other than the performance of this contract.

All Washburn University information or data is considered confidential. Vendor agrees to return any or all information or data furnished by the University promptly at the request of the Board or University, in whatever form it is maintained by vendor. Upon termination or expiration of this contract, the vendor and each of the persons and entities working for the vendor shall destroy or return all requested data, electronic information, written, or descriptive materials or any related matter of any type including but not limited to drawings, blueprints, descriptions, or other papers or documents which contain any such confidential information.

- 4.27 **Compliance with Laws, Ordinances, Codes and Standards:** All work shall be accomplished in strict conformity with all laws and ordinances applying to the operations under this contract, including the latest rules and regulations of all municipal and public authorities having jurisdiction. Installation shall also meet the standard requirements of National Electrical Code (NEC), NFPA Life Safety Code and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA-Federal and State) and local ordinances. The Contractor will be held to complete all work necessary and to provide all equipment required to comply with the foregoing without extra compensation.

RFP 25042 Fiber Loop
Washburn University, 1700 SW College Ave. Topeka, KS 66621

If the Contractor observes that the drawings and specifications are in variance therewith, he shall promptly notify the Washburn Purchasing Director in writing and any necessary changes will be adjusted as provided for in the Contract for changes in work. If the Contractor performs any work knowing that it is contrary to such laws, ordinances, or building codes, he shall bear all cost arising therefrom.

4.28 **Exceptions:** As part of the proposal response, vendors shall indicate any part of the proposal document with which they take exception. Any exceptions taken should be outlined in their response with cross reference to the portion or section of the proposal document with which the exception is being taken.

VENDOR RESPONSE CHECKLIST

The following checklist is provided to assist bidders in ensuring all requirements are met and all required document submissions are included with the bid.

TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

- Bidder Information
- Qualifications & Experience Expressed Clearly
- Point by Point Response to Scope of Work Requirements
- Preliminary Schedule, where required in the SOW
- References
- Exceptions to RFP Noted as applicable

COST PROPOSAL

- Proposal Pricing Sheet
- Signature Sheet
- W-9
<https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf>
- Certificate of Insurance (COI) Acord 25
- Tax Clearance

Bids must be received by email prior to 2:00 PM local time on the closing date to be considered. Bids must be emailed to purchasing@washburn.edu with the Bid Number in the subject line.

NOTE: In order to properly and completely respond to this Request for Proposal, bidders must carefully review all sections and respond as required.