



INVITATION FOR BIDS

DUE DATE FOR BID: 11:00 am (ET) September 11, 2019

Refer all inquiries to: Kevin Coleman	Item: Charging Carts
Telephone No: 910-678-2549	Bid Number: 173-20007
E-Mail: kevincoleman@ccs.k12.nc.us	Source of Funds: Budgeted Funds
Name of School and Address: Cumberland County Schools Operations Center 810 Gillespie St. Fayetteville, NC 28306	

Notice to Bidders

Sealed bids, subject to the conditions made a part hereof, will be received on the day of opening and then opened, for furnishing and delivering the commodity as described herein. Refer to page 2 for proper mailing instructions.

Bids are subject to rejection unless submitted on this form.

Execution:

In compliance with this Invitation for Bids, and subject to all the conditions herein, the undersigned offers and agrees to furnish and deliver any or all items upon which prices are bid, at the prices set opposite each item within the time specified herein. By executing this bid, I certify that this bid is submitted competitively and without collusion (GS. 143-54).

Failure to execute/sign bid prior to submittal shall render bid invalid. Late bids are not acceptable.

BIDDER:	Federal Tax ID or Social Security No:	
Street Address:	PO Box:	
City, State, Zip:	Telephone No:	Fax No:
Type or Print Name & Title of Person Signing:		Date:
Authorized Signature:	E-Mail:	

Offer valid for 45 days from date of bid opening unless otherwise stated here: _____ days (See Instructions to Bidders, Item 5). Prompt Payment Discount: _____% _____ days (See Instructions to Bidders, Item 6).

Are you a NC Recognized Historically Underutilized Business (HUB)? _____ YES _____ NO

If unsure, don't answer. More information: <https://ncadmin.nc.gov/businesses/hub>

Offer valid for 45 days from date of bid opening unless otherwise stated here: _____ days (See Instructions

Mailing Instructions: Submit **two (2)** fully executed bid documents, unless otherwise instructed, and only one bid per envelope by any of the methods below. **DO NOT SUBMIT AN ELECTRONIC OR FAXED COPY OF YOUR BID.** It is the responsibility of the bidder to have the bid in this office by the specified time and date of opening.

Delivered By US Postal Service	Hand Delivered	Delivered by Courier
Cumberland County Schools Attn: Mike Anderson, Purchasing 2491 Gillespie St Fayetteville NC 28306	Cumberland County Schools Finance Bldg., Purchasing Dept. 2491 Gillespie St Fayetteville NC 28306	Some couriers do not deliver to this location. Packages are dropped at our warehouse and forwarded to us. Allow 1 to 2 extra days for delivery.

Transportation Charges: FOB – Destination. Freight charges must be included in price. Delivery shall be made to:

Cumberland County Schools
Operations Center
810 Gillespie St.
Fayetteville, NC 28306.

Bid Letter Requirement: With its bid response, the Vendor **MUST** provide a letter from the manufacturer of the charging cart offered that references this bid number (**173-20007**) and confirms that the Vendor is a Certified Partner authorized to sell the products required in this bid. The contact information for the manufacturer must be provided with the bid response so that CCS may verify vendor status with the manufacturer of the charging cart. Letters provided for prior bids shall not meet the requirement for this bid. Failure to provide the manufacturer letter with bid proposal will render bid non-responsive.

Bid Evaluation: Bids are requested on the items and/or equipment as hereinafter specified. Bidders are cautioned that any/all information furnished or not furnished on this bid may be used as or in determining of this contract.

Award Criteria: As provided by statute, award will be based on the lowest and best bid(s) (most advantageous to CCS) as determined by consideration of:

1. Prices offered.	7. Functional Equivalency to specifications stated herein.
2. Quality of products offered.	8. Samples, if requested.
3. General reputation and performance capabilities of the bidders.	9. Conformity of Product Specifications.
4. Conformity with terms and conditions of this Invitation for Bids.	10. Product's Presentation and Finish
5. Delivery/installation schedule offered.	11. References
6. Durability and Suitability of items for intended use.	

Basis for Rejection: Cumberland County Schools reserves the right to reject any and all offers, in whole or in part, by deeming the offer unsatisfactory as to quality or quantity, delivery, price or service offered: non-compliance with the requirements or intent of this solicitation; lack of competitiveness; error(s) in specifications or indications that revision would be advantageous to Cumberland County Schools; cancellation or other changes in the intended project, or other determination that the proposed requirement is no longer needed; limitation or lack of available funds; circumstances that prevent determination of the best offer; or any other determination that rejection would be in the best interest of Cumberland County Schools.

Samples: Samples are not required prior to bid opening date; however, if required later, bidder agrees to furnish samples of items offered at no expense to CCS within fourteen (14) consecutive calendar days after request is made by CCS. Bids which do not comply with these requirements will be subject to rejection.

Descriptive Literature: All bids should be accompanied by complete and descriptive literature, specifications and other pertinent data necessary for their evaluation as required by the attached General Contract Terms and Conditions, otherwise, they may be subject to rejection. This information will allow Cumberland County Schools to determine that the equipment meets all requirements. This technical literature will be the primary source for bid evaluation. If a requirement is not addressed in the technical literature it must be supported by additional documentation and included with the bid. Bid responses without sufficient technical documentation may be rejected.

Award of Contract: It is the general intent to award this contract to a single overall bidder. The right is reserved, however, to make awards on the basis of individual items or groups of items, if such shall be considered by CCS to be most advantageous or to constitute its best interest. Bidders should show unit prices, but are also requested to offer their most favorable total lump sum price.

Budgetary Limitations: Should it become necessary, based upon budgetary limitations, CCS reserves the right to reduce or increase quantities. Therefore, bidders must include freight in the “each” pricing for each line item, as well as identifying a per unit installation cost for each line item.

Timeline for Complete Order: Cumberland County Schools reserves the right to order portions of the total devices in phases, not to exceed 12 months from date the bid is awarded. The price listed must be offered to Cumberland County Schools for the duration of 12 months for additional orders of the product listed in this bid. If the product offered goes “end of life” during this period, the bidder agrees to honor the offered price for an equivalent or greater quality product that serves the same function as specified in the original bid.

Recycled Products: Enter here the percentage of items (based on the installed pricing) offered herein which may be considered recycled: _____%. (This percentage may include packaging/shipping containers, and other pre-and/or post-consumer products which may be used or diverted before, during or after the manufacturing process. Bidder should explain below (briefly) what items are included in the above percentage.

Delivery and Installation: Items called for herein will be furnished, delivered, off-loaded and left ready for use in accordance with the requirements stated herein. The successful bidder will complete delivery within 30 calendar days upon receipt of Purchase Order unless otherwise stated here: _____ days. All items must be preassembled upon arrival. Cumberland County Schools reserves the right to consider the delivery time offered as a factor in the award of contract.

Deviations: Deviations from specifications and requirements need to be documented on a separate sheet and attached to your bid. All items offered are in strict compliance with these specifications and requirements, and successful bidder will be held responsible therefore. Bidder is advised that the response (or lack thereof) on this question does not take precedence over specific responses or non-responses provided elsewhere in this bid.

Late Bids: Regardless of cause, a late bid will not be accepted and will automatically be disqualified from consideration. It shall be the Vendor’s sole risk to ensure delivery at the designated office by the designated time. Late bids will not be opened and may be returned to the Vendor at the expense of the Vendor or destroyed if requested.

Award Notification: After the bids have been evaluated and an award has been made, each vendor who submitted a bid will be notified of the award. The award may not be made for several weeks dependent upon the complexity of the acquisition and the length of time to complete the evaluation process.

References: List below references where your company has supplied equipment similar to that proposed. CCS reserves the right to require upon its request a list of users of the exact model of equipment bid. CCS may contact these users to determine quality level of the offered equipment. Such information may be considered in the evaluation of the bid.

SITE	DATE OF DELIVERY	CONTACT PERSON	PHONE NUMBER

Confidentiality of Bids: In submitting its bid, the bidder agrees not to discuss or otherwise reveal the contents of its bid to any source outside of Cumberland County Schools until after the award of the contract. All bidders are advised that they are not to have any communications with CCS during the evaluation of the bids (after the public opening of the bids and before the award of the contract) unless CCS contacts the bidder for the purpose of seeking clarification. A bidder shall not: transmit to the issuing and or using agency any information commenting on the ability or qualifications of any other bidder to provide the advertised equipment, defects, errors and/or omissions in any other bidder's bid and/or prices at any time during and/or award of the contract that is subject of this IFB. Bidders not in compliance with this provision may be disqualified, at the option of CCS, from the contract award.

Warranty: Bidder guarantees that all proposed equipment to be furnished is to be new and free from any and all defects in material and workmanship and agrees to replace promptly any part or parts which by reason of defective material or workmanship that fail under normal use, free of negligence or accident, for a minimum period of five (5) years from the date put into operation. Such replacement shall include all parts, labor, freight and transportation cost to the equipment location, and will be at no additional cost to the CCS.

Electronic Procurement: Purchases shall be conducted through the NC E-Procurement service. If not already registered, the awarded bidder must register with NC E-Procurement within two (2) business days of notification of award in order to receive an electronic purchase order resulting from award of this contract. The successful bidder(s) shall pay to NC E-Procurement a transaction fee of 1.75% (.0175) on the total dollar amount (excluding sales taxes) of each purchase order issued through the NC E-Procurement service. This applies to all purchase orders, regardless of the quantity or dollar amount of the purchase order.

PURCHASE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

High Efficiency Charging Cart for Chromebooks

Quantity: +/- 300 (Note: Purchase Orders may be issued for quantities of 1 or more units.)

Specifications:

High Efficiency Charging Cart for Chromebooks – System Requirements
The following is a list of minimal requirements required by Cumberland County Schools in order to be eligible for bid consideration
Holds a minimum of 30 Chromebooks
Charging solution that pulls a maximum of 15 amps at any one time
Self-monitoring, automated charging of devices with no actions needed in addition to plugging in the devices to the cart and the cart to the electrical outlet
A minimum of 3 charging zones that automatically rotate based on charging needs of devices
Visual charge indicator located on the outside of cart
Use any standard AC outlet for charging
A minimum of 2 external outlets built into cart to power peripherals or additional devices
Single power cable that provides safe electrical power for entire system including peripherals
Minimum of 16 gauge steel construction
Metal hinges
Minimum of 5" swivel casters with locking capability
Front door with lock – each lock must use the same key for entry
Rear door with lock to access cables – each lock must use the same key for entry
Cable management system that includes storage for power cords and a mechanism that will locks the plug in a fixed position for uniformed access to device
All carts come fully assembled
Minimum of five (5) year warranty on all parts

BID RESPONSE

Offeror / Vendor Name: _____

	Charging Cart
Price per Unit:	
Per Unit Shipping Charge:	
Sales Tax (7%): *	
Total Price Per Unit:	

* Cumberland County Schools is NOT exempt from sales tax. When invoiced, sales tax should be invoiced as a separate line item.

BID QUESTIONS

The following questions are required to be answered in order to be considered during bid evaluation. Failure to answer any questions listed below will result in bid rejection. Please circle your responses to each question.

Offeror / Vendor Name: _____

Does your cart hold a minimum of 30 Chromebooks?	Yes	No
Does your cart have a charging solution that pulls a maximum of 15 amps at any one time?	Yes	No
Is your cart self-monitoring, automated charging of devices with no actions needed in addition to plugging in the devices to the cart and the cart to the electrical outlet?	Yes	No
Does your cart have a minimum of 3 charging zones that automatically rotate based on charging needs of devices?	Yes	No
Does your cart have a visual charge indicator located on the outside of the cart?	Yes	No
Does your cart have a minimum of 2 external outlets built into the cart to power peripherals or additional devices?	Yes	No
Does your cart have a single power cable that provides safe electrical power for entire system including peripherals?	Yes	No
Does your cart have metal hinges?	Yes	No
Is your cart constructed of a minimum of 16 gauge steel construction?	Yes	No
Does your cart have a minimum of 5” swivel casters with locking capability?	Yes	No
Does your cart have a front door with lock? (Each lock must use the same key for entry.)	Yes	No
Does your cart have a rear door with lock to access cables? (Each lock must use the same key for entry.)	Yes	No
Does your cart have a cable management system that includes storage for power cords and a mechanism that will lock the plug in a fixed position for uniformed access to device?	Yes	No
Will your carts be delivered fully assembled?	Yes	No
Do you provide a minimum of five (5) year warranty on all parts?	Yes	No

INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

1. **Read, Review and Comply:** It shall be the bidder's responsibility to read this entire document, review all enclosures and attachments, and comply with all requirements specified herein.
2. **Notice to Bidders:** **DO NOT ATTACH ANY ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.** By execution and delivery of this document, the bidder agrees that any additional terms and conditions, whether submitted purposely or inadvertently, shall have no force or effect.
3. **Execution:** Failure to sign under EXECUTION section will render bid invalid.
4. **Order of Precedence:** In cases of conflict between specific provisions in this bid, the order of precedence shall be (1) special terms and conditions specific to this bid, (2) specifications, (3) Cumberland County Schools' General Contract Terms and Conditions and (4) Instructions to Bidders.
5. **Time for Consideration:** Unless otherwise indicated on the first page of this document, bidder's offer shall be valid for 45 days from the date of bid opening. Preference may be given to bids allowing not less than 45 days for consideration and acceptance.
6. **Prompt Payment Discounts:** Bidders are urged to compute all discounts into the price offered. If a prompt payment discount is offered, it will not be considered in the award of the contract except as a factor to aid in resolving cases of identical prices.
7. **Specifications:** Any deviation from specifications indicated herein must be clearly pointed out; otherwise, it will be considered that items offered are in strict compliance with these specifications, and bidder will be held responsible therefore. Deviations shall be explained in detail. **The bidder shall not construe this paragraph as inviting deviation or implying that any deviation will be acceptable.**
8. **Information and Descriptive Literature:** Bidder is to furnish all information requested and in the spaces provided in this document. Further, if required elsewhere in this bid, each bidder must submit with their bid, sketches, descriptive literature and/or complete specifications covering the products offered. Bids which do not comply with these requirements will be subject to rejection.
9. **Clarifications/Interpretations:** Any and all questions regarding this document must be addressed to the purchaser named on the cover sheet of this document.
10. **Acceptance and Rejection:** CCS reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informality in bids and, unless otherwise specified by the bidder, to accept any item in the bid. If either a unit price or extended price is obviously in error or the other is obviously correct, the incorrect price will be disregarded.
11. **References:** CCS reserves the right to require a list of users of the exact item offered. CCS may contact these users to determine acceptability of the bid. Such information may be considered in the evaluation of the bid.
12. **Award of Contract:** As directed by statute, qualified bids will be evaluated and acceptance may be made of the lowest and best bid most advantageous to CCS as determined upon consideration of such factors as: prices offered; the quality of the articles offered; the general reputation and performance capabilities of the bidders; the substantial conformity with the specifications and other conditions set forth in the bid; the suitability of the articles for the intended use; the related services

needed; the date or dates of delivery and performance; and such other factors deemed by CCS to be pertinent or peculiar to the purchase in question. CCS reserves the right to accept any item or group of items on a multi-item bid.

13. **Historically Underutilized Businesses:** Cumberland County Schools is committed to the State of North Carolina Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Program. CCS invites and encourages participation in this procurement process by businesses owned by minorities, women, disabled, disabled business enterprises and non-profit work centers for the blind and severely disabled.
14. **Confidential Information:** As provided by statute and rule, CCS will consider keeping trade secrets which the bidder does not wish disclosed confidential. Each page shall be identified in boldface at the top and bottom as “CONFIDENTIAL” by the bidder. Cost information shall not be deemed confidential. In spite of what is labeled as a trade secret, the determination whether it is or not will be determined by North Carolina law.
15. **Samples:** Samples of items, when required, must be furnished as stipulated herein, free of expense, and if not destroyed will, upon request be returned at the bidder’s expense. Request for the return of samples must be made within 10 days following date of bid opening. Otherwise the samples will become CCS property. Each individual sample must be labeled with the bidder’s name, bid number, and item number. A sample, on which an award is made, will be retained until the contract is completed, and then returned, if requested, as specified above.
16. **Acceptance and Rejection:** Cumberland County Schools reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informality in bids and, unless otherwise specified by the Vendor, to accept any item in the bid. If either a unit price or extended price is obviously in error or the other is obviously correct, the incorrect price will be disregarded.
17. **Transportation:** Transportation of Deliverables shall be FOB Destination, unless otherwise specified in the solicitation document or purchase order. Freight, handling, hazardous material charges, and distribution and installation charges shall be included in the total price of each item. Any additional charges shall not be honored for payment unless authorized in writing by Cumberland County Schools. In cases where parties, other than the Vendor ship materials against the order, the shipper must be instructed to show the purchase order number on all packages and shipping manifest to ensure proper identification and payment of invoices. A complete packing list must accompany each shipment.

CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. **Availability of Funds:** Any and all payments to the contractor are dependent upon and subject to the availability of funds to the agency for the purpose set forth in this agreement.
2. **Taxes:** Any applicable taxes shall be invoiced as a separate item.

NC G.S. 143-59.1 bars the Cumberland County Schools from entering into contracts with a vendor if the vendor or its affiliates meet one of the conditions of NC G.S. 105-164.8(b) and refuse to collect use tax on sales of tangible personal property to purchasers in North Carolina. Conditions under NC G.S. 105-164.8(b) include: (1) Maintenance of a retail establishment or office in the State, (2) Presence of representatives in the State that solicit sales or transact business on behalf of the vendor and (3) Systematic exploitation of the market by media-assisted, media-facilitated, or media-solicited means. By execution of the bid document the vendor certifies that it and all of its affiliates, (if it has affiliates); collect(s) the appropriate taxes.
3. **Situs:** The place of this contract, its situs and forum, shall be North Carolina, where all matters, whether sounding in contract or tort, relating to its validity, construction, interpretation and enforcement shall be determined.
4. **Governing Laws:** This contract is made under and shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina.
5. **Inspection at Contractor's Site:** Cumberland County Schools (CCS) reserves the right to inspect, at a reasonable time, the equipment/item, plant or other facilities of a prospective contractor prior to contract award, and during the contract term as necessary for CCS' determination that such equipment/item, plants or other facilities conform with the specifications/requirements and are adequate and suitable for the proper and effective performance of the contract.
6. **Payment Terms:** Payment terms are Net 30 days after receipt of correct invoice or acceptance of goods, whichever is later.
7. **Affirmative Action:** The contractor will take affirmative action in complying with all Federal and State requirements concerning fair employment and employment of people with disabilities, and concerning the treatment of all employees without regard to discrimination by reason of race, color, religion, sex national origin or disability.
8. **Condition and Packaging:** Unless otherwise provided by special terms and conditions or specifications, it is understood and agreed that any item offered or shipped has not been sold or used for any purpose and shall be in first class condition. All containers/packaging shall be suitable for handling, storage or shipment.
9. **Patent:** The contractor shall hold and save the CCS, its officers, agents and employees, harmless from liability of any kind, including costs and expenses, on account of any copyrighted material, patented or unpatented invention, articles, device or appliance manufactured or used in the performance of this contract, including use by the government.
10. **Electronic Procurement (Applies to all contracts that include e-procurement and are identified as such in the body of the solicitation document):** The successful bidder(s) shall pay a transaction fee of 1.75% (.0175) on the total dollar amount (excluding sales taxes) of each purchase order issued through the statewide E-Procurement service.