Request for Proposals for
COVID-19 Testing Services for Non-District K-12 Schools
Department of Public Health
City of Philadelphia

Answers to Submitted Questions

1. Regarding the need for contracting with M/W/DSBEs, do they have to be registered in the City of Philadelphia or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in order to count towards the requirements for this Request for Proposals? Given the time restraints for this request, is the City of Philadelphia willing to allow flexibility? For example, working with a M/W/DSBE in another city or state.

    ANSWER: To count toward M/W/DSBE participation, vendors must be certified and in the City's Office of Economic Opportunity registry. For more information, please visit https://www.phila.gov/departments/office-of-economic-opportunity/ or email oeophila@phila.gov.

2. Does the applicant have to be registered in the eContractPhilly portal (https://philawx.phila.gov/econtract/) in order to bid on this Request for Proposals?

    ANSWER: The prime applicant does not have to have an eContractPhilly account to submit a proposal, but any vendor who is awarded a contract as a result of this RFP will need an eContractPhilly account in order to complete the contract conformance process.

3. Will the City of Philadelphia or the Non-District Philadelphia schools allow the vendor to store a locker on site to keep our supplies in for the entire 10-month engagement?

    ANSWER: Schools may be willing to provide on-site storage, but those arrangements will need to be made directly with the schools. The City will not have storage space available. Costs for storage may be an appropriate expenditure if needed.

4. Is there an estimated number of students and staff to expect per school? Is every student being tested, or just specific groups (sports teams, exposures, out of the country, etc.)?

    ANSWER: Participation in the testing program will be voluntary and we anticipate testing needs will vary by school; therefore, student and staff testing volumes cannot be estimated at this time. Proposals may describe capacity to implement multiple types of testing programs (e.g., screening testing of specific groups, testing symptomatic students and staff, and testing of close contacts) to demonstrate ability to meet schools' diverse and changing needs.

5. Is there a preference around the COVID-19 testing method to be used?

ANSWER: Any COVID-19 testing method authorized by the FDA for use under the given circumstances and consistent with applicable CDC guidance is acceptable for purposes of this opportunity.