

Vicksburg Warren School District
Office of Special Education
1315 Grove Street
Vicksburg, MS 39180

Contact Information:
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Title: Speech Language Pathologist Service Providers

RFP #25-26-03

Issue Date: April 27, 2025

Submission Deadline Date: Monday, May 19, 2025
Time: 2:00 p.m. (Central Standard Time)

This Request for Proposal (RFP) is for the purpose of obtaining competitive proposals from qualified, licensed organizations to provide Speech and Language Services for the Vicksburg Warren School District.

The goal of the Vicksburg Warren School District is to ensure that all students who have communication delays or communication disorders are provided appropriate speech language services or related services in order to receive a Free and Appropriate Public Education.

Job Description:

The speech/language pathology program for the Vicksburg Warren School District (VWSD) includes identification and remediation of speech disorders in communicatively handicapped children of all ages. The speech/language pathologists working for the district serve children ranging in ages from three to twenty-one. A referral process exists to identify children with speech, language, and hearing problems, and the speech pathologists are responsible for the evaluation and treatment of designated problems. The following are the most common types of language disorders seen in public schools. Must be ASHA certified and hold a certification in the state of Mississippi.

Speech disorders

- Articulation includes any disorder of the production of sounds, such as:
- Substitutions - use of one standard sound for another (tat for cat); ●
- Omissions - leaving out a sound (do_ for dog); or

- Distortions - use of a nonstandard sound for a sound (thun for sun).
- Fluency includes stuttering sounds.
- Voice disorders include:
 - Intensity - loudness/softness;
 - Pitch - high pitch/low pitch; and
 - Quality - hoarseness, raspy, and/or nasal quality.

Language disorders

- Language delay includes a delay in the acquisition of spoken language. ●
- Language impairment includes the difficulty with syntax (grammar), semantics (word meaning), morphology (word forms i.e. plurals, past tense), or pragmatics (using language in social contexts).

Conduct Evaluations and Re-Evaluations for students who are eligible and referred by DMET for evaluations. Hold eligibility meetings to include paperwork.

Individualized education plans (IEPs) are written at the beginning of therapy and reviewed/revised annually. Students are re-evaluated every three years until they are dismissed from therapy. Parents and classroom teachers are integral parts of the program; thus all meetings concerning a student involve the speech pathologist, parent, and teacher. The speech therapy sessions are scheduled with the classroom teacher to ensure that no child is pulled for therapy during the instruction of an academic subject. To include IEP meetings and the paperwork.

Price for Therapy Sessions and Evaluations are to be determined and negotiated upon awarding of bid.

Performance Dates:

Advertise: April 27, 2025; May 4, 2025

Proposals Due: Monday, May 19, 2025

Bid Open Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

VWSD Teletherapy Speech-Language Pathology (SLP) Services

RFP No: 25-26-03

Issue Date: April 27, 2025

Proposal Due Date: Monday, May 19, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

1. Introduction

Vicksburg Warren School District is requesting proposals from qualified and experienced providers of **virtual/teletherapy speech-language pathology services** to deliver therapy, evaluations, and related services to students with speech and language disorders, in compliance with IDEA and applicable state laws. Services will be delivered via secure, HIPAA/FERPA-compliant platforms during the VWSD academic year, with possible renewal options.

2. Background Information

The District serves approximately 400 students across 16 schools. A portion of students have Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) requiring speech-language services. Due to staffing shortages and increased demand, the District is seeking teletherapy solutions to ensure compliance and continuity of care.

3. Scope of Services

The awarded vendor(s) shall provide certified and licensed **Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs)** to deliver services virtually. Services include, but are not limited to:

3.1 Direct Therapy

- Individual and group therapy aligned with students' IEP goals
- Teletherapy sessions via HIPAA/FERPA-compliant platforms
- Use of engaging, age-appropriate online materials and tools

3.2 Evaluations & Screenings

- Conduct comprehensive speech-language evaluations and re-evaluations

- Prepare formal assessment reports
- Collaborate with IEP teams to determine eligibility and service recommendations

3.3 IEP Development & Support

- Participate in IEP meetings (virtually, as needed)
- Contribute to development of present levels, goals, and service recommendations
- Provide progress monitoring and quarterly updates

3.4 Consultation & Collaboration

- Collaborate with general and special education staff
 - Support teachers in implementing speech and language strategies in the classroom
 - Provide parent communication and consultation as appropriate
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4. Minimum Qualifications

Vendors must meet the following requirements:

- Employ or subcontract with SLPs who hold:
 - ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC-SLP)
 - State licensure in Mississippi (or ability to obtain)
 - Minimum of 2 years of pediatric or school-based SLP experience
 - Familiarity with IDEA, FAPE, LRE, and IEP procedures
 - Secure teletherapy platform and data protection protocols
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5. Proposal Requirements

All proposals must include:

- Company background and relevant experience
- Resumes of proposed SLPs
- Proof of licensure and certification
- Sample therapy schedule or caseload model
- Description of teletherapy platform and tools used
- References from three (3) current or recent school clients
- Cost proposal: hourly rate for services, evaluation fees, and any additional fees
- Insurance and liability coverage details
- Compliance with FERPA, HIPAA, and accessibility standards

6. Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Criteria	Weight
Experience with school-based teletherapy	25%
Qualifications of therapists	20%
Technological capabilities	15%
Cost of services	20%
References and past performance	10%
Proposal clarity and completeness	10%

7. Contract Term

Initial term: August 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Option to renew for up to three additional one-year terms based on performance and funding availability.

8. Submission Instructions

Deadline: Monday, May 19, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

Submission Method: Falanda.addison-ross@vwsd.org and/or hard copy delivered to 1315 Grove Street, Office of Special Education, Vicksburg, MS 39188

Questions Deadline: Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Contact Person: Dr. Addison-Ross, Special Education Director

All proposals must be clearly marked with:

"RFP – Teletherapy Speech-Language Pathology Services"

9. General Conditions

- The District reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

- Selected vendors will be required to sign a contract and submit to background checks.
- All services must be compliant with federal and state laws.
- The District is not liable for any costs incurred in proposal preparation.