QUESTIONS & ANSWERS FOR Hillsborough Infant & Toddler Initiative (HITI) JULY 2023

Please be advised all questions are keyed as submitted:

Question: Hi, I just received an email about the Florida Market place and making a bid. I am unsure about the whole thing and would like some clarity if you do not mind. I think I am interested in bidding on items that you will have. Could you provide me more information please!

Answer:
The RFP for the Hillsborough Infant & Toddler Initiative is posted on the My Florida Marketplace and includes all the information and procedures being requested from companies interested in submitting a proposal to fill orders for early childhood materials and furnishings. The RFP does not reference having childcare materials or equipment for sale. Please visit the My Florida Marketplace to review the RFP in more detail and feel free to contact me should you have any further inquiries.

Question: With regard to your proposal request in the infant/toddler category, are cot sheets and blankets included under "rest time furnishings" (Commodity code 56121600)? We are contract manufacturers/importers in this category as well as textiles.

Answer:
Yes, cot sheets and blankets are included in the category for safe and healthy sleep provisions for personal care. The RFP is seeking bids from companies who can supply all categories of infant & toddler furnishings, equipment, and learning materials for early childhood programs.

Question: Is there a template that you would like us to use for describing the items? And is this infomformation email directly to you?

Answer:
The items should be listed based on the categories of play areas or classrooms requested in the RFP and the template should be formatted the best way for your company to illustrate the materials and furnishings you are able to provide based on your inventory. Proposals should be sent to
Theon Salley. Infant Toddler Coordinator, Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County
6302 E. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. Suite 100, Tampa, FL 33619 or emailed to tsalley@elchc.org

Question: These items are manufactured in China. Is this an issue?

Answer:
The location of where the items are manufactured is not an issue.

Question: Are you able to give me an idea of quantities needed for crib sheets, cot sheets & blankets? (Approximately).

Answer:
The RFP provides numbers of children that would occupy each classroom/age group. The materials should reflect those numbers when including the number of sheets, cots and/or cribs in your proposal for the appropriate age group.

Question: Delivery would take 60-75 days. I want to make sure this is acceptable.

Answer:
Please refer to Section VII of the RFP for the attributes and weights included in the RFP scoring, which includes the ability to meet timelines.

Question: Provide a list of materials and furnishings to create new environments for each of the age ranges and number of children to be occupying the space

Answer: Infant Environment (6weeks-12months Number of children -4). Young Toddler Environment 12-24 months, 6 children. 2 Year Old Environment 24-36 months, # 11 children.

Question: Include all items to create each of the spaces or centers listed below with the cost of each item after all discounts have been applied.

Answer:

Infants 6 weeks-18 months	Toddlers 16-36 months
Infant STEM kit	Toddler stem kit
Infant Gross motor kit	Toddler gross motor kit
Infant fine motor kit	Toddler fine motor kit
Infant literacy kit	Toddler literacy kit
Infant sensory kit	Toddler art/sensory kit
Infant book nook	Toddler cozy area
Infant Selfcare/Diapering area	Toddler block area
	Science area

Question: When building out the different age group environments, we will be including a mix of furniture & kits/resources, is this what they're looking for?

Answer: Based on the companies knowledge of early childhood environments, include the materials, equipment and furnishings need to create new spaces for each age group listed or all items needed to create the play areas/spaces requested.

Question: Would they like us to quote out product by single quantities or by # of children per classroom?

Answer: Please quote price for each singe item, then total if more than item is needed for the space (Example: 4 cribs for infant room, price of one crib then price of total of 4 cribs) and then provide total of all items for that room or play area.

Question: Are you looking for materials and furnishing categories separately or can they be combined based on the environment?

Answer: The RFP requests that vendors provide a list of items to create a new environment for each age groups and number of children to occupy the space and then items to create individual play spaces/areas.

Question: Will the Fast Facts in your proposal be the same for 2023? Budget, Classrooms etc.

Answer: The Fast Facts will be the same.

Question: I wanted to confirm the information below:

Organization: ELC of Hillsborough County
Advertisement Number: RFP-05890
Advertisement Type: Request for Proposals
Title: Hillsborough Infant Toddler
Commodity Code: 56121500: General classroom furnishings
Open Date: Jul 11, 2023
Close Date: Jul 26, 2023
Agency Contact: Theon Salley
Phone: (813) 515-2340
Address: 6302 E. Dr. Martin Luther King
Email: tsalley@elchc.org

Answer:
The dates are correct. Please refer to the RFP for details on the complete address and information requested for each proposal.

Question: Will this RFP be awarded to more than one vendor, and if so, how many vendors do you anticipate being awarded?

Answer: The RFP will only be awarded to one vendor

Question: For section "2. Methodology and Approach Narrative/Question #2. Include all items to create each of the spaces or centers listed below with the cost of each item after all discounts have been applied," would you like us to include furniture options?

Answer: Based on the companies knowledge of early childhood environments, include the materials, equipment and furnishings need to create new spaces for each age group listed or all items needed to create the play areas/spaces requested.