

## **MECnet Documentation**

### **FAQ - Using State Master Contract**



#### **What information is needed for Internet and Firewall Services for Public Schools and Libraries?**

• **Q: Do I have to file a Form 470 for my Internet or Joebox Firewall Service?**

**A:** No, the state filed a state master contract Form 470 on behalf of all public schools and libraries in the Commonwealth for Internet Service. MA Information Technology Division (ITD) awarded Contract #ITT13 (Statewide Contract for Internet Services) to MECnet. ITT13 can be used by all eligible entities in MA (i.e., Schools & Libraries) MECnet State Contract includes Internet and the Joebox Firewall Service. You are encouraged to use it. This state master contract is valid until June 30, 2008.

• **Q: What is a State Master Contract?**

**A:** State Master Contracts are those contracts that are competitively bid and put in place by an entity of state government for use by others. When a State files a Form 470, then the Application may cite the State's Form 470 on its Form 471.

- Applicant must follow applicable provisions of state master contract & local & state procurement laws
- No separate bidding documents or contracts required if Applicant cites state's Form 470, other than procurement law requirements
- Signed state master contract between state & service provider meets FCC signed contract requirement

• **Q: What if I file a Form 470 for Internet anyway?**

**A:** The FCC encourages you to write and post a detailed RFP. The RFP will then be posted with your Form 470 for at least 28 days. The content of your RFP should be reflected in your technology plan. Vendors will submit bids. You must keep these bids in your records for five years. In evaluating the bids, price has to be the most weighted factor in evaluating the vendors. Cost does not have to be the only factor; however, it must be weighted first.

• **Q: What are the benefits of using the State Master Contract for Internet and Firewall Service?**

- A:**
- 1) You do not have to file Form 470
  - 2) You do not have to write and post a RFP for 28 days.
  - 3) You do not have to take bids, Emails or phone calls from vendors.
  - 4) You do not have to keep bids for 5 years in your records.
  - 5) You have until February 7, 2007 to file – but don't wait that long!

• **Q: Do I have to file a Form 470 for my Internet if I am a private/independent school?**

**A:** Yes, the state master contract applies to public schools and libraries only.

• **Q: Does MECnet have descriptive copy that can be used for filing a form 471?**

**A:** Yes. Please contact [sales@mecnet.net](mailto:sales@mecnet.net) for more information.