

	CROWDER COLLEGE ATTN: PURCHASING/ FINANCE 601 LACLEDE AVE. NEOSHO, MO 64850 417-455-5532 purchasing@crowder.edu	Bid Request
		26-27.010
		The above number must appear on all quotations and related correspondence. This is not an order.
Description		
Storage Area Network (SAN) solution		We reserve the right to reject any or all bids. FOB Destination Crowder College is tax exempt. Please put bid number on front of envelope. Bid is good for 60 days.
DATE ISSUED: 09/15/2026	THIS REQUEST IMPLIES NO OBLIGATION ON THE PART OF CROWDER COLLEGE	BID DEADLINE: 09/30/2026 @1:00 PM CST
BID SPECIFICATIONS:		

Requested By: Joplin Campus

Purpose

The purpose of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to invite qualified vendors to submit proposals for the procurement of a Storage Area Network (SAN) solution for Crowder College.

Crowder College is seeking proposals for the purchase, delivery, and support of a SAN solution to provide centralized storage for instructional virtualization.

Below will be the specifics the College is looking for.

Project Timeline

- Issuance of RFP: 09/16/26
- RFP Closes 09/30/26
- Complete Evaluation 10/02/26
- Board of Trustee Approval: 10/26/26
- Final Award Notification: 10/27/26
- Implementation timeline to be completed by: 11/02/26

Scope of Work

The selected vendor will provide

- One (1) Storage Area Network (SAN) solution meeting the requirements outlined in this RFP.
- Delivery of all hardware, software, licensing, and accessories required for operation.
- Manufacturer warranty and technical support.
- Documentation necessary for installation, configuration, and ongoing administration.

1. Project Overview

The SAN solution will support instructional laboratories and educational computing environments, including virtualization, server administration, networking, and cybersecurity coursework.

The College seeks a solution that provides adequate performance, reliability, and manageability for educational workloads while allowing future storage growth.

Services Required

- Storage Area Network (SAN) solution suitable for instructional virtualization.
- Minimum of 12TB usable storage capacity configured with RAID 5 or RAID 6.
- Ability to expand to a minimum of 24TB usable storage without replacement of the storage array.
- SAS, SATA SSD, hybrid SSD/HDD, or equivalent storage architecture designed to support virtualization workloads, with optional support for future SSD or NVMe expansion.
- Redundant power supplies preferred but not required.
- Minimum dual 10Gb network connectivity (SFP+ or RJ45) with options for network expansion.
- Compatibility with VMware vSphere, Microsoft Hyper-V, and/or other common virtualization platforms. No virtualization licensing required.
- Support for snapshots or equivalent point-in-time recovery capabilities
- Web-based management interface with monitoring and reporting capabilities.
- Minimum 3-year manufacturer warranty with technical support.
- Rack-mountable solution compatible with standard 19-inch equipment racks.

The rubric below will be used to assess the vendor proposal. Each criterion will be given a score between 1-5 and then multiplied by the weight. The total score will then be compared with other vendors to help make a fair assessment. The maximum score achievable is 500.

Criteria	Weight (%)	Scoring Guide
Price per Unit	30%	Best overall value considering hardware, features, support, and future expansion capabilities.
Performance	20%	Ability to support instructional virtualization workloads, including multiple concurrent virtual machines.
Capacity	15%	Meets or exceeds required usable storage capacity.
Ease of Management	15%	Quality of management interface, monitoring tools, alerting capabilities, and reporting.
Scalability	10%	Ability to expand capacity, add

		drives, upgrade controllers, and support future growth.
Warranty & Support	10%	Warranty length, response times, firmware updates, and technical assistance.

Scope of Services

Interested parties should list out services with pricing stated above that are required as their initial proposal. Parties may include optional services listed out separately in price.

Initial implementation prices should be included as part of the proposal.

General conditions and terms

- Bids must be signed and submitted on this form.
- Any exceptions must be noted on this form.
- Bid Responses are not valid if unsigned or not received by deadline date.
- Bids may be sent by e-mail to purchasing@crowder.edu
- The College reserves the right to waive any minor technicalities in bids when deemed in the best interest of the institution.
- Per RSMo § 34.040 The College reserves the right to reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, and to accept the bid deemed most advantageous to the institution, even if it is not the lowest bid.
- Per RSMo § 34.042 Award shall be based on the best value to the College, considering factors such as quality, price, vendor reputation, and ability to meet required timelines.
- Per RSMo § 34.070 Preference shall be given to Missouri vendors in accordance with Missouri law, provided their bids are competitive in terms of quality and price.
- Per RSMo § 34.353 Preference will be given to products manufactured in the United States, provided the quality and price are comparable to non-domestic goods.
- The College shall not discriminate based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or other legally protected categories when evaluating bids.
- Vendors must comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including the **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**, as amended.
- Vendors must comply with all applicable federal and state affirmative action requirements and must not discriminate in hiring or employment practices.
- The College encourages participation by local, minority-owned, and women-owned businesses.
- Vendors must disclose any potential conflicts of interest involving current or former College employees or Board members.
- College does not prepay or accept COD shipments on awarded bids. Payment terms will be net 30 after acceptable receipt of goods. Vendor response to this Bid Request indicates Vendor accepts College payment policies and purchasing Terms and Conditions. Payment preferences may be given to a vendor who accepts a purchasing card without a fee.

Acknowledgement

The College adheres to Section 610RsMO (Sunshine Law). All costs directly or indirectly related to responding to this Request for Proposal, including all costs incurred in supplementary documentation, information or presentation, will be the responsibility of the proposer.



Proposer shall not offer or give any gratuities or favors or anything of monetary value to any employee, agent or trustees of the College for the purpose of influencing favorable disposition toward a submitted proposal or for any reason while a proposal is pending or during the evaluation process.

Communication

Verbal communication shall not be effective unless formally confirmed in writing by a specified official in charge of managing this RFP process. In no case shall verbal communication govern over written communication. Vendors' inquiries, questions, and requests for clarification related to this RFP are to be directed electronically by submitting an email to the Purchasing email purchasing@crowder.edu.

All bid proposals, communication and emails are subject to the provisions within the state of Missouri under the Freedom of Information Act.

Proposal Submission

All sealed bids need to be finalized and submitted by 1:00 PM on September 30th, 2026 to 601 Laclede Ave., Neosho, MO 64850 (Crowder College Main Campus), attention: Finance/ Purchasing. Electronic submissions via email (purchasing@crowder.edu) will be accepted, or submissions can be mailed to:

Crowder College
Attn: Finance Department/ Purchasing
601 Laclede, Neosho, MO 64850

Vendors are required to prepare and submit, at their own cost, one signed original proposal. Submission must include the vendor's full response, including all attachments, product services, and specifications where applicable. Electronic submission must be PDF or Microsoft Word format.

Selection and Notification

The Board meeting will be held on October 26th, 2026 to select a vendor. If bids require Board approval, the selected vendor will be notified after approval has been received from the Board of Trustees.

DUE DATE: 09/30/2026 Time: 1:00pm Central

Name: _____ **Signature:** _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Date: _____

(Pricing is good for 60 days from bid Deadline)