Carl Sandburg College
2400 Tom L. Wilson Blvd
Galesburg, IL 61401

Carl Sandburg College is seeking proposals for the purpose of performing a Wireless Access Point Upgrade based on industry standards and best practices as it relates wireless networks.

Carl Sandburg Community College, District #518, Galesburg, Illinois is one of approximately 45 Community Colleges in the state of Illinois. There is a head-count of approximately 1,600 students, along with 350 faculty and staff. The college is situated in a semi-rural setting.

Proposal Instructions

The proposal must include, a brief description of your firm, including history, ownership, experience with wireless network operations, three business references with contact information, hardware costs, installation, licensing, warranty, maintenance and support costs as applicable. Any special requirements (i.e. build outs, equipment, etc.) should also be noted in the proposal.

Vendors shall submit two (2) copies of proposals addressing all issues noted in the RFP and shall submit such proposals in a sealed envelope marked: **Carl Sandburg College Wireless Access Point Upgrade**, and addressed to Mr. Cory Gall, VP of Administrative Services/CFO, 2400 Tom L. Wilson Boulevard, Galesburg, IL, 61401. Proposals may be mailed or dropped off at the Administrative Services desk on the Carl Sandburg College main campus 2nd Floor of "E" building. Vendor is responsible for all costs in preparation of the proposal(s). No electronically submitted proposals will be considered.

Deadline for receipt of proposals is **Thursday, February 23, 2023 at 2:00 pm**. Proposals will be opened at that time in room E200 on the main Carl Sandburg College campus. Proposals received after that date and time will not be accepted or considered. Fax or telephone proposals will not be accepted. Changes to proposals will not be accepted or considered after the proposal deadline. Carl Sandburg College reserves the right to reject any or all proposals or parts of proposals. A pre-proposal conference will be held **Thursday, February 9th, 2023 at 1:00 pm,** in **Room E200 on the main Carl Sandburg College** campus, Galesburg, IL. Vendors will be provided an opportunity to ask questions and receive clarification at that time. A tour of the facilities will be conducted following the conference. Any questions should be directed to Mr. Cory Gall, VP of Administrative Services/CFO at 309-341-5273.

Request for Proposal for Wireless Access Point Upgrade

1. Background:

In an effort to provide a premium learning experience and the ability for students and faculty alike to access the network, Carl Sandburg College will be upgrading the wireless network at the main campus, branch campus and the annex. The current wireless network has 1GB CAT6 cabling connected to CAT6 patch panels in the IDFs.

This RFP will include the wireless infrastructure to include all APs, controller(s) and cabling.

The main campus is comprised of 9 buildings and 13 IDFs, the Annex 2 IDFs and the Branch Campus 1 IDF. All IDFs contain full POE switches with 1GB ports:
A campus map can be found here chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/http://www.sandburg.edu/Services/Registrar/Assets/2022-Campus-Map_For-Students_8.5x11.pdf. Bidders will be provided detailed campus drawings at the mandatory pre-bid meeting on February 9th.

- Building AA (1 IDF)
- Building A (1 IDF)
- Building B (3 IDFs)
- Building C (1 IDF)
- Building D
- Building E (1 MDF/4 IDFs)
- Building F (1 IDF)
- Building G (1 IDF)
- Building H (1 IDF)

2. Current Design and Use

2.1 Current Wireless Network Layout

The wired network supports a distributed wireless network. It is supported by a Meraki cloud controller and comprised of sixty-eight (68) 802.11ac Meraki APs. At this time, there are approximately a maximum of 1,600 wireless clients that might be connected to the wireless network at one time. All the access points are PoE and are connected to 1GB ports on the edge switches through CAT6e cabling and patch panels.

Building AA

- Two Meraki APs

Building A

- Seven Meraki APs
    - Two in Lower/South A
    - Three in the Former Children's Wing
    - Two in Upper/North A

Building B
- Ten Meraki APs
    - Four in ICSC Computing
    - Four in Old Building B (Building to be demolished)
    - Two in Crist Center

Building C
- Ten Meraki APs
    - Five in Lower C
    - Five in Upper C

Building D
- Three Meraki APs
    - One in Lower D
    - Two in Upper D

Building E
- Eleven Meraki Aps
    - Five in Lower E
    - Five in Upper E
    - One Outside Patio

Building F
- Six Meraki APs

Building G
- Four Meraki APs

Building H
- Two Meraki APs

Annex (Downtown Galesburg)
- Five Meraki APs
    - One on 2nd floor
    - Two on 1st floor
    - Two in basement

Branch Campus (Carthage, IL)
- Four Meraki APs

2.3 Current Network Design

There are currently 5 SSIDs in place on the network that utilize 4 different VLANs. One of the SSIDs are used for guest access and does not have access to any of the internal network.

3 Future Plans

With more and more devices connected to our network and more and more of our operations dependent on a functional network we need to provide a robust Wireless LAN. We are currently transitioning to a one-to-one program and a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) structure. The new system should accommodate approximately 1,600 concurrent wireless users throughout the main campus.

3.1 Goals for new network

1. More density to allow for multiple device connection per student.

2. Increased coverage to ensure all classrooms and common areas are covered.

3. Seamless transfer between APs so no connection is lost while traversing campus.

4 Requirements for proposal

1. The pre-bid meeting, to include a site tour, held on February 9, 2023 must be attended.

2. The proposal must include a site survey to determine best system design and placement of APs, a post site survey to show coverage, hardware costs, installation, licensing, warranty, maintenance and support costs as applicable.

3. The proposal must include the removal of all old APs from current locations and the college will take care of disposal.

4. We will consider any manufacturer for the wireless networking equipment, but we will be looking for manufactures that have documented feature set, reliability, and reputation as well as support for Wi-Fi 6 and a cloud-based AI driven platform that provides proactive automation.