

Request for Proposal (RFP)
Lake County School District
14-Passenger Activity Bus

NOTICE TO BIDDERS:

The Lake County School District (“District”) invites qualified vendors to submit proposals for the purchase of one (1) 14-passenger activity bus. The vehicle must be suitable for student transportation for school activities and may be used for limited student drop-off transportation. The vehicle must meet all applicable federal and State of Colorado safety and school transportation requirements. The District intends to award based on best overall value, considering cost, durability, safety, lifecycle cost, vendor support, and fitness for District operational needs. The District reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive informalities or irregularities, and to accept the proposal deemed in the best interest of the District.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:

Submit proposals labeled “Activity Bus RFP” to:

Sean Fay, sfay@lakecountyschools.net and Jim Mulcey, jmulcey@lakecountyschools.net

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:

10/9/2026

QUESTIONS:

Questions may be directed to: Sean Fay, sfay@lakecountyschools.net, 719-221-1017

SCOPE:

The District seeks a vendor capable of providing a complete, turnkey activity bus solution including vehicle, delivery, documentation, and warranty support. The District intends this specification to represent a minimum acceptable performance standard. Equivalent or superior configurations will be considered.

1. Vehicle Capacity and Classification

Vendor must provide:

- 14 passenger seating capacity plus driver
- Configuration that allows operation by non-CDL drivers as applicable under Colorado law

- Multi-Function School Activity Bus (MFSAB) configuration is acceptable
- Vehicle must include stop arm and student loading safety lighting systems suitable for student drop-off use

2. Performance and Chassis Requirements

Vehicle must meet or exceed performance characteristics comparable to a medium-duty school activity chassis including:

- Minimum GVWR appropriate for fully loaded passenger and equipment transport
- Gasoline or diesel engine (no alternative fuel proposals)
- Heavy duty automatic transmission
- Dual rear wheel configuration or equivalent load-rated system
- Heavy duty cooling system suitable for high altitude operation
- Engine block heater
- Minimum 200-amp alternator or equivalent high output electrical system

3. Body and Safety Requirements

Vehicle must include:

- Federal and Colorado compliant school bus or MFSAB safety construction
- ABS braking system
- Stability control system
- Backup camera with driver display
- Rear emergency exit
- Roof hatch emergency exit
- Fire extinguisher
- Reflective safety markings compliant with school transportation standards
- LED exterior lighting package preferred

4. Interior Requirements

Vehicle must include:

- High durability flooring suitable for snow, moisture, and athletic use
- Interior lighting appropriate for passenger loading and unloading
- Driver ergonomics suitable for extended mountain driving conditions

5. Athletic Equipment Storage

Vehicle must support safe transport of athletic equipment, including long equipment such as pole vault poles. Proposals must include one or more of the following:

- Interior storage system secured and isolated from passenger seating areas
- Interior or overhead rack system allowing safe loading and unloading

- Alternative storage solution that prevents obstruction of aisles or emergency exits
Vendor must provide description of storage design and safety compliance.

6. Exterior and Environmental Requirements

Vehicle must include:

- School bus yellow exterior or approved school transportation finish
- Corrosion protection and undercoating suitable for winter road treatment chemicals
- Mud flaps and body protection suitable for rural road use
- Automatic tire chain system suitable for mountain and winter operations

7. Electrical and Operational Requirements

Vehicle must include:

- Dual battery system preferred
- Accessory power circuits for future equipment
- Standard AM/FM radio or equivalent

8. Warranty and Support

Vendor must provide:

- Minimum one (1) year full vehicle warranty
- Powertrain warranty details
- Body warranty details
- Rust / corrosion warranty details
- Service support availability in Colorado

9. Maintenance and Lifecycle Information

Vendor must provide:

- Estimated annual maintenance cost
- Recommended service intervals
- Expected service life under school activity usage
- Typical major component replacement timelines

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Company Information

- Company name, address, and years in business
- Primary contact information

2. Vehicle Specification Sheet

- Full vehicle specification

- Safety system descriptions
 - Storage configuration description
3. Pricing
- Must include:
- Base vehicle price
 - Options pricing (if applicable)
 - Delivery cost
 - Documentation fees (if any)
- Must include both:
- Cash purchase price
 - Financing options including rates, terms, and payment schedules
4. Delivery Timeline
- Vendor must provide estimated delivery timeline for both in-stock units and factory order units.
5. References
- Minimum two (2) school districts or governmental entities using similar vehicles.
6. Legal Documentation
- W-9
 - Certificate of Good Standing

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

Criterion — Weight

- Overall fitness for District needs and durability — 30%
- Total cost of ownership (purchase plus maintenance estimates) — 25%
- Safety features and compliance — 20%
- Vendor experience and support — 15%
- Delivery timeline and availability — 10%

ADDITIONAL TERMS:

The District reserves the right to negotiate with one or more vendors, request demonstrations or additional technical information, and award based on best value rather than lowest price.