

Education
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FROM AGENCIES TO PROVIDE RESPIRATORY THERAPIST, REGISTERED NURSE, AND LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE SERVICES FOR THE EDUCATION OF EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS, FROM JULY 1, 2002 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2003

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) from agencies to continue the provision of Respiratory Therapist (RT), Registered Nurse (RN), and Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN) services for the education of exceptional students for whom such services have been identified as necessary to access and benefit from school-based education, from July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003. The RFP will seek an agency to provide the nursing and related medical services for exceptional students as determined necessary by their Individual Educational Plans and physicians' medical recommendations for these services. It is proposed that once the contract is awarded, there be an option to renew the contract for up to two additional one-year periods.

Estimated hours of services needed from July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003, are as follows: RT services, approximately 25,000 hours; RN services, approximately 25,000 hours; and LPN services, approximately 25,000 hours. The estimated cost for providing these services is in an amount not to exceed \$1,900,000.

The selection of the agencies to provide the RT, RN, and LPN services will be made by a committee on the basis of several factors including professional qualifications, experience in providing RT, RN, and LPN services, and the fee. The proposed members of the selection committee are:

- an executive director for the Division of Exceptional Student Education
- a supervisor for the Division of Exceptional Student Education
- a region director for Exceptional Student Education or designee
- a principal from a school with students who receive RT, RN, or LPN services
- a representative from the Superintendent's District Advisory Panel for ESE
- a teacher from a program with students who receive RT, RN, or LPN services

- a representative from the Division of Business Development and Assistance
- a representative from the Bureau of Procurement and Materials Management

The estimated timeline for implementation is as follows:

Procurement Contract Review Committee	January 10, 2002
Request Board approval to issue RFP and approval of Selection Committee	January 16, 2002
Mailing of RFP	January 25, 2002
Opening of Proposal.	February 26, 2002
Evaluation completed by Selection Committee	March 7, 2002
Contract Award	May 15, 2002

A copy of the RFP will be provided to Board members under separate cover prior to the School Board Meeting of January 16, 2002, and will be available for inspection by the public in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, Room 924, and the Citizen Information Center, Room 158, 1450 N.E. Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

1. authorize the Superintendent to issue a Request for Proposals from agencies to provide Respiratory Therapist, Registered Nurse, and Licensed Practical Nurse services for the education of exceptional students, from July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003; and
2. approve a selection committee to evaluate the submitted proposals.

RKF:jf