



**Maine Community College System
323 State Street
Augusta, ME 04330**

**Competitive Bid
Request For Proposal
This is NOT an order.**

Hyperconverged System

Issue Date:	June 27, 2019
Questions from Bidders Due On:	July 12, 2019
Response Due Date:	by 4:00 pm EDT on July 25, 2019
Return Proposal To:	Tim Dunne Chief Information Officer, Dean of IT Southern Maine Community College On behalf of Maine Community College System 323 State Street Augusta, ME 04330 207.741.5506 tdunne@smccme.edu

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GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Purpose:

Maine Community College System and five of the community colleges are seeking bids to purchase Hyperconverged Systems for the six locations. This Request for Proposal (RFP) states the instructions for submitting bids, the procedure and criteria by which a vendor may be selected and the contractual terms by which the System Office intends to govern the relationship between it and the selected vendor. Each location requires its own hardware/installation and will potentially utilize the System office implementation as their DRS. **Bidder's proposal should list complete line item pricing for hardware, software and installation services per College/location separately and list pricing for additional nodes, so each location has options to increase their hyper-converged system if they choose.** It is important to note that any college or the system office reserves the right to purchase all, some, or opt out of purchasing from this RFP.

1.2 Background information:

The following section describes the workloads at each site and the remote backup and disaster recovery requirements for those workloads.

MCCS

The Maine Community College System office will be supporting all 7 Colleges by providing capacity for remote backups and DR capabilities for any one of the Colleges to failover at any given time.

The proposed environments running at the individual Colleges must support the ability to push Critical Backup and Disaster Recovery data to the System Office in a secure multi-tenant self-service solution. This will allow each college to manage their workloads and not impede the operations of any other workload running in the shared System office environment. The infrastructure must also support network segmentation to ensure network traffic from one college does not communicate with other colleges.

1.3 College Workloads and System Replication Requirements:

CMCC

Central Maine Community College already has a Nutanix Hyper-Converged infrastructure running VMware as the Hypervisor. They also already have hardware dedicated to Disaster Recovery so no additional purchases will be needed at this time. If the proposal submitted does not include a Nutanix solution, respondents must include technology that would be able to leverage the existing Infrastructure in place at CMCC for replicating the Student Information System from the System Office.

EMCC

Eastern Maine Community College has 1 Production Environment.

The workload size for the environment is as follows:

- Production
 - 132 Virtual Servers. The average size of each Virtual Server is
 - 2 vCPU
 - 8 GB RAM
 - 330 GB of Data

The Production Environment will be replicated to the System Office for Remote Backup and Disaster Recovery. The System Office will retain 7 daily copies, 4 weekly copies and 1 monthly copy of the Production Environment.

KVCC

Kennebec Valley Community College has 2 Production Environments.

The workload size for each of the environments is as follows:

- Production 1
 - 24 Virtual Servers. The average size of each Virtual Server is
 - 4 vCPU
 - 8 GB RAM
 - 380 GB of Data
- Production 2
 - 18 Virtual Servers. The average size of each Virtual Server is
 - 4 vCPU
 - 12 GB RAM
 - 450 GB of Data

The Production Environments will be combined into 1 new environment and will be replicated to the System Office for Remote Backup and Disaster Recovery. The System Office will retain 7 daily copies, 4 weekly copies and 1 monthly copy of the Production Environment.

NMCC

Northern Maine Community College has 1 Production Environment.

The workload size for the environment is as follows:

- Production
 - 74 Virtual Servers. The average size of each Virtual Server is
 - 4 vCPU
 - 8 GB RAM
 - 300 GB of Data

The Production Environment will be replicated to the System Office for Remote Backup and Disaster Recovery. The System Office will retain 7 daily copies, 4 weekly copies and 1 monthly copy of the Production Environment.

SMCC

Southern Maine Community College has 3 different environments that must be sized for replacement. The workload sizes for each environment is as follows:

- Production
 - 176 Virtual Servers. The average size of each Virtual Server is
 - 3 vCPU
 - 9 GB RAM
 - 250 GB of Data
- CSEC
 - 217 Virtual Servers. The average size of each Virtual Server is
 - 2 vCPU
 - 5 GB RAM
 - 18 GB of Data
- VDI based on VMware Horizon View using Linked Clone Technology
 - 400 Task Workers
 - 200 Power Users

Only the Production Environment will be replicated to the System Office for Remote Backup and Disaster Recovery. The System Office will retain 7 daily copies, 4 weekly copies and 1 monthly copy of the Production Environment. The CSEC environment will need to support a multitenant self-service solution for each classroom using the environment.

WCCC

- Production
 - 6 Virtual Servers. The average size of each Virtual Server is
 - 5 vCPU
 - 8 GB RAM
 - 700 GB of Data

Washington County will have their Student Information system replicated to EMCC for DR and remote backups.

YCCC

York County Community College has 1 Production Environment.

The workload size for the environment is as follows:

- Production
 - 57 Virtual Servers. The average size of each Virtual Server is
 - 2 vCPU
 - 6 GB RAM
 - 200 GB of Data

The Production Environment will be replicated to the System Office for Remote Backup and Disaster Recovery. The System Office will retain 7 daily copies, 4 weekly copies and 1 monthly copy of the Production Environment.

MCCS

The workload size for the environment is as follows:

- Production
 - 50 Virtual Servers. The average size of each Virtual Server is
 - 4 vCPU
 - 8 GB RAM
 - 300 GB of Data

In Addition, as Previously stated the system Office implementation will need to be sized appropriately to accept the replicated data from each of the colleges systems but would only be expected to run one College Production environment in the case of a disaster situation. A Failover test will be required should this section of the architecture be fully implemented.

GROWTH CAPACITY

The workloads above describes traditional server workloads. We would like to see 2 additional options so that colleges could examine the possibility of delivering video intensive workloads through VDI and also if they would like to implement Storage dense nodes. Please quote node pricing to accommodate the following including the vGPU – Grid Cards and Disk necessary to purchase:

- A node necessary to deliver highly performing AutoDesk CAD desktop to 50 concurrent users
- A node necessary to increase data store sizes in minimum of 10TB increments

1.4 Definition of Parties:

Maine Community College System (MCCS) will from now on be referred to as the “The System Office.” Respondents to the RFP shall be referred to as “Bidders.” The Bidder to whom the contract is awarded shall be referred to as the “Contractor.”

1.5 Scope:

The selected Bidder will supply the proposed Hyperconverged Systems and all necessary components to MCCS as outlined in this Request for Proposal. It is important to note that any college or the system office reserves the right to either purchase some, all, or opt out of the purchase of the proposed hyper-converged system.

1.6 Evaluation:

Each proposal will be scored using the matrix located on page 11.

1.7 Communication with the System Office:

It is the responsibility of the Bidder to inquire about any requirement of the RFP that is not understood. Responses to inquiries, if they change or substantially clarify the RFP, will be forwarded by addenda to all parties that have received a copy of the RFP. The System Office will not be bound by oral responses to inquiries or written responses other than addenda.

1.8 Award:

The System Office reserves the right to conduct any tests it may deem advisable and make all evaluations. System Office reserves the right to reject any or all bids, in whole or in part and is not necessarily bound to accept the lowest bid if that bid is contrary to the best interest of the System Office and associated Colleges. The System

Office reserves the right to waive minor irregularities. Scholarships, donations, or gifts to The System Office will not be considered in the evaluation of bids. A bid may be rejected if it is in any way incomplete or irregular. When there are tie bids, there shall be a preference for “in-state bidders.” When the bids are either both in-state or both out-of-state, the award will be made to the bid that arrives first in Maine Community College System’s Information Technology Office.

1.9 Award Protest:

Bidders may appeal the award decision by submitting a written protest to Maine Community College System’s Chief Financial Officer within five (5) business days of the award notice, with a copy to the successful bidder. The protest must contain a statement of the basis for the challenge.

1.10 Costs of Preparation:

Bidder assumes all costs of preparation of the bid and any presentations necessary to the bidding process.

1.11 Debarment:

Submission of a signed bid in response to this solicitation is a certification that your firm (or any subcontractor) is not currently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any State or Federal department or agency. Submission is also agreement that The System Office will be notified of any change in this status.

1.12 Bid Understanding:

By submitting a bid, the Bidder agrees and assures that the specifications are adequate and the Bidder accepts the terms and conditions herein. Any exceptions should be noted in your response.

1.13 Specification Protest Process and Remedies:

If a bidder feels that the specifications are written in a way that limits competition, a specification protest may be sent to Maine Community College System’s Dean of Finance and General Services. Protests will be responded to within five (5) business days of receipt. Determination of protest validity is at the sole discretion of the System Office. The due date of the bid may be changed if necessary to allow consideration of the protest and issuance of writing as soon as identified, but no less than five (5) business days before the bid opening date and time. No protest against the award due to the specifications shall be considered after this deadline. The protest shall include the reason for the protest and any proposed changes to the specifications. Protest should be delivered to the Dean of Finance and General Service’s Office in sealed envelopes, clearly marked as: “Hyperconverged Systems Bid.”

1.14 Bid Validity:

Unless specified otherwise, all bids shall be valid for three (3) years from the due date of the bid with the option of The System Office to add two (2) one (1) year extensions (no auto-renewal terms will be accepted).

1.15 Errors:

Bids may be withdrawn or amended by Bidders at any time before the bid opening. After the bid opening, bids may not be amended. If a significant mistake has been made by an apparent low Bidder, the Bidder will be given the option of selling at a price given or withdrawing the bid. If an extension error has been made, the unit price will prevail.

1.16 Bid Envelope:

If a special envelope is not furnished or if return in the special envelope is not possible, the signed bid can be returned in an envelope or package, sealed and identified as follows:

From	Due Date	Time
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1.17 Submission:

A signed original plus one (1) copy of the bid may be sent to the Chief Information Officer, 100 Hague Hall, Southern Maine Community College, 2 Fort Road, South Portland ME 04106 in a sealed envelope by 4:00 p.m. local time by April 12, 2019. Envelope should be marked "Hyperconverged System RFP." Bids can also be emailed to tdunne@smccme.edu with "Hyperconverged System RFP" in the subject line. Bidders are strongly encouraged to submit bids in advance of the due date to avoid the possibility of missing the 4:00 p.m. deadline due to unforeseen circumstances. Bidders assume the risk of the methods of dispatch chosen. The System Office assumes no responsibility for delays caused by any package or mail delivery service. A postmark on or before the due date WILL NOT substitute for receipt of the bid. Bids must be dated and time stamped by the System Office on time to be considered. Bids received after the due date and time will not be considered. Additional time will not be granted to any single bidder. However, additional time may be granted to all vendors when The System Office determines that circumstances require it. **Faxed bids will not be accepted.**

1.18 Tax Exempt:

The System Office is exempt from the payment of Federal Excise Taxes on articles not for resale and for the Federal Transportation Tax on all shipments. The Contractor and subcontractor shall quote and shall be reimbursed less these taxes. Upon application, exemption certificates will be furnished when required. The System Office is exempt from the payment of Maine State Sales and Uses taxes.

2.0 CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

2.1 Contract Documents: If a separate contract is not written, the contract entered into by the parties shall consist of the Request for Bids, the signed bid submitted by the Contractor, the specifications including all modifications thereof, and a purchase order or letter of agreement requiring signatures of the System Office and the Contractor, all of which shall be referred to collectively as the Contract Documents.

2.2 Contract Validity: In the event one or more clauses of the contract are declared invalid, void, unenforceable, or illegal, that shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the contract.

2.3 Contract Administration: Marty Gang, Chief Information Technology Officer, shall be the MCCS authorized representative in all matters pertaining to the administration of any contract(s) regarding the Hyperconverged System.

2.4 Litigation: This Contract and the rights and obligations of the parties hereunder shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Maine. The Contractor agrees that any litigation, action or proceeding arising out of the Contract shall be instituted in a state court located in the State of Maine.

2.5 Assignment: Neither party of the contract shall assign the contract without the prior written consent of the other, nor shall the contractor assign any money due or to become due without the prior written consent of the System Office.

2.6 Equal Opportunity: In the execution of the contract, the Contractor and all subcontractors agree, consistent with college policy, not to discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, transgender status or gender expression, national origin or citizenship status, age disability or veteran's status and to provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities upon request. The System Office encourages the employment of individuals with disabilities.

2.7 Sexual Harassment: The System Office is committed to providing a positive environment for all students and staff. Sexual harassment, whether intentional or not undermines the quality of the educational and working climate. The System Office thus has a legal and ethical responsibility to ensure that all students and employees can learn and work in an environment free of sexual harassment. Consistent with the state and federal law, this right to freedom from sexual harassment was defined as College policy by the Board of Trustees. Failure to comply with this policy could result in termination of this contract without advance notice. Further information regarding this policy is available from Barbara Owen, President's Office, Maine Community College System, 1250 Turner Street, Auburn, Me 04210, (207) 755-5233.

2.8 Smoking Policy: Maine Community College System must comply with the "Workplace Smoking Act of 1985" and MRS title 22, 1541 ET seq, "Smoking Prohibited in Public Places." In compliance with this law, the Maine Community College System has prohibited smoking on campus. This rule must also apply to all contractors and workers that are on campus. The Contractor shall be responsible for the implementation and enforcement of this requirement.

2.9 Payments: Payment will be upon final acceptance of product and submittal of an invoice to the System Office, by the Contractor on a net 30 basis unless discount terms are offered.

NOTICE TO VENDORS AND BIDDERS:

Standard Terms and Conditions Applicable to All M CCS Contracts

The following standard contracting terms and conditions are incorporated and shall become a part of any final contract that will be awarded by any college or other operating unit of the Maine Community College System (collectively "M CCS"). These terms and conditions derive from the public nature and limited resources of the M CCS. M CCS DOES NOT AGREE TO:

1. Provide any defense, hold harmless or indemnity;
2. Waive any statutory or constitutional immunity;
3. Apply the law of a state other than Maine;
4. Procure types or amounts of insurance beyond those M CCS already maintains or waive any rights of subrogation;
5. Add any entity as an additional insured to M CCS policies of insurance;
6. Pay attorneys' fees, costs, expenses or liquidated damages;
7. Promise confidentiality in a manner contrary to Maine's Freedom of Access Act;
8. Permit an entity to change unilaterally any term or condition once the contract is signed; and
9. Automatic renewals for term(s) greater than month-to-month.

By submitting a response to a Request for Proposal, bid or other offer to do business with M CCS, YOUR ENTITY UNDERSTANDS AND AGREES THAT:

1. The above standard terms and conditions are thereby incorporated into any agreement entered into between M CCS and your entity; that such terms and condition shall control in the event of any conflict with such agreement; and that your entity will not propose or demand any contrary terms;
2. The above standard terms and conditions will govern the interpretation of such agreement notwithstanding the expression of any other term and/or condition to the contrary;
3. Your entity will not propose to any college or other operating unit of the M CCS any contractual documents of any kind that are not in at least 11-point font and completely contained in one Word or PDF document, and that any references to terms and conditions, privacy policies or any other conditions referenced outside of the contract will not apply; and
4. Your entity will identify at the time of submission which, if any, portion or your submitted materials are entitled to "trade secret" exemption from disclosure under Maine's Freedom of Access Act; that failure to so identify will authorize M CCS to conclude that no portions are so exempt; and that your entity will defend, indemnify and hold harmless M CCS in any and all legal actions that seek to compel M CCS to disclose under Maine's Freedom of Access Act some or all of your submitted materials and/or contract, if any, executed between M CCS and your entity.

3.0 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

3.1 The purpose of this RFP is to seek proposals for a Hyperconverged Systems and the professional services necessary for the installation, configuration, and the migration from the current system to the new system at each of the six locations. The selected vendor will also provide training on the new Hyperconverged System for all six locations. The current infrastructure varies at each location with the majority utilizing VMWare or HyperV as their virtualization platform. **Bidder's proposal should list complete line item pricing for hardware, software and installation per College/location separately and list pricing for additional nodes, so each location has options to increase their hyper-converged system if they choose.**

As previously noted, each location will procure all hyper-converged infrastructure hardware, software, and rack installation via this Request for Proposal for Hyperconverged System. The Professional Services procured under this RFP will include the following **for each location**:

- Project Management to ensure successful completion of project objectives within specified timeframes and budget
- Creation of a Statement of Work
- Configuration of the Primary and Disaster Recovery (DR) Secondary Site to ensure full fault tolerance and high availability
- Migrations of all physical and virtual servers/data from current infrastructure to each location's choice of the hypervisor on the new infrastructure
- Configuration of local backups and tape backups (if utilized) for offsite storage using the location's current backup software
- Configuration of Protection Domain and Consistency Group Replication between Primary and Secondary Sites
- Testing and validation to ensure all systems are functioning and the System Office client workstations have appropriate access to all server-side resources (authentication, DNS, DHCP, application, print, and file, etc.,)
- Written documentation of the implemented hyper-converged Infrastructure design
- Training of the I.T. staff in the features and day-to-day operations of the Hyper-converged System Management Interface **performed at each location.**

Summary

The proposed Hyperconverged Systems will include all power cords, cables, hot-swappable redundant power supplies, and other parts not listed in the specifications but are necessary for a complete system. These items should be included in the Bidder's proposal.

Bidder's proposal should list complete line item pricing for hardware, software and installation per College/location separately and list pricing for additional nodes, so each location has options to increase their hyper-converged system if they choose.

Selection of the Hyperconverged Systems shall be based on specific features and capabilities of the proposed solution including but not limited to the amount of useable disk capacity before and after deduplication and compression, the inclusion and configuration of DR Site, the flexibility of hypervisors to manage the hyper-converged environment as well as the cost of the proposed solution.

MCCS reserves the right, in its sole and absolute discretion to accept or reject, in whole or in part, any or all proposals with or without cause. MCCS further reserves the right to waive any irregularity or informality in this RFP process or any proposal, and the right to award the Contract to other than the lowest bidder. MCCS reserves the right to request additional information from any or all Bidders. MCCS reserves the right to negotiate with one or more Bidders concerning their proposals.

Listed below are some of the desired options/features that should be included in the proposed Hyperconverged System. Specifications for the proposed Hyperconverged System including details such as but not limited to the type and capabilities of the Hyperconverged System **must** be listed in detail in the proposal.

Desired Options and Features

- Enterprise virtualization features including VMware vMotion, HA, and DRS and Hyper-V live migration and failover clustering.
- 100% Software driven system with no dependencies on proprietary hardware
- Disaster Recovery
- Scalability (ability to easily add nodes for storage and compute)
- Support for various hypervisors such as but not limited to, VMWare ESXi, Hyper-V or KVM
- High availability of the system
- Rapid VM Cloning
- Thin provisioning (both storage containers and virtual machine HDs)
- Deduplication (Deduplication must span all storage tiers including RAM, flash, and HDD, and scale as the storage cluster grows)
- Data Redundancy policies that provide options for single host failure and simultaneous host failure with no impact to data availability

The proposal must include the cost for three years and five years warranty and support. Please list warranty and support as a separate line item. Warranty must be provided by the manufacturer; the third party warranty is not acceptable.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Preference will be given based on:

Item	Percentage Possible
Number of Certified Engineers within 90 minutes of Augusta Maine for the proposed platform	10%
Scalability	10%
Useable Disk Space and type of disk proposed for each installation	10%
Number of proposed Processors/Cores for each installation	10%
Support for various Hypervisors	10%
Training and product certification provided for each location/site with provided Vendor	10%
Vendor's experience and qualifications	10%
Desired options and features	10%
Cost	20%
TOTAL	100%

4.0 VENDOR BACKGROUND

1. List your company's legal name, address, and telephone number.

Enter text here

2. How long has your company been in business?

Enter text here

3. Indicate whether your company is the manufacturer or the distributor of the proposed equipment. If you are a distributor, describe the terms of your agreement with the manufacturer and the manufacturer's level of support.

Enter text here

RFP Schedule	Date
RFP issued	June 27, 2019
Deadline for Questions	July 12, 2019 By the End of Business Day
Response to Questions	July 19, 2019 By the End of Business Day
RFP due	July 25, 2019 by 4:00 pm
Winner selected and notified	July 29, 2019 Tentatively by the End of Business Day

5.0 Questions and responses

5.1 Questions will not be accepted by telephone. Questions should be submitted by email to its@MCCS.edu. MCCS will make every effort to answer questions submitted by bidders to the best of our ability by the due date. We strongly encourage bidders to submit questions as early in the RFP process as possible.

5.2 Depending on the responses to the RFP, MCCS will make every effort to select and notify the winning bidder by the end of business on July 29, 2019. The System Office reserves the right to change the RFP schedule allowing the time necessary to make the most appropriate selection for the System Office.

Signature Page

Date

Signature of Vendor's Representative

Printed name and title

Vendor Firm Name

Vendor Mailing Address

Vendor City/State/Zip

Vendor Telephone