



Minnesota Internship Center Charter School  
1313 Fifth Street SE Suite 208C Minneapolis, MN 55414

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL Priority 1

[www.designlearn.net/erate10/MNIC69647.pdf](http://www.designlearn.net/erate10/MNIC69647.pdf)

*E-Rate Funding Year 2010-2011*

*RFP Submitted: Jan 12, 2010*

*Deadline for Proposals: February 8, 2010*

*E-Rate Form 471 Submission Deadline: February 11, 2010*

### I. School Background

Minnesota Internship Center (MNIC) partners with communities and learners to achieve academic, career, and life success. We combine excellent classroom-based instruction with internships that will help meet some of the new Minnesota Graduation standards. While internships are not required (many students prefer full days in the classroom) they do offer much potential in career and academic growth. Special education services are provided wherever needed, in all of our programs.

MNIC is a unique charter school in that we believe in having multiple campuses rather than one large building, holding to the notion of small learning environments. MNIC currently has four sites in Minneapolis:

- The East High School Campus near Hennepin Ave. & Industrial Blvd. hosts our English Academy for immigrants with limited English skills, as well as the main school office.
- The Unity Campus is in the Jordan neighborhood, and operates 4 Circles focusing on medical/health careers, transportation careers, general career exploration and basic skills (academic and career).
- The UTEC Campus in Dinkytown offers a Construction Trades Learning Circle integrated with academics.
- The Sabathani Campus has a Learning Circle that focuses on regular basic high school accreditation in the areas of English, History and Math, as well internships and trainings in business, office and other careers.

MNIC believes strongly in the use of technology to reinforce and support its overall mission.

- MNIC, Charter School District #4102, was established in 2002 and serves learners between the ages of 16 and 21, particularly those who have been unsuccessful in other settings and who have dropped out of school. MNIC has one of the highest free and reduced lunch rates of any school in Minnesota.
- MNIC currently serves approximately 310 students.
- MNIC is a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation (Federal Tax ID #383673618) and is registered with the state of Minnesota pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 309, the Charitable Solicitations Act (MN Tax ID #6321386).
- MNIC's E-Rate Entity Number is [16022398](#).

- MNIC's FCC Registration Number is **0011980158**, and was obtained on 10/29/04.

## II. Current Technology

MNIC currently has a various standard analog phone lines provided through a dynamically balanced, bonded T1 line at each of our four campuses. Phone lines are provided by TDS Metrocom in a 5 year contract. Phone equipment is mostly owned, some are rented.

MNIC has around 20 cellular walkie-talkie phones through one cellular phone carrier. Cellular phones are valuable to maintain safety and effective communication.

MNIC currently utilizes Internet connections provided through TDS Metrocom by dynamically balanced bonded T1 lines at 3.0 Mbps (up and down) speeds for students and staff at each of our four campuses. Contract is for 5 years. Each site has a Watchguard Firebox providing DHCP services and CIPA compliance.

MNIC currently has wired Ethernet networks throughout the buildings that we occupy, with a total of approximately 130 desktop computers running a mix of Windows XP Professional and Macintosh OSX. Limited wireless network accessibility exists in these sites. The Unity campus has a functioning server working as a domain controller.

Star environment operates in all campuses providing internal connectivity through the cable connection. Web and email services are hosted off site. Each site location has a managed switch.

## III. Desired Services and Products

Based on E-Rate guidelines, we are seeking or continuing services in the following areas for the 2010-2011 funding year, with services beginning no earlier than July 1, 2010:

### Priority One: Corresponds to FCC Form 470 #696470000809354.

#### 1. Telecommunications Services – Cellular Phones

##### - Cellular phone service with various features for sets of phone lines:

Up to 25 phones:

- 2 - 4 phones w/flat \$/minute rate + 911 capability
  - 1 - 5 phones w/ walkie-talkie feature only + 911 ability
  - 1 - 2 phones w/ internet & email ability + data pack options
  - All others w/ regular cellular phone service
- ##### - Walkie-talkie feature for all cellular phones, allowing direct connect (phone to phone) with option for walkie-talkie features
- For a monthly fee, free minutes for walkie-talkie feature use between phones
- ##### - Cell phone features include:
- Shared minutes, unlimited text messaging, long distance included in regular minutes, able to block international calls
- ##### - Share call minutes between all cellular phones
- 28,000 Shared Minutes per month
- ##### - Service allows option to send mass text messages
- From a cell phone or computer to initiate a message, able to manage groups of phone numbers for text messaging purposes
- ##### - Contract allows means to get free phone sets
- Voluntary extension of contract releases phone upgrades or new phone sets

**- Internet and email features for cellular phones: 1 or 2 cellular phones have internet access and email capability plus data package options**

- Data package for data transfers preferably shared among phones, otherwise data package for each phone in MB per month

**Priority One: Corresponds to FCC Form 470 #679660000809771**

Internet Services

1. Firewall Protection software and service to be run on MS Server 2008 or on a dedicated machine for each of the 4 sites.
2. This protection must include CIPA Compliant Content Filtering and various other protections, (ex. Antivirus, Antispam, Antispyware, Policy management, etc. ).

Each of these areas is described in this document; vendors can submit proposals on any or all sections. All proposals should conform to the rules of the E-Rate program, as found at:

<http://www.sl.universalservice.org>

MNIC prefers that vendors have prior experience with the E-Rate program and with small school environments. Qualified vendors must have approved FCC Registration Number, USAC SPIN and be bonded. Vendors providing monthly or recurring invoices should deduct the E-Rate discounted portion from each invoice and bill SLD directly, rather than requiring the school to file a BEAR Form 472 at the end of the year. All proposals should include labor and installation and provide training and support options, including printed documentation. MNIC will establish and apply criteria for choosing the winning bidders.

Telecommunications Services (i.e. Cellular)

MNIC would like to enhance their communication through cellular phone lines. **Up to 25 lines**, see above for specifics. MNIC purposely seeks phones with different features, as stated above, to correspond to the needs of specific staff persons and roles. The number of phones for each role, e.g. 1-5 phones only walkie-talkie feature and 911 calling, will be fine tuned during the bidding period. MNIC would like for the bidders to create a bid within these limits, using the vendor's best discretion with the provided information and utilizing cost efficiency and effectiveness.

Internet Connection & Eligible Services (i.e. Cellular Internet Connection, Firewall Service & software)

MNIC requests internet accessibility for specific cellular phones for email and internet capabilities to increase staff productivity. This is also mentioned in the Cellular Phone description above.

MNIC seeks a firewall and school network protection service that will provide CIPA Compliant Content Filtering and various other protections (ex. Antivirus, Antispam, Antispyware, Policy management, prevention of proxy site access by users, etc.) for all users on the network and to protect the network and computer-based technology assets from damage by intrusions, hacking, viruses, spyware and spam. Such a firewall system would

include software and services that can be deployed and managed from within the school and/or over the internet. The system should allow some flexibility through policy management features to enable authorized staff persons to access to some websites that would be forbidden for students but will enhance staff productivity.

#### **IV. Proposals**

Bids and proposals will be accepted until 4:00 PM on February 8, 2010. Our preferred method of media is Adobe Acrobat (PDF), but Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel documents are also acceptable formats. Please email bids and proposals as attachments to our E-Rate Manager, Stephen Bosacker, at Designs for Learning, at the following email address:

[sbosacker@designlearn.net](mailto:sbosacker@designlearn.net)

If you prefer to send paper proposals (or any additional supporting materials), please mail to Stephen Bosacker, Designs for Learning, 2233 University Ave. W., Suite 450, St. Paul, MN 55114 or send via fax to 651-645-0240. Questions regarding this RFP should be directed to the email address listed above.

Thank you for your interest in our school.