



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Schuler Auditorium Sound System
RFP #27-01

Issue Date: September 21th, 2026 5:00 PM PST

Deadline for Vendor Written Questions: September 30th, 2026 2:00 PM PST

Vendor Proposal Due Date: October 21st, 2026 2:00 PM PST

Responders are required to respond to this RFP solicitation electronically either by email to nicpurchasing@nic.edu or through Public Purchase. The subject line of any questions or email submissions shall state: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Schuler Auditorium Sound System RFP #27-01. All required response documents are to be completed, and submitted before the stated due date and time. Responses submitted by mail or in person will not be accepted.

It is advised that responders not wait until the last day to start submitting RFP responses. Responders may edit up until the due date and time.

All communications regarding this RFP and the selection process must be coordinated through NIC Purchasing via email. Any individual or vendor that contacts any member of the campus, a member of the North Idaho College Board of Trustees, or any North Idaho College Administrator except NIC Purchasing, may be disqualified from further consideration.

NIC Purchasing
North Idaho College
Office of Finance and Business Affairs
1000 W. Garden Ave.
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814
nicpurchasing@nic.edu

Respondents are notified that North Idaho College reserves the right to reject any and all parts of the RFP.

Table of Contents

1. [Introduction](#)
 - A. Purpose of Proposal
 - B. College Profile
2. [Scope of Work](#)
3. [Sound System Performance Requirements](#)
 - A. Audience Coverage and Audio Quality
 - B. Touring Production Compatibility
 - C. Controlled Sound Dispersion
 - D. LCR System Compatibility
 - E. Visual Impact
 - F. Stage Monitor System
 - G. System Integration
 - H. System Modeling
4. [Acoustic and Performance Requirements](#)
 - A. Coverage
 - B. Output
 - C. Frequency Response
 - D. Intelligibility
5. [Loudspeaker System](#)
6. [Stage Monitoring](#)
7. [Control and Networking](#)
8. [Installation Requirements](#)
9. [Commissioning](#)
10. [Training](#)
11. [Documentation](#)
12. [Warranty and Support](#)
13. [Proposal Requirements](#)
14. [Timelines and Schedules](#)
15. [Evaluation Criteria](#)
16. [Selection Process](#)
17. [Final Selection](#)
18. [Award of Contract](#)
19. [Applicable Laws and General Conditions](#)
 - A. Force Majure
 - B. Compliance with Law, Licensing, and Certifications
 - C. Public Records and Confidentiality
 - D. Prohibition of Gratuities
 - E. Federal, State, and Local Taxes
 - F. Modification
 - G. Assignment
 - H. Ownership of Documentation and Materials
 - I. Non-Discrimination
 - J. Indemnification
 - K. Termination of Contract
 - L. Cancellation of Award
 - M. Addenda

1. Introduction

A. Purpose of Proposal

North Idaho College is currently soliciting Request for Proposals (RFP) to secure a single vendor (Vendor) to replace or install a modern, scalable professional sound reinforcement system suitable for touring productions and in-house events.

The location is on North Idaho College's main campus, in the Schuler Performing Arts Center, located within Boswell Hall, at 880 W. Garden Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814.

Schuler Performing Arts Center is a 1,100-seat venue. Typical events include theatre, touring concerts, dance, lectures, and musicals. Target completion date: January 2027.

B. College Profile

North Idaho College is a community college located in the panhandle of Idaho in the City of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. North Idaho College is Idaho's oldest public community college, having been founded in 1933 as Coeur d'Alene Junior College. It began with a faculty of nine and held its classes on the third floor of the City Hall. It was financed entirely from public contributions. In 1939, the Idaho Legislature passed the Junior College Act, which gave geographical areas permission to form junior college districts, if they could meet the requirement of \$10 million assessed valuation and 800 high school students. In July of 1939, the North Idaho Junior College District was formed encompassing most of Kootenai County. In 1960, the District incorporated the remaining areas of Kootenai County, bringing the District to its present size.

The college serves out-of-district students from the five northern counties. In 1971, the name of the college was changed to North Idaho College in accordance with a law passed by the 41st Idaho Legislature. The College currently has an enrollment of 4,570 credit students.

Dr. Nick Swayne is the President of the College. The administrative offices of North Idaho College are located on the main campus at 1000 W. Garden Ave., Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. The College also operates the Workforce Training Center in the nearby City of Post Falls. Additionally, the Parker Technical Education Center is home to a number of career and technical education programs and sits on a 40-acre parcel located on the Rathdrum Prairie north of the City of Coeur d'Alene in the City of Rathdrum.

2. Scope of Work

The selected contractor will design, furnish, and install a comprehensive, modern, professional-grade sound system for North Idaho College's Schuler Auditorium. Site drawings are available upon request. The project scope will focus on replacing outdated equipment and improving performance and reliability.

The selected vendor will provide:

- System design and engineering
- Equipment supply
- Installation and integration
- System tuning and commissioning
- Documentation and training

The sound system will include:

- Main loudspeaker system
- Front fills / delays / balcony coverage

- Subwoofers
- Stage monitors
- DSP
- Control and monitoring software

3. Sound System Performance Requirements

The proposed sound system reinforcement must meet the following performance and operational requirements:

A. Audience Coverage and Audio Quality

The system shall deliver high-fidelity audio to every seat in the theatre.

Requirements:

- Full-range system response capable of **20 Hz – 20 kHz reproduction**
- Even sound pressure level distribution throughout the audience area
- Maximum variance of **±3 dB across all seating areas**
- Consistent tonal balance between orchestra, balcony, and under-balcony seating
- System must be capable of both speech reinforcement and full-range music reproduction

B. Touring Production Compatibility

The system must be compatible with touring productions and industry-standard technical riders.

Requirements:

- Professional touring-grade loudspeaker and processing platform
- Standardized signal interfaces
- Adequate patching and input capacity
- System architecture suitable for visiting FOH engineers
- Flexible routing capable of supporting theatrical, concert, and lecture applications

C. Controlled Sound Dispersion

The loudspeaker system shall minimize unwanted reflections and maximize direct sound to the audience.

Requirements:

- Minimal sound energy directed toward side walls, ceiling, and reflective architectural surfaces
- Speaker pattern control optimized for the room geometry
- System design that prioritizes direct coverage of audience seating areas

D. LCR System Capability

The system shall support **Left–Center–Right (LCR)** reinforcement commonly used in musical theatre and Broadway productions.

Requirements:

- Dedicated **Left, Center, and Right loudspeaker systems**
- Ability to mix **dialogue primarily to the center channel**
- Ability to mix **music and effects in stereo to the left and right systems**
- System routing capable of supporting theatrical LCR workflows

E. Visual Impact

The loudspeaker system must maintain a minimal visual footprint within the theater.

Requirements:

- Loudspeakers positioned to **minimize visual obstruction for patrons**
- Minimal interference with **lighting positions and sightlines**
- Compact loudspeaker elements preferred where possible
- Rigging and installation hardware designed to integrate cleanly with the architecture
- Color matched to the existing auditorium color scheme

F. Stage Monitor System

A stage monitor system shall be included to support performers and stage productions.

Requirements:

- **8 stage monitor loudspeakers (12-inch class preferred)**
- **8 independent monitor amplifier channels**
- Ability to create multiple independent monitor mixes
- Durable enclosures suitable for stage use
- Monitor system integrated with the main console and processing infrastructure

G. System Integration

The system shall include all components necessary for proper installation and operation and integrate with existing Yamaha DM7 and Dante network.

Typical components include:

- Main loudspeaker arrays
- Subwoofers
- Front fill loudspeakers
- Delay speakers where required
- Amplification and DSP processing
- System networking and control
- Rigging hardware and installation materials

H. System Modeling

Proposals shall include predictive acoustic modeling demonstrating:

- Coverage uniformity
- Sound pressure level distribution
- System frequency response
- Verification that design-targets (± 3 dB coverage) are achievable

4. Acoustic and Performance Requirements

A. Coverage

- Even SPL coverage across all seating areas
- Target variance: **± 3 dB across audience area**
- Coverage includes:
 - Orchestra
 - Balcony
 - Front rows

B. Output

- Continuous SPL capability:
 - **95–100 dBA average**
 - **105–110 dBA peak**
- No audible distortion at design level.

C. Frequency Response

- System response: **40 Hz – 16 kHz minimum**
- Extended LF capability preferred for concerts.

D. Intelligibility

- Speech transmission index (STI) target: **≥ 0.6**

5. Loudspeaker System

Vendors should propose:

- Left / Right main arrays or Point source boxes
- Center cluster
- Front fill speakers (if appropriate)
- Balcony delays (if appropriate)
- Subwoofer system
- 360-Surround (if appropriate)

Design must include:

- Rigging plans
- Weight loads
- Integration with fly system or structural steel
- Visual impact considerations

6. Stage Monitoring

- Minimum **8– monitor mixes**
- Wedge monitors
 - o 8 – 12in floor wedges

7. Control and Networking

System should include:

- Networked audio distribution
- DSP control
- System monitoring software
- Remote control capability
- VLAN-compatible network architecture

8. Installation Requirements

Vendor responsible for:

- Cable management
- Rack fabrication
- Labeling and documentation
- Coordination with other trades
- Safety and rigging compliance

9. Commissioning

Include:

- System alignment and tuning
- Acoustic measurement
- Documentation of system settings
- Verification of performance specifications

10. Training

Provide training for staff including:

- System operation
- System troubleshooting
- Wireless coordination
- Basic system tuning

Minimum **4-8 hours onsite training.**

11. Documentation

Vendor must supply:

- As-built drawings
- Signal flow diagrams
- Network diagrams
- Equipment manuals
- Spare parts list

12. Warranty and Support

- Minimum **3-year warranty after system commissioning**
- Service response time
- Availability of replacement parts
- Optional maintenance contract

13. Proposal Requirements

Submissions must include:

- Company overview and relevant experience
- Relevant project references (similar venues)
- System design drawings
- Loudspeaker modeling predictions
- Equipment list
- Installation timeline
- Cost breakdown
- Warranty and service plan options

14. Timelines and Schedules

A site visit is required for all vendors who have not participated in a site visit / demonstration prior to April 01, 2026.

Site visit RSVP should be directed to NIC Purchasing via email: nicpurchasing@nic.edu.

North Idaho College intends to adhere to the following schedule in seeking responses to this RFP:

RFP Issue Date	Monday, September 21, 2026 – 5:00 PM PST
Deadline for Vendor Written Questions	Wednesday, September 30, 2026 – 2:00 PM PST
NIC Response to Vendor Written Questions	Wednesday, October 07, 2026 – 5:00 PM PST
Vendor RSVP for Site Visit	Friday, October 09, 2026 – 2:00 PM PST
Required Site Visit	Wednesday, October 14, 2026 – 11 AM PST
Proposal Due Date	Wednesday, October 21, 2026 – 2:00 PM PST
Contract due from Selected Vendor to NIC	Friday, October 30, 2026 – 2:00 PM PST

15. Evaluation Criteria

Factors to be considered during the evaluation of the proposals received will include:

- Completeness of submitted proposal and adherence to stated criteria in this RFP
- Qualifications and Experience of the Proposer / Experience with performing arts venues
- System performance
- Design quality
- Proposed cost
- Support and warranty
- Timeline for completion

North Idaho College will use the following criteria and weight to determine the best response (100-point maximum value):

CRITERIA	WEIGHT (%)
Proposed Solution (System performance and Design quality)	40
Qualifications / Experience	25
Price	20
Warranty	10
Start Date and Timeline for Completion	5

16. Selection Process

The contract will be awarded to the respondent that submits the best overall and most advantageous proposal as determined by North Idaho College.

North Idaho College may negotiate with any proposer in order to obtain a final contract that best meets the needs of North Idaho College. Negotiations, however, will not alter the original intent of the scope of work.

Proposal submittals will be opened in a manner that avoids disclosure of the contents to competing respondents. Contents of the proposal submittals will remain confidential during the negotiations period. Only the RFP number and the identity of the respondent submitting proposals will be made available to the public. Once a selection has been made, all materials will become public record.

Trade secrets or proprietary information submitted by a proposer shall not be publicly disclosed, however, the proposer shall request this protection prior to or upon submission of the data or other material and must identify the data or other materials to be protected and state the reasons why protection is necessary. North Idaho College will:

- Encourage persons or firms engaged in the services being solicited to submit proposals and performance data;
- Establish the criteria and procedures used for the selection of qualified respondents to perform such services;
- Prepare a ranked list of respondents in order of preference, pursuant to North Idaho College's established criteria and procedures;
- If necessary, interview the finalists and prepare a ranked list in order of preference, pursuant to North Idaho College's established criteria and procedures;

- Negotiate with the highest ranked finalist for a contract to perform such services at a price determined to be reasonable and fair after considering the estimated value, the scope, the complexity and the nature of the services;
- If unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract or agreement from the highest ranked finalist, formally terminate negotiations and undertake negotiations with the next highest ranked finalist.

Should North Idaho College be unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract or agreement with any of the ranked finalists, North Idaho College may (1) continue the negotiation process with other respondents in their listed order of ranking until a contract or agreement is reached or (2) cease the selection process and begin again.

17. Final Selection

A Proposal Evaluation Team, appropriate to the scope and nature of the RFP, will evaluate each Proposal that appears responsive to the RFP based on the evaluation categories and maximum points designated under “Proposal Requirements.” The proposal evaluation process is designed to award the Contract to the respondent with the best combination of attributes based upon the evaluation criteria, not necessarily to the respondent of least cost.

North Idaho College reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to request respondent clarification of a Proposal or to conduct clarification discussions with any or all respondents. Any such clarification or discussion shall be limited to specific sections of the proposal identified by North Idaho College. The subject respondent shall put any resulting clarification in writing as may be required by North Idaho College.

ASSIGNMENT OF CONTRACT: This contract may not be assigned by the Vendor in whole or in part without the consent in writing of North Idaho College’s Vice President of Finance and Business.

18. Award of Contract

The respondent with the apparent best-evaluated proposal must sign and return a contract for Schuler Auditorium Sound System written by North Idaho College pursuant to this RFP no later than October 31, 2026. If the respondent fails to provide the signed Agreement by the deadline, North Idaho College may determine that the respondent is non-responsive to the terms of this RFP and reject the proposal. If North Idaho College determines that the apparent best-evaluated proposal is non-responsive and rejects the proposal, the remaining responsive Proposals will be reviewed to determine the new apparent best-evaluated proposal.

The selected firm will be required to submit their firm’s Certificate of Insurance, indicating that insurance coverage has been obtained which meets the minimum requirements as are required by Idaho law for work performed by the bidder. “North Idaho College” shall be named as an additional insured. The bidder shall be responsible for notifying North Idaho College of any modification to, or cancellation of, these policies during the contractual period; including, but not limited to, any pending or paid claims against the aggregate amount of the policy.

19. APPLICABLE LAWS AND GENERAL CONDITIONS

A. Force Majeure

Neither party shall be liable or deemed to be in default for any Force Majeure delay in shipment or performance occasioned by unforeseeable causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the parties, including, but not restricted to, acts of God or the public enemy, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine, restrictions, strikes, freight embargoes, or unusually severe weather, provided that in all cases the Vendor shall notify North Idaho College promptly in writing of any cause for delay and North Idaho College concurs that the delay was beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Vendor. The period for the performance shall be extended for a period equivalent to the period of the Force Majeure delay. Matters of the Vendor's finances shall not be a Force Majeure.

B. Compliance with Law, Licensing, and Certifications

The Vendor shall comply with all requirements of federal, state and local laws and regulations applicable to Contractor or to the Property provided by the Vendor pursuant to this Agreement. For the duration of the Agreement, the Vendor shall maintain in effect and have in its possession all licenses and certifications required by federal, state and local laws and rules. This contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of Idaho and shall be deemed executed at Coeur d'Alene, Kootenai County, Idaho. Jurisdiction: The parties shall bring any and all legal proceedings arising hereunder in the State of Idaho, District Court of Kootenai County.

C. Public Records and Confidentiality

Pursuant to Idaho's Public Records Act, Title 74, Chapter 1, Idaho Code, as may be amended from time to time (the "Public Records Law") information or documents received from the Vendor may be open to public inspection and copying unless exempt from disclosure. If the Vendor believes information provided to the College is exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Law, the Vendor shall clearly designate individual documents or portions thereof as "exempt" and shall indicate the proposed basis for such exemption. North Idaho College will not accept the marking of an entire document as exempt. In addition, North Idaho College will not accept a legend or statement on one (1) page that all, or substantially all, of the document is exempt from disclosure. North Idaho College does not warrant or otherwise promise that information marked as such will in fact be exempt under the Public Records Law. The Vendor shall indemnify and defend North Idaho College Parties against all liability, claims, damages, losses, expenses, actions, attorney fees and suits whatsoever for honoring such a designation or for the Vendor's failure to designate individual documents as exempt. The Vendor's failure to designate as exempt any document or portion of a document that is released by North Idaho College shall constitute a complete waiver of any and all claims for damages caused by any such release. If North Idaho College receives a request for materials claimed exempt by the Vendor, the Vendor shall provide the legal defense for such claim.

D. Prohibition of Gratuities

Neither the Vendor nor any person, firm or corporation employed by the Vendor in the performance of this contract shall offer or give any gift, money or anything of value or any promise for future reward or compensation to any North Idaho College employee at any time.

E. Federal, State, and Local Taxes

North Idaho College makes no representation as to the exemption from liability of any tax imposed by any governmental entity on the Vendor.

F. Modification

This contract shall be modified only by the written agreement of the parties with the approval of North Idaho College's Vice President of Finance and Business. No alteration or variation of the terms and conditions of the contract shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by the parties. Every amendment shall specify the date on which its provisions shall be effective.

G. Assignment

The Vendor shall not assign, convey, encumber, or otherwise transfer its rights or duties under this contract without the prior written consent of North Idaho College. This contract may terminate in the event of its assignment, conveyance, encumbrance or other transfer by the Contractor without the prior written consent of North Idaho College.

H. Ownership of Documentation and Materials

All deliverable services and documents produced under this Agreement will become the property of North Idaho College without restriction, reservation or qualification.

I. Non-Discrimination

North Idaho College hereby notifies all firms that no person or organization shall be discriminated against on the basis of race, religion, color, age, sex, sexual orientation or national origin in consideration for an award issued pursuant to this advertisement.

J. Indemnification

The Vendor agrees to defend, indemnify and hold North Idaho College harmless from any and all claims, including but not limited to reasonable attorney fees, demands, losses and liabilities to or by third parties arising from, resulting from, an error, omission or negligent act of the Vendor performed under this contract by the Vendor, its agents or employees to the fullest extent permitted by law.

K. Termination of Contract

The Agreement may be terminated in whole or in part under the following conditions: 1) By mutual written agreement; 2) By North Idaho College for breach by the Vendor of any of the obligations or requirements set forth in the contract documents which would, at the option of North Idaho College, require the Vendor to assume liability for any and all damages, including the excess of re-procuring similar products or services; 3) For convenience of North Idaho College.

a. Cancellation for Convenience

North Idaho College may cancel this Agreement upon written notice. The Vendor may cancel this Agreement upon sixty (60) consecutive calendar day written notice.

b. Cancellation with Cause

This Agreement may be terminated by North College with cause immediately upon written notice to the Vendor. Work in progress would be completed at North Idaho College's option.

c. Upon termination of the Contract the Vendor will:

1) stop work on the date and to the extent specified; 2) continue and complete all parts of the work that have not been terminated; 3) surrender to North Idaho College all files, exhibits, and documents maintained or prepared in conjunction with the provision of services under this Agreement; and 4) surrender and return any North Idaho College owned and furnished equipment used in conjunction with the provision of services under this Agreement.

L. Cancellation of Award

North Idaho College reserves the right to immediately cancel an award if the Agreement has not been entered into by the Parties or if new regulations or policy makes it necessary to change the program purpose or content, discontinue such programs, or impose funding reductions. In those cases where negotiation of contract activities is necessary, North Idaho College reserves the right to limit the period of negotiation to ten (10) College work days after which time funds may be de-obligated.

M. Addenda

The only method by which any requirement of this RFP may be modified is by written addendum issued by North Idaho College. Responses to inquiries which directly affect an interpretation or change to the RFP will be issued in writing by addenda. Any addenda will be posted to the college's website at: <https://www.nic.edu>. All such addenda issued by the College prior to the time that proposals are received shall be considered binding. Oral and other interpretations or clarifications shall be without legal effect.



