

Request for Proposals

Weapons Detection System

Solicitation number: BLEC 2026 03

Bids due: January 30, 2027 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Notice for SCBO Posting

Brookland-Lakeview Empowerment Center (BLEC) requests proposals from qualified contractors for the following work at 1218 Batchelor Street, West Columbia, SC 29169. Supply, delivery, setup, testing, and staff training for one single-opening concealed weapons detection system, including a handheld detector, batteries, charger, and test pieces.

Scope of Work

System package. Provide one complete single-opening concealed weapons detection system. The grant scope references a CEIA OpenGate system; equivalent systems may be proposed with documentation showing comparable screening function, portability, detection capability, and operational suitability. Include one handheld wand detector, six compatible batteries, one multi-port charger, and two compatible test pieces.

Location and use. Set up the system inside the main front entrance facing Batchelor Street at 1218 Batchelor Street. The system will support visitor screening for community activities, including after-school programs, summer camp, senior activities, food distributions, and other events.

Setup and demonstration. Include delivery, assembly, configuration, calibration, and an on-site visit by a qualified manufacturer-trained technician or engineer. Demonstrate operation with the supplied test pieces, alarm indications, handheld secondary screening, battery operation, charging, and system readiness checks.

Training and handover. Train designated BLEC staff in operation, daily checks, sensitivity settings, alarm response procedures, safe handling, storage, and routine maintenance. Provide product specifications, detection capabilities and limitations, operating manuals, training materials, warranty terms, and technical support contacts. Identify any electrical, network, subscription, or site preparation requirements.

Proposal Requirements

Submit a written proposal identifying the company, authorized contact, address, telephone number, and email address. Include the following:

- A technical description of the proposed work, equipment quantities, manufacturer and model information, and product specifications. Identify assumptions, exclusions, and deviations from the scope.
- An itemized price proposal covering equipment, materials, labor, delivery, installation, setup, testing, training, taxes, and any other charges. Identify recurring fees and optional services separately from the base proposal.
- The anticipated delivery and installation schedule, warranty coverage, service response, relevant project experience, references, and applicable licenses and insurance information.

Bid Submission and Questions

Proposals must be received by January 30, 2027 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Submit by email, hand delivery, or mail to:

Dr. Cindye Richburg Cotton
Executive Director
Brookland-Lakeview Empowerment Center
1218 Batchelor Street
West Columbia, SC 29169
Email: crichburgcotton@brookland.cc
Telephone: 803-744-7943

Use the solicitation number and project title in the email subject line or on the delivery envelope. Mailed bids must arrive by the deadline; a postmark does not establish receipt. Arrange hand delivery in advance with BLEC.

Direct questions and requests for a site visit to Dr. Cotton at the email address or telephone number above. Any change affecting the scope or deadline will be issued by BLEC in writing to all prospective bidders who have requested the RFP.

Project Conditions and Selection

BLEC will evaluate scope compliance, relevant experience, proposed equipment and installation approach, schedule, warranty and support, and total proposed cost. BLEC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Submission does not authorize work or establish a contract.

Coordinate all work with BLEC to protect ongoing programs and maintain safe access. Obtain required permits and comply with applicable installation, accessibility, life safety, and building requirements. Preserve historic building features and obtain BLEC approval before altering existing surfaces or openings.

This project is associated with the FEMA Nonprofit Security Grant Program National Security Supplemental. Award and commencement of work are contingent on applicable grant approvals, an authorized performance period, Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation clearance, and written notice to proceed from BLEC. Equipment and services must comply with applicable federal grant restrictions, including 2 CFR 200.216. Identify manufacturers and models for eligibility review before purchase.