

1.0 PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The School Committees from the following schools hereby invite sealed bids for the 2025 - 2026 school year:

COPY PAPER ATHOL ROYALSTON REGIONAL, AUBURN, BAY PATH VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL, BLACKSTONE/MILLVILLE REGIONAL, DUDLEY/CHARLTON REGIONAL, GRAFTON, LEICESTER, MILLBURY, NORTHBOROUGH-SOUTHBOROUGH, **OXFORD (ADDED 4/7/25)** QUABBIN REGIONAL, QUABOAG REGIONAL, SOUTHBRIDGE, SPENCER-EASTBROOKFIELD REGIONAL, SUTTON, TANTASQUA REGIONAL, WACHUSETT REGIONAL, WEBSTER, WEST BOYLSTON, WINCHENDON.

Specification and bid proposal forms are available from April 7 2025 through May 7 2025 at:

French River Education Center, Inc.
672 Main Street, P.O. Box 476
North Oxford, MA 01537
(508) 987-0219

The bid documents will be available April 7 2025 on the French River Education Center website for download – www.frec.org – click Purchasing Cooperative – click Bid Documents.

All bids must be in conformity with all pertinent statutes and regulations of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

All bids must be sealed and labeled "COPY PAPER" and received at the French River Education Center, Inc., 672 Main Street, North Oxford, MA 01537 not later than 1:00 p.m. on May 7 2025 at which time and place bids will be publicly opened and read. Faxed bids will not be accepted.

The School Committees reserve the right to reject any or all bids, or any part thereof; when it appears to them that the best interests of the district are served by doing so.

Ricci Hall
Director
French River Education Center,

GENERAL INFORMATION AND BID SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1.1 Proposal and Contract

This bid document and all related appendices, bid proposal forms, compliance forms addenda and bidder's response is an integral part of the contractor's bid proposal and contract for services.

Sealed Bids must be delivered to: French River Education Center Inc.
672 Main Street, P.O. Box 476
North Oxford, MA 01537

By 1:00 p.m. on May 7, 2025, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read. It should be clearly marked on the outside: "COPY PAPER BID". All bids must include a bid bond/bid check, non-collusion form, tax compliance certificate, bid pricing form, and ordering information form.

Sealed bids will be found acceptable only if hand-delivered, delivered by courier, or received through the mail.

Bidders must supply W-9 Form with bid response.

Bidders must supply a Certificate of Authority (Sample included in Section 9.0).

2.2 Addendum

If any changes are made to this Invitation for Bid (IFB), an addendum will be issued. Addenda will be mailed or faxed to all bidders on record as having picked up the IFB.

2.3 Questions

Questions concerning this invitation for bids should be directed to James Looney, French River Education Center, 672 Main Street, North Oxford, MA before 1:00 p.m. May 7, 2025. Questions may be delivered, mailed, emailed (jlooney@frec.org), telephoned (508) 987-0219, extension 107 or faxed (508) 987-1396. Responses will be sent to all bidders on record as having received the IFB.

2.4 How to Modify or Withdraw Bid

A bidder may correct, modify, or withdraw a bid by written notice received by the French River Education Center, Inc. prior to the time and date set for the bid opening. Bid modifications must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly labeled "Modification No.____." Each modification must be numbered in sequence, and must reference "Copy Paper Bid" the original IFB.

After the bid opening, a bidder may not change any provision of the bid in a manner prejudicial to the interest of the participating school districts of fair competition. Minor informalities will be waived or the bidder will be allowed to correct them. If a mistake on the intended bid is clearly evident on the face of the bid document, the mistake will be corrected to reflect the intended correct bid, and the bidder will be notified in writing; the bidder may not withdraw the bid. A bidder may withdraw a bid if a mistake is clearly evident on the face of the bid document, but the intended correct bid is not similarly evident.

2.5 District Right to Cancel IFB or Reject Bids

The School Districts may cancel this IFB, or reject in whole or in part any and all bids, if the Districts determine that the cancellation or rejection serves the best interest of the Districts.

2.6 Bid Price Requirement

All bid prices submitted in response to this IFB must remain firm for ninety (90) days following the bid award meeting on May 21, 2025. Bid price to include all charges related to this purchase. No additional cost will be paid for delivery.

2.7 Unexpected Closures

If, at the time of the scheduled bid opening, the Office of the French River Education Center, Inc. is closed due to uncontrolled events such as fire, snow, ice, wind, or building evacuation, the bid opening will be postponed until 1:00 p.m. on the next normal business day.

2.8 Bid Deposit/Performance Bond

All bidders must submit with their bids, at no cost to the owner, a CERTIFIED OR CASHIERS CHECK OR AN INSURED BID BOND in the amount of 5% of the total bid price. Such check or bid bond is to be made payable to the French River Education Center (Obligee). The certified check from unsuccessful bidders will be returned within 10 days after the school committees award the bid. The certified/cashiers check from the successful bidder will be returned upon delivery of the performance bond. An INSURED PERFORMANCE BOND, in the amount of 100% of the total bid price shall be required of the successful bidder at no cost to the school departments, guaranteeing all conditions of the specifications. The bond must be in the owner's possession prior to the delivery of the copy paper and within thirty (30) days of award meeting. The performance bond should list the following as the Obligee, "Participating School Districts of the French River Purchasing Cooperative".

2.9 Product Acceptance

The receiving school district shall have fourteen (14) days from the date of delivery to accept or reject the order due to noncompliance with the bid specifications.

3.0 Purchase Description

The participating school districts solicit bids to furnish and deliver COPY PAPER to the locations specified.

White, 8.5"x 11", 20 lbs., and 100% ground wood free, sulfite duplicator paper. Each carton shall consist of 10 reams and each ream shall consist of 500 sheets. Each ream shall be moisture resistant wrapped and labeled 500 sheets per ream. This paper must be suitable to be used on bond copier machines.

All bidders must state and identify the product offered and must submit with their bids complete specifications and descriptive literature. **All bidders must submit a sample ream of copier paper with their bid proposal.**

Vendors may use and list various manufacturers in their response to this RFP provided each manufacturer meets or exceeds the bid specifications.

4.0 Rule of Award

The contract will be awarded to the responsive and responsible bidder or bidders with the lowest unit prices for each category.

Category I – one delivery location per school district.

Category II – multiple delivery locations per school district.

Vendors may bid on one or both categories. Bids must be submitted on the Bid Pricing Form.

5.0 Sample Contract

The successful bidder(s) will be required to sign a contract which includes the language contained in this section of the RFP (section 5.0).

SAMPLE CONTRACT COPY PAPER

FRENCH RIVER EDUCATION CENTER PURCHASING COOPERATIVE
672 MAIN STREET, PO BOX 476
NORTH OXFORD, MA 01537

Telephone: (508) 987-0219 Fax: (508) 987-1396

AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT made this 21th day of May 2025, between the French River Education Center Purchasing Cooperative, and [company], a corporation having a usual place of business at _____ (the "Contractor").

WHEREAS, the Contractor submitted a bid for the product sought by the French River Education Center Purchasing Cooperative, and the Contractor's bid has been found to be acceptable;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and for other valuable consideration, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, the French River Education Center Purchasing Cooperative and the Contractor mutually agree as follows:

A. Product Acceptance

The receiving school district shall have fourteen (14) days from the date of delivery to accept or reject the order due to noncompliance with the bid specifications. Product acceptance is "as bid".

B. Purchase Description

The participating school districts solicit bids to furnish and deliver COPY PAPER to the locations specified.

White, 8.5"x 11", 20 lbs., and 100% ground wood free, sulfite duplicator paper. Each carton shall consist of 10 reams and each ream shall consist of 500 sheets. Each ream shall be moisture resistant wrapped and labeled 500 sheets per ream. This paper must be suitable to be used on bond copier machines.

All bidders must state and identify by manufacturer and label the product offered. Vendors may use and list various manufacturers provided each manufacturer meets or exceeds the bid specifications.

C. Billing

Invoices should include the name and address of vendor, date, quantity description, unit price of and total cost. At the discretion of the districts, invoices may not be paid until orders are complete.

No charge will be allowed for federal, state or municipal sales or excise taxes from which the School Districts are exempt.

D. Pricing

All bid prices submitted in response to this IFB must remain firm for ninety (90) days following the award meeting on May 21, 2025. Bid price to include all charges related to this purchase. No additional cost will be paid for delivery.

E. Termination

If, through any cause, the Vendor shall fail to fulfill in a timely or proper manner his obligations under this Contract, or if the Vendor shall violate any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of the Contract, the Customer shall have the right to immediately terminate this Contract upon written notice to the Vendor of such termination and specifying the effective date of termination. Any damage incurred through any default, shall be a charge against any amounts due from the Customer to the Vendor.

The Participating School Districts reserve the right to terminate any outstanding orders if delivery does not occur within sixty (60) days of purchase order issuance. If this occurs, payments will be made on items received, but outstanding items may be ordered elsewhere. Any additional cost of such items will be paid by seizing all or some portion, of the bidders' performance bond.

F. Incorporated by Reference

The Non – collusion form, Tax Compliance Certificate, Bid Pricing Form, and the French River Education Center's Invitation for Bids and addenda, if any, are hereby incorporated into this contract.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the French River Purchasing Cooperative, and _____ have duly executed this Contract, and a duplicate thereof, on the day and year first above written.

By: _____
Mr. Ricci Hall
French River Education Center
672 Main St., PO 476
N. Oxford, MA 01537

By: _____
Contractor:

Date: _____

Date: _____

6.0 Billing Requirement

Invoices should include the name and address of vendor, date, quantity description and unit price of each item and total cost of an item. Bid price to include all charges related to this purchase. No additional cost will be paid for delivery. At the discretion of the district, invoices may not be paid until orders are complete. The school districts reserve the right to process payment of invoices prior to or after July 1, 2025.

No charge will be allowed for federal, state or municipal sales or excise taxes from which the School Districts are exempt.

7.0 Termination of Contract

The Participating School Districts reserve the right to terminate any outstanding orders if delivery does not occur within sixty (60) days of purchase order issuance. If this occurs, payments will be made on items received, but outstanding items may be ordered elsewhere. Any additional cost of such items will be paid by seizing all or some portion, of the bidders' performance bond.

8.0 Delivery Requirements

All orders must be filled and delivery made between June 16, 2025 and August 22, 2025. Dates of delivery shall be at the discretion of the school departments. School Districts must be notified of impending delivery at least one day prior to delivery.

Category I: One delivery location per school district.

Category II: Multiple delivery locations per school district.

Please note that some deliveries require trucks to have lifts so that pallets may be lowered to the ground.

CATEGORY I: WILL BE AWARDED TO ONE BIDDER

5040 CARTONS, White Copy Paper as specified.

For one (420 or 840 cartons) delivery location within a school district.

Delivery at ground level shall be made in accordance with the following locations:

.5	Truckload (420 cartons) Loading Dock: No	Athol – Royalston Regional School District Athol Community Elementary School 1064 Pleasant St Athol, MA
.5	Truckload (420 cartons) Loading Dock: Yes	Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical HS 57 Old Muggett Hill Rd Charlton, MA
.5	Truckload (420 cartons) Loading Dock: Small Dock Need Lift	Blackstone Millville Regional School District Millville Elementary School 122 Berthelette Way Millville, MA
.5	Truckload (420 cartons) Loading Dock: No	Leicester Public Schools 70 Winslow Ave Leicester, MA

.5	Truckload (420 cartons) Loading Dock: Yes Lift Needed	Oxford Public Schools 100 Carbuncle Dr Oxford, MA
1	Truckloads (840 cartons) Loading Dock: Yes	Quabbin Regional Middle/High School 800 South Street Barre, MA
1.5	Truckloads (1260 cartons) Loading Dock: No	Southbridge Department of Public Works 185 Guelphwood Road Southbridge, MA
.5	Truckloads (420 cartons) Loading Dock: Yes	West Boylston Middle/High School 125 Crescent Street West Boylston, MA
.5	Truckloads (420 cartons) Loading Dock: Yes	Bartlett High School 52 Lake Parkway Webster, MA

CATEGORY II: WILL BE AWARDED TO ONE BIDDER

9660 Cartons, White Copy Paper as specified.

For delivery to multiple locations within a school district.

Delivery at ground level shall be made in accordance with the following locations:

School District/Drop-Off Location	Amount (cartons)	Dock Loading available
Auburn Public Schools		
Auburn High School 99 Auburn St Auburn, MA	85	No
Auburn Middle School 9 West St. Auburn, MA	50	No
Bryn Mawr School 35 Swanson Rd. Auburn, MA	70	No
Central Office 5 West St. Auburn, MA	50	No
Packachoag School 110 Packachoag St. Auburn, MA	80	No
Swanson Road Intermediate School 10 Swanson Rd. Auburn, MA	85	No
SUBTOTAL	420	
Dudley-Charlton Regional School District		
Charlton Elementary School 9 Burlingame Rd. Charlton, MA	126	No
Charlton Middle School 2 Oxford Rd. Charlton, MA	144	Yes
Dudley Elementary School 16 School St. Dudley, MA	126	Yes
Dudley Middle School 70 Dudley-Oxford Rd. Dudley MA	224	Yes
Heritage School 34 Oxford Rd. Charlton, MA	166	Yes
Mason Road School 20 Mason Rd. Dudley, MA	26	No
Shepard Hill Regional High School 68 Dudley-Oxford Rd. Dudley, MA	448	Yes
SUBTOTAL	1260	

Grafton School District		
Grafton High School 24 Providence Rd. Grafton, MA	160	Yes
North Street Elementary School 60 North St. Grafton, MA	160	Yes
Grafton Middle School 22 Providence Rd. Grafton, MA	160	No
North Grafton Elementary School 46 Waterville St. North Grafton, MA	80	No
Millbury Street Elementary School 105 Millbury St. Grafton, MA	200	No
South Grafton Elementary School 90 Main St. South Grafton, MA	80	No
SUBTOTAL	840	
Millbury Public Schools		
Elmwood St School 40 Elmwood St. Millbury, MA	80	No
Millbury High School 12 Martin St. Millbury, MA	220	No
Shaw Elementary School 58 Elmwood St. Millbury, MA	120	No
SUBTOTAL	420	

**Northborough-Southborough
Public Schools**

Algonquin Regional High School 79 Bartlett St. Northborough, MA	600	No
Lincoln Street School 76 Lincoln Street, Northboro, MA	120	No
Peaslee School 31 Maple Street, Northboro, MA	80	No
Proctor School 26 Jefferson Street, Northboro, MA	125	No
Zeh School 33 Howard Street, Northboro MA	125	No
Melican Middle School-Student Support 145 Lincoln Street, Northboro, MA	2	No
Finn School Pre-K 60 Richards, Southboro, MA	6	No
Finn School 60 Richards, Southboro, MA	95	No
Finn School – Student Support 60 Richards, Southboro, MA	6	No
Woodward School 28 Cordaville Road. Southboro, MA	125	No
Neary School 53 Parkerville Road, Southboro, MA	75	No
Melican Middle School 145 Lincoln St. Northborough, MA	151	No
Trottier Middle School-Central Office 49 Parkerville Rd. Southborough, MA	30	No
Trottier Middle School 49 Parkerville Rd. Southborough, MA	140	No
SUBTOTAL	1680	

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District		
David Prouty High School 302 Main St. Spencer, MA	100	No
East Brookfield Elementary School 410 E Main St. East Brookfield, MA	110	No
Knox Trail Middle School 73 Ash St. Spencer, MA	100	No
Wire Village School 60 Paxton Rd. Spencer, MA	110	No
SUBTOTAL	420	
Tantasqua Regional/School Union 61 Districts		
Brimfield Elementary School 22 Wales Rd. Brimfield, MA	125	No
Brookfield Elementary School 37 Central St. Brookfield, MA	145	No
Burgess Elementary School 45 Burgess School Rd. Sturbridge, MA	380	No
Holland Elementary School 28 Sturbridge Rd. Holland, MA	135	No
Tantasqua High School 319 Brookfield Rd. Fiskdale, MA	610	Yes
Tantasqua Jr High School 320B Brookfield Rd. Fiskdale, MA	255	No
Wales Elementary School 41 Main St. Wales, MA	30	No
SUBTOTAL	1680	
Sutton Public Schools		
Sutton High School 383 Boston Rd. Sutton, MA	200	Yes
Sutton Elementary School 383 Boston Rd Sutton, MA	220	Yes
SUBTOTAL	420	

Wachusett Regional School District		
Central Tree Middle School 281 Main St. Rutland, MA	110	Yes
Chocksett Middle School 40 Boutelle Rd. Sterling, MA	140	No
Davis Hill Elementary School 78 Jamieson Rd. Holden, MA	90	No
Dawson School 155 Salisbury St. Holden, MA	140	No
Early Childhood Center 1216 Main St. Jefferson, MA	25	No
Glenwood Elementary School 65 Glenwood Rd. Rutland, MA	100	No
Houghton Elementary School 32 Boutelle Rd. Sterling, MA	0	No
Jefferson School 1745 Main St. Jefferson, MA	5	No
Mayo School 351 Bullard St. Holden, MA	120	No
Mountview Middle School 207 Shrewsbury St. Holden, MA	140	Yes
Naquag Elementary School 285 Main St. Rutland, MA	100	Yes
Paxton Center School 19 West St. Paxton, MA	100	No
Thomas Prince School 170 Sterling Rd. Princeton, MA	30	No
Wachusett Regional High School 1401 Main St. Holden, MA	580	No
SUBTOTAL	1680	
Quaboag Regional School District		
Quaboag Regional High School 284 Old West Brookfield Rd. Warren, MA	220	No
Warren Elementary School 51 School House Dr. West Warren, MA	100	No
West Brookfield Elementary School 89 North Main St. West Brookfield, MA	100	No
SUBTOTAL	420	

Winchendon Public Schools		
Memorial School 32 Elmwood Rd. Winchendon, MA	120	No
Murdock Middle/High School 3 Memorial Drive Winchendon, MA	160	No
Toy Town/Central Office 175 Grove St. Winchendon, MA	140	No
SUBTOTAL	420	

9.0 TAX COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION/CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

TAX COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION

COPY PAPER

COPY PAPER ATHOL ROYALSTON REGIONAL, AUBURN, BAY PATH VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL, BLACKSTONE/MILLVILLE REGIONAL, DUDLEY/CHARLTON REGIONAL, GRAFTON, LEICESTER, MILLBURY, NORTHBOROUGH-SOUTHBOROUGH, **OXFORD (ADDED 4/7/25)** QUABBIN REGIONAL, QUABOAG REGIONAL, SOUTHBRIDGE, SPENCER-EASTBROOKFIELD REGIONAL, SUTTON, TANTASQUA REGIONAL, WACHUSETT REGIONAL, WEBSTER, WEST BOYLSTON, WINCHENDON.

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 62C, Section 49A, I certify under the penalties of perjury that I, to my best knowledge and belief, am in compliance with all laws of the Commonwealth related to taxes, reporting of employees and contractors, and withholding and remitting child support.

Signature of Individual or Corporate Name

Corporate Officer (if applicable)

Social Security or Federal Identification Number

Date

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

I hereby certify that I am the Clerk/Secretary
of _____

(insert full name of Corporation)

corporation, and that _____
(insert the name of officer who signed the **contract and bonds**)

is the duly elected _____
(insert the title of the officer in line 2)

of said corporation, and that
on _____
(insert a date that is **ON OR BEFORE** the date the officer signed
the **contract and bonds.**)

at a duly authorized meeting of the Board of Directors of said corporation, at which all the
directors were present or waived notice, it was voted that

_____ the _____
(insert **name** from line 2) (insert **title** from line 3)

of this corporation be and hereby is authorized to execute contracts and bonds in the name and
on behalf of said corporation, and affix its Corporate Seal thereto, and such execution of any
contract of obligation in this corporation's name and on its behalf, with or without the Corporate
Seal, shall be valid and binding upon this corporation; and that the above vote has not been
amended or rescinded and remains in full force and effect as of the date set forth below:

ATTEST: _____
(Signature of **Clerk or Secretary**)*

AFFIX CORPORATE SEAL HERE

Name: _____
(Please print or type name in line 6)*

Date: _____
(insert a date that is **ON OR AFTER** the
date the officer signed the **contract and
bonds.**)

*The name and signature inserted in lines 6 & 7 **must** be that of the **Clerk or Secretary** of the
corporation.

10.0 Non-Collusion Form

NON-COLLUSION FORM

COPY PAPER

COPY PAPER ATHOL ROYALSTON REGIONAL, AUBURN, BAY PATH VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL, BLACKSTONE/MILLVILLE REGIONAL, DUDLEY/CHARLTON REGIONAL, GRAFTON, LEICESTER, MILLBURY, NORTHBOROUGH-SOUTHBOROUGH, **OXFORD (ADDED 4/7/25)** QUABBIN REGIONAL, QUABOAG REGIONAL, SOUTHBRIDGE, SPENCER-EASTBROOKFIELD REGIONAL, SUTTON, TANTASQUA REGIONAL, WACHUSETT REGIONAL, WEBSTER, WEST BOYLSTON, WINCHENDON.

The undersigned certifies under penalties of perjury that this bid or proposal has been made and submitted in good faith and without collusion or fraud with any other person. As used in this certification, the word "person" shall mean any natural person, business, partnership, corporation, union, committee, club, or other organization, entity, or group of individuals.

Signature of Person Submitting Bid or Proposal

Name

11.0 Bid Pricing Form

Bids will be awarded by Category

CATEGORY I – One delivery location per school district.
Full and/or half truckload

<u>REQUESTED QUANTITY</u>	<u>UNIT BID PRICE</u>	<u>MANUFACTURER</u>	<u>PRIVATE LABEL</u>
5,040 CARTONS	_____	_____	_____

CATEGORY II – Multiple delivery locations per school district.

<u>REQUESTED QUANTITY</u>	<u>UNIT BID PRICE</u>	<u>MANUFACTURER</u>	<u>PRIVATE LABEL</u>
9,660 CARTONS	_____	_____	_____

I agree to all terms and conditions as presented in this bid proposal.

Signature of Authorized Person Date

Printed Name of Authorized Person Telephone

Firm's Name Fax

Street City State

Email address

12.0 Ordering Information Form

Company Name

Street

City

State

Zip

Phone number for **ORDERS**

Fax number for **ORDERS**

Email for ORDERS

13.0 Checklist Form

CHECKLIST FORM

Please include the following items in your bid proposal:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>COMPLETED AND INCLUDED</u>
Bid Bond/Bid Check	_____
Non-Collusion Form	_____
Tax Compliance Certification	_____
Bid Pricing Form	_____
Ordering Information Form	_____
Certificate of Authority	_____
W 9 Form	_____

