



Statement of Qualifications and Requests for Proposals - Lawn Services

Bladen County Schools will receive proposals for Lawn Services at:

1489 US Highway 701 South
Elizabethtown, NC 28337

Important Notice to All Bidders/Proposers:

Bladen County Schools reserves the right to disqualify incomplete proposals, waive minor defects, as it deems applicable, in the written proposals, to request additional information from any respondent, change or modify the scope of the project at any time, without any penalty, negotiate terms with one or more of the respondents, reject any or all proposals, without a penalty, and take any steps necessary to act in BCS's best interest. Bids will not be considered for award if received by Bladen County Schools after the official closing date and time.

Bladen County Schools Request for Proposals For Lawn Services

Proposal will be for a twelve (12) month period beginning on or about July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027.

The requirements for submitting a proposal are stated in the Request for Proposal (RFP). All inquiries regarding this RFP should be directed to Bennine Lennon at bflennon@bladen.k12.nc.us.

All signed and sealed hard copy proposals are due at the Bladen County Schools Administrative Office, 1489 US Highway 701 South, Elizabethtown, NC, no later than May 15, 2026, at 12 pm. There will not be a public opening.

Minority businesses are encouraged to submit bids for this project. The Bladen County Board of Education awards public contracts without regard to race, religion, color, creed, national origin, sex, age or handicapped condition as defined by North Carolina General Statutes, Section 168A-3.

The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids presented and to waive any informalities and irregularities.

Bladen County Schools reserves the right to reject any and all proposals not considered to be in the best interest of Bladen County Schools, to negotiate with one or more of the companies submitting proposals, or to reject all proposals.

The Procurement Process

The following is a general description of the process by which a firm will be selected to provide services.

1. The deadline for written questions is May 1, 2026.
2. Bids shall be signed and dated by an official authorized to bind the firm. Unsigned bids will not be considered.
3. All bids must be received by the issuing agency no later than May 15, 2026, at 12 pm.
4. Bids will be evaluated according to completeness, content, experience with similar projects, ability of the offeror and its staff, and cost. Award of a contract to one offer does not mean that the other bids lacked merit, but that, all factors considered, the selected bid was deemed most advantageous to Bladen County Schools.
5. Offerors are cautioned that this is a request for bids, not a request to contract, and Bladen County Schools reserves the right to reject any and all unqualified offers when such rejection is deemed to be in the best interest of Bladen County Schools.

Proposal

The undersigned, as bidder, hereby declares that this proposal is made without connection with any other person, company, or parties making a similar bid or proposal, and that the proposal is in all respects fair and in good faith, without collusion or fraud.

The bidder has carefully examined the annexed form of specifications and instructions to bidders and hereby declares that he will complete the work as called for in the manner prescribed in the specifications and instructions to bidders for the following prices:

Printed Name of Firm Representative _____

Signature of Firm Representative _____

Title _____

Name of Firm Submitting Proposal _____

Firm Address _____

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

Overview

Bladen County Schools is seeking proposals from contractors who are not only capable of performing the attached scope of work but also take pride in their finished product. All applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances and regulations must be adhered to. Services to commence on or about July 1, 2026.

Contractors submitting a proposal should review the procurement requirements listed. Specifically, the selected Contractor will be required to:

- Execute a Master Services Agreement with Bladen County Schools;
- Complete applicable forms and certifications;
- Maintain General Liability Insurance (\$1,000,000 minimum); Workers Compensation Insurance (\$500,000), and business automobile liability (\$1,000,000) and furnish proof of such insurance;
- Bidders are requested to provide the necessary manpower and equipment to provide weekly lawn services to multiple school locations.
- This will be a one-year contract.
- Pricing cannot exceed a 3% increase per annum, nor shall the price increase a total of 5% over the life of this contract.

I. Scope of Work

Bidders are requested to review the location, description, and frequency of services to be provided in the tables below. (This proposal does not include athletic fields.)

Table 1: Services to be performed at all locations		
Work to be Performed	Description	Frequency
Mowing	Each school	Minimum every two weeks - July through October and March through June
Weed Eating	Each School	Minimum every two weeks - July through October and March through June
Edging of Sidewalks and Curbing	Each School	Minimum every two weeks - July through October and March through June
Bush Trimming/Pruning	Each School	Twice per year - July 15-August 15 and March 15 - April 15
Blowing grass debris off parking lots, catch basins, and side walks	Each School	Minimum every two weeks - July through October and March through June

II. Limitations of Mowing (Applicable to all locations)

- a. All disturbed areas around the site should be restored.
- b. Trash should be picked up and disposed of properly before mowing commences. Under no circumstances should trash be mowed.
- c. Under no circumstances should mowing take place in the rain or through standing water.
- d. Grass clippings/leaves shall not be blown toward parked vehicles at any Bladen County Schools facility.
- e. Grass clippings/leaves shall be directed away from traffic (human or vehicle), streets, building structures, mulch beds and windows.
- f. Any damage to Bladen County Schools property or public and/or personal property shall be the responsibility of the winning bidder to repair and/or replace.
- g. The lawn care contractor is required to produce in writing, which can be an emailed statement, the dates mowed at the project site.
- h. All areas around trees, shrubs, buildings, posts, fences, flower beds, sidewalks, and curbs will be edged with a power edger and/or lawn trimmers after each mow.
- i. The driveways, parking areas, sidewalks, curbs, and other hard surfaces shall be kept free of leaves, litter, and debris. The use of power blowers is acceptable, however, accumulations of debris must be removed from the site and not blown onto adjacent property, street surfaces, sewer drains, fence lines or planting areas.
- j. Undesired vegetation in sidewalks, curbs, cracks, and other hard surfaces need to be maintained so, there are no weeds growing in them. The contractor can use herbicides on them or cut them with a weed trimmer. Weed control spray should be no more than 2-4 inches wide from the edge of buildings and sidewalks.
- k. Mow all grass in all common areas of the property completely to maintain a uniform height not to exceed between 3 to 4 inches.
- l. Use trimmers in locations where mowers cannot reach vegetation.
- m. Ruts, holes, and other disfigurement of mowed areas caused by mowing equipment shall be the responsibility of the Contractor to repair to original condition.
- n. Landscape maintenance work shall be performed during the regular hours of 6 am through 8 pm Monday thru Sunday unless otherwise specified/approved by Operations/Maintenance due to uncontrollable weather situations.

III. Qualifications

- a. Bidders shall have a valid pesticide and herbicide license as well as follow all state and federal regulations in regards to lawn service.
- b. All equipment shall have the proper safety equipment including but not limited to guards to prevent injury and/or damage to people, Bladen County Schools facilities, and/or vehicles parked at Bladen County Schools facilities.

IV. Modification of Scope of Work

- a. Any change in frequency or scope of work must be coordinated with the Operations/Maintenance department.

V. Terms & Conditions

a. Payments

Shall be net 30 and shall be billed on a monthly basis.

b. Commercial General Liability

The successful vendor will be required to provide proof of bodily injury and property damage liability that will protect the contractor and any subcontractor performing work under this contract from claims of bodily injury or property damage by the contractor, any subcontractor or any one directly or indirectly employed by either. The amounts of such insurance will not be less than \$1,000,000 bodily injury each occurrence/aggregate and \$1,000,000 property damage combined single limits each occurrence/aggregate.

c. Automobile Liability

The successful vendor will be required to provide proof of bodily injury and property damage liability coverage for all owned, non-owned and hired automobiles for limits of not less than \$1,000,000 bodily injury each person, each accident, and \$1,000,000 property damage, or \$1,000,000 combined single limit each occurrence/aggregate.

d. Workers Compensation

Meeting the statutory requirements of the State of North Carolina and Employers Liability— \$100,000 per accident limit, \$500,000 disease per policy limit, \$100,000 disease each employee limit, providing coverage for employers and owners.

Bladen County Schools Locations

School	Monthly Cost	Annual Cost
Bladen Lakes Primary		
Bladenboro Middle		
Bladenboro Primary		
Clarkton School of Discovery		
Dublin Primary		
East Bladen High		
Elizabethtown Middle		
Elizabethtown Primary		
Tar Heel School		
West Bladen High		

Lawn Services References

Reference #1

Vendor Name _____

Vendor Address _____

Contact Name _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Reference #2

Vendor Name _____

Vendor Address _____

Contact Name _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Reference #3

Vendor Name _____

Vendor Address _____

Contact Name _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____