

Massachusetts School Building Authority
Request for Responses to Provide Engineering and Technology Services
Addendum No. 1: Questions and Answers
MSBA-EngTechServices-2024
September 25, 2024

1. **Question:** Concerning the 20-page limit – is that meaning 20 single-sided pages or 20 double-sided pages?

Answer: Responses must be limited to 20 single-sided pages. The page limit is meant to discourage firms from submitting superfluous marketing materials. Please see page exclusion NOT included in 20-page count; reference Section IV.(C.)(b.): Submissions must be limited to 20 pages excluding the following: Cover Letter, Table of Contents, Service Fee(s) Matrix, Anti-Discrimination Policy and Attachments A-F.

2. **Question:** Is there any infrastructure available for heat rejection (i.e., condenser water loop or year-round chilled water)?

Answer: Yes. The building has infrastructure available for heat rejection and a year-round condensing and chilled water loop.

3. **Question:** Based on fourth floor test fit 04-TF-04, there will be an MDF and an IDF.

- a. MDF is approximately 13'11" X 10' = <140 sf
 - i. The size of the room will accommodate up to:
 - 1. 4 – Racks; although 3 Racks will be assumed for the design unless otherwise specified.
 - 2. 2 – 6" Vertical Wire Managers
 - 3. 3 – 10" Vertical Wire Managers
 - 4. Wall field for service provider demarcation
- b. IDF is approximately 7'11" X 6'4" = <48 sf
 - i. The size of the room will accommodate up to:
 - 1. 1 – Rack; although the column in the room removes overall square footage to provide equipment it's not primarily the reason only one (1) rack will fit in the room.
 - 2. 2 – 6" Vertical Wire Managers

Would there be consideration of enlarging the IDF or moving the IDF to a new location?

Answer: Yes, consideration will be given to enlarging both rooms based on IT needs. Please note the test fit is diagrammatic. Further detailing of the design is on-going and adjustments will be made to ensure adequate space is provided for MDF/IDF needs based on coordination with this consultant and Landlords Architect.

The print room nearby appears to be an option (see image).

- 1. The room is not adequate in size based on the area of the floor it will be servicing.

2. It is recommended that a minimum of two (2) racks be provided to properly service the floor.
 - a. 1 – rack dedicated for backbone and horizontal cabling
 - b. 1 – rack dedicated for network equipment and other systems
3. IDF – shown with rack and vertical wire managers (shown diagrammatically)



4. Proposed/Suggested Relocation – shown with two racks and vertical wire managers (shown diagrammatically)



Answer: Yes. If the room needs to be enlarged based on infrastructure the MSBA would be open to this.

4. **Question:** Will Security Access Control equipment and AV System be located in the MDF/IDF rooms? If yes,
 - i. Security equipment will be on the wall field?
 - ii. AV equipment will be in the rack?

Answer: Yes. Both systems will need to be accommodated in either room. The size of the room(s) will be determined by all equipment needs and the Engineering and IT consultant will need to work closely with the MSBA and the owner's Architect, during the design process.

5. **Question:** If the telecommunications service provider will need to access the MDF it is assumed they will only need space on the wall field. Does the client anticipate having them located in the rack?

Answer: The MSBA's current internet circuit router is on the wall, and this is preferable. If the new installation is close enough to the firewall appliance in the rack, usually within 30 feet, this is acceptable.

6. **Question:** Does an existing riser for the building provide access to the service provider onto the floor or will a riser need to be shown on the drawings for backbone cabling to access the demarcation point within the building?

Answer: The existing vendors in the building are Verizon, Comcast, Lighthouse, CoGent and Crown Castle. It is unknown at this time whether the current service to the 4th floor is adequate. This will be determined as part of the design.

7. **Question:** Will a Wi-Fi heat map design be required?

Answer: Yes.

END OF ADDENDUM NO. 1