

## **RFP 14-21 Questions and Answers**

I understand there are air purifiers present in the classrooms of the 27 schools that are in the table within this RFP. Can you please provide a manufacturer name and model number for these existing units? This would help us to understand in more detail the “basis” that is being used to generate this RFP. With so many products available on the market, we would like to understand a reference point of product that FCPS has experience with currently.

There are no units in place in these room spaces. The specifications sited do not correspond to air purifiers we currently own. The hope is that the units offered will be large enough and varied enough that we can adequately address the spaces presented without resorting to 15-20 units in a space. The 100 units may not be enough to fill our needs, but it gives us something to compare. We will be comparing on a cost per area covered basis.

Within the Scope of Work section of this RFP is the following statement: “Delivery of sufficient units to address 27 school gymnasiums, cafeterias and media centers is required. See square footages attached.” We are concerned that while the unit specifications may work well for smaller spaces like classrooms, they may not be a good application for the larger spaces that are of interest for this RFP. For example, the specification refers to 2 Air Changes per Hour (2 ACH). In order to achieve 2 ACH in say Dunbar High School Gym 23,220 CFM would be required assuming a conservative ceiling height of 25’. The requirements in this RFP are the unit delivers 300 CFM of clean air. Therefore it would require a total quantity of 77 of these units to clean the Dunbar High School Gym alone. Is it the vendor’s responsibility to determine what equipment is “sufficient” or are we just to bid the lot of 100 units as requested? Who is responsible (liable) for the validity of application for this equipment?

The seller bears no liability for questions of suitability. The specifications list minimum requirements. We hope for better suited offerings.

Can FCPS please provide a ceiling height for each space being quoted in order for the vendor to determine how much clean air delivery (CFM and ACH) would be required to “sufficiently” address each of these large spaces?

The square footages were provided primarily to give some idea of the scope of the project, so that bidders would have some idea the magnitude of what they’d be delivering and whether they can deliver in a timely manner. We do not have ceiling heights at this moment, but are trying to get them.

Is 2 ACH really enough for air purification? Most manufacturers of commercial air purification equipment are recommending 4-6 air changes per hour (ACH). I cannot find any recommendations of ACH of air purification from ASHRAE or AHAM and seems to be up to the building owner’s discretion. I understand some of the ACH is reduced based on outside air dilution and existing return air filtration of recirculated air, but as I understand the issue the schools on this list are being addressed due to lower ventilation than is required by today’s building codes.

Yes, we have used two air changes, thinking that this would be difficult enough to attain in some spaces with the technology we’ve seen. If we can manage more, we’ll consider it. It seems to me that six air changes in a gym would require additional air handlers. Not something we can consider.

Should noise level be included in the RFP specification? Please note these in-room purifiers will add noise to the space. This may be of higher concern in Library spaces.

While noise level information would be helpful, and welcome, we are not modifying the requirements of the RFP.

Can we propose technologies that differ from the in-room air purification strategy as documented in this RFP? Please note the weighting scale in the RFP specifies 400 points or 40% for meeting the minimum requirements. However the minimum requirements are based on only one air cleaning technology.

We expect and welcome alternative technologies.

I am emailing you in regard to the air purifier bid for Fayette County Public Schools. Can you confirm you are looking for the sale of the pre-filters and HEPA filters to be included with the units, or would these be a separate item you'll be purchasing?

We want the bid to include anything needed for the unit to operate for one year. If the filters, etc, that the unit ships with will last a year, that's sufficient.

Under Special Conditions, Page 10.16, it states to provide (2) copies of the Safety Data Sheets. Will user manual suffice for Safety Data Sheets?

Since there is no SDS for the product, none is required. A user manual or other documentation would be appreciated. Electronic submissions only, please.

Under the Scope of Work, Can we bid multiple products to fit the various size rooms?

It's recommended that a bid address only one size or model of equipment. We will consider accepting multiple bids to address varying room sizes.

Under the Scope of Work, of the 100 units asked for in the bid, are all 100 intended for very large rooms like gyms, cafeterias, media centers, or are 27 intended for very large rooms like gyms, cafeterias, media centers, while 73 are intended for classrooms?

The request for 100 units is to provide some sort of scale and for comparison purposes. We will very possibly choose more than one product, accounting for more than one unit size.

Under the Scope of Work, it states that more units may be purchased during contract term if needed. Would you anticipate the additional orders coming this school year or the 100 units purchased this school year with the additional being purchased next school year

We will likely order our entire need in one purchasing process, in sizes and numbers as needed. It's not anticipated that we will make additional purchases, but the opportunity is allowed for.

I have a question regarding the technical specifications requested. It calls for something that covers 1000 square feet but the application lists gymnasiums, cafeteria, and media rooms. A machine that can handle 1000 square feet with proper air change rates most likely will be too weak to actually clean air in a large gymnasium and/or cafeteria. Can you tell me the room size of the largest application by chance?

We hope to get bids representing large-scale equipment, but the largest I've seen still leaves us needing a lot of units to cover the largest spaces. The better a piece of equipment performs the task, the better it should score in our analysis. Power requirements for so many units will no doubt figure into the scoring. Please look at the last page of the RFP for a list of room sizes addressed by the RFP.