



REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

The Board of Education of the Beaufort County School District (“Board”) is inviting your firm to submit information to perform bond counsel services. The Board expressly reserves the right to select a firm that in their opinion will best serve the needs and interests of the Beaufort County School District (“District”).

Scope of Services

The Scope of Services to be provided by Bond Counsel may include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Render opinions regarding the validity and binding effect of securities and, if the securities are issued on a tax-exempt basis, the excludability of interest on the securities from gross income for federal income tax purposes.
2. Assist in the evaluation of proposals for public and/or private development of district projects. Review proposed public and/or private financing plans. Report on the conformance of the plans with federal and state securities laws. Write or assist with writing and filing legal documents required of a public and/or private financing. Periodically analyze and report on the financed project being developed in accordance with the plan for development as reflected in the official statement and bond resolutions. Assist the Beaufort County School District with writing and distributing financing progress reports and amending the official statement and bond resolutions, if necessary.
3. Assist the Beaufort County School District in seeking from other governmental authorities, necessary approvals, permissions, and exemptions in connection with the authorization, issuance, and delivery of securities. Assist the Beaufort County School District in reviewing and commenting upon agreements relating to the financing of Beaufort County School District projects.
4. Provide legal advice on issues related to the marketing of bonds, including negotiated sale and/or sale by competitive bids; methods for enhancing the bond rating; and bond covenants, pledge of revenues, flow of funds, legal coverage requirements, and timing of bond issues.
5. Provide legal advice and assistance on the requirements of various financing structures (alternatives), the principal amount of bonds to be sold, maturity schedules, bases of awarding bids, and type of sales.
6. Write or provide legal advice and assistance in the writing of official statements for each sale.
7. Submit the transcript of legal proceedings pertaining to the authorization and issuance of securities to the appropriate state agency for registration and delivery. Maintain copies of all transcripts and

documents issued in connection with bond issues and other financial transactions, and following conclusion of the transaction, bind and deliver copies of the complete record to the Beaufort County School District.

8. Assist the Beaufort County School District in preparing and assembling data and submitting continuing disclosure reports.

9. Correspond with, prepare, and submit documents to and appear before bond rating firms. Prepare Beaufort County School District staff and consultants and the Board for presentations before bond rating firms. Advise Beaufort County School District staff and consultants on correspondence with bond rating firms.

10. Explain the offerings of the Beaufort County School District to prospective bidders in the tax-exempt and private activity bond markets and solicit participation from various investment bankers.

11. Write or assist in writing and presenting to the Board resolutions related to the issuance of debt, trust agreements, capital investment covenants, and public/private financing agreements.

Information Requested About Your Firm

The selected firm will be required to provide the following information:

- Experience of the firm with financings of the issuer or comparable issuers, and financings of similar size, types and structures, including financings in the South Carolina.
- Experience in tax matters and the attorneys who practice full time in the area of public finance tax law should be identified in detail. If the firm has no attorneys who specialize in public finance tax law, the response should indicate how the firm intends to provide competent tax advice.
- Experience of the firm with and its approach to applicable federal securities laws and regulations.
- Experience in municipal securities law matters and the attorneys who practice full time in the area of municipal securities law should be identified in detail. If the firm has no attorneys who specialize in municipal securities tax law, the response should indicate how the firm intends to provide competent municipal securities law advice.
- Knowledge and experience of the attorneys that would be assigned to the transaction, particularly the individual with day-to-day responsibility for the issuer's account.
- Ability of the firm and assigned personnel to evaluate legal issues, prepare documents, and complete other tasks of a bond transaction in a timely manner.
- Relationships or activities that might present a conflict of interest for the issuer.
- Level of malpractice insurance carried, including the deductible amount, to cover errors and omissions, improper judgments, or negligence.
- A business or executive summary of the firm.
- The firm's number of years of relevant experience in bond counsel services.
- The name of the bond counsel who will specifically provide the services. Resume(s) including relevant experience for each person to be assigned as bond counsel should also be included.
- The names and addresses of Districts for which your firm successfully provided bond counsel services over the last five years that are believed to be comparable to the Beaufort County School District (minimum of 3).

- A total cost of the professional fees and all related additional expenses for the services. These costs need to be comprehensive and listed individually.

The bond counsel individual/firm must provide assurance of legal certification and willingness of the selected candidate to assume the position and to accept the fee schedule negotiated. The candidate selected will be expected to assume the position no later than July 1, 2020.

Evaluation Factors

1. Relevant experience with tax credit transactions, including negotiating with the “key players” among public finance investors and lenders, and other relevant experience.
2. Relevant experience with school district bonds (preferably in the state of South Carolina).
3. Approach to the transaction and capacity to provide services in timely manner.
4. Fees (weighted, based on lowest price)

Lowest fees submitted
 ----- X Points Assigned
 Fees submitted by firm

Submission

Please submit the above-referenced information to the following person:

Mrs. Kaylee M. Yinger
 Procurement Coordinator
 Beaufort County School District
 2900 Mink Point Boulevard
 P.O. Drawer 309
 Beaufort, SC 29901
 (843)322-2349
kaylee.yinger@beaufort.k12.sc.us

Information must be submitted no later than 5 p.m. on May 25, 2020. Information received after this time will not be considered. Questions may be directed to Kaylee Yinger at (843) 322-2349.

Information may either be e-mailed, hand delivered, mailed, or submitted . Faxes will not be accepted under any circumstances. A duly authorized individual must sign all documentation submitted. All information submitted shall become the property of the Board and the Board reserves the right to accept or reject any information received. The Board may, at its option, request an oral presentation from any or all firms during the period between June 2 and July 7, 2020.

Beaufort County School District observes federal, state and local laws and regulations in regard to equity and equal opportunity.