Minibus
Pre-proposal Questions and Answers

Q1: What is the exact capacity? The capacity dictates the length. A 24 passenger can be built on a smaller chassis or it can be built on a larger chassis and the seats are spaced further apart.
A1: The University wants either 24 or 25 passenger capacity. The length and width specs detailed in the RFP need to be adhered to. Preference is for a heavy chassis.

Q2: What Gross Vehicle Weight (“GVW”) are you looking for?
A2: Firms should provide the following, for both their small and large chassis options:
- Curb Weight: Total weight of vehicle with equipment, necessary operating consumables, and a full tank of gas.
- GVW: Maximum allowable total weight of vehicle, including weight of vehicle, passengers, cargo, and trailer.
- Total passenger and cargo weight capacity of the vehicle.

Q3: Is this bus gas or diesel?
A3: Diesel. The bus needs to be bio compatible and firms should state in their proposals to what percentage bio the firm will warranty up to. Please detail engine size.

Q4: Should we submit a spec sheet with our proposal?
A4: The University would prefer for firms to submit a spec sheet of their proposed minibus.

Q5: Does the University want graphics on the minibus?
A5: The University would prefer for the minibus color and graphics to look as much as possible like the University’s Motorcoach (see pictures below). The graphics are decals and not paint.

Picture#1 Side view of University’s Motorcoach
Q6: Fully integrated body: Not sure what you are looking for in terms of a fully integrated body. A typical minibus is based on a cutaway chassis with a body built by the second stage manufacturer (coach manufacture). Is this going to be acceptable for this RFP?
A6: Yes, this will be acceptable.

Q7: Laptop connection for TV monitors: Not sure as to what type of connection you’re looking for. Most TV’s come with standard Audio Visual outlets in rear of TV. Is there a specific type of outlet needed to meet this requirement?
A7: If possible, we would like a VGA or DVI connector.

Q8: Are the specs listed in the RFP required or preferred?
A8: Specifications listed in the RFP are Preferred. If a firm is offering a minibus with different specifications (which is acceptable), then the firm’s proposal should speak to those differences.

Q9: Electrical outlets in cabin: Are these outlets going to be used for electronic devices such as phone chargers, laptops etc.? Also, how many outlets are needed? Usually we tend to place outlets at every other seat. Would this be acceptable?
A9: The primary use for these outlets would be for smaller devices such as laptops and phone chargers. Outlets at every seat would be preferred, but if the size of the inverter can only handle every other seat, this would certainly be acceptable.

Q10: Compatible with Saucon TDS Mobile Resource Management and wireless internet: Please explain in further detail what you’re looking for in order to meet this requirement.
A10: Confirmation from Saucon that the type of minibus proposed is compatible, go to: http://www.saucontds.com/joomla/ or call (484)-241-2514. Saucon has told the University that they can outfit almost any vehicle with their system, so we just want to make sure that the bus we choose is not one of the few that is not compatible.

Q11: The vehicle is requiring laptop connections that work with the TV monitors. How many connections are you looking for in the vehicle? Do you have any specific locations for where you would like them placed?
A11: One Connection. Near the front of the bus’ passenger compartment

Q12: The vehicle is requiring electrical connections. How many electrical connections are your requiring? Do you have any specific locations for where you would like them placed?
A12: One per seat is ideal. Near the floorboards close to the passengers feet would be the preferred location.

Q13: For the custom paint on the vehicle – 100% “UVA Blue”, can you provide a paint code for this specific type of paint? Typically the roof of the vehicle is left unpainted in the original OEM white color to help with climate control inside the vehicle. Will you accept leaving the roof unpainted or do you require the entire vehicle to be painted?
A13: A white roof is preferred. Paint code is Evo 2821. Proposals should include paint color options that are close in color to the attached photo (as seen above)

Q14: The spec is requiring the vehicle to be compatible with the Saucon TDS Mobile Resource Management system. Are you providing the system and installing it yourself or are you requiring the contractor to do this?
A14: The University will install the system, but we want to be assured that the specifications / configuration of the bus will not prohibit the system from being installed.