

Selection of Audit Firm

December 11, 2020, we published in the newspaper our [Request For Proposal \(RFP\) for Audit Services](#)

December 14, 2020, we sent the RFP to the listed firms:

- Clifton Larson Allen
- Enestvedt & Christensen, LLP
- Boyer & Company CPA
- Cummings Keegan & CO
- BerganKDV
- Abdo, Eick & Meyers
- MMKR
- Eide Bailly LLP
- Baker Tilly
- Deloitte LLP
- KPMG
- Mayer Hoffman McCann
- BDO
- Boyum Barendscheer

January 12, 2021 proposals were due back to us for review. We have indicated we would notify all of the final decisions by March 15, 2021.

The following firms submitted proposals.

- Clifton Larson Allen
- BerganKDV
- Abdo, Eick & Meyers
- MMKR
- Eide Bailly LLP
- WIPFLi

February 5, 2021 we notified the firms who had submitted proposals that we were extending the timeframe for us to communicate a decision as our Finance Director had resigned. They were given until February 12, 2021 to indicate if any changes were required to their proposals given this new information. No changes were required of any of the firms who submitted proposals.

February 16, 2021 was the internal deadline for our team of 4 people to review all proposals and complete the Audit RFP Criteria Rubric, the criteria included the following categories:

Term of engagement

Scope of work

Auditing standards to be followed

Recognition of Certificate of Excellence compliance

Basic Firm Information

References

Partner, Supervisory, and Staff Qualifications and Experience

Similar Engagements with Other Government Entities
 Specific Audit Approach
 Identification of Anticipated Potential Audit Problems
 Report Format
 Cost Proposal and Manner of Payment

The top three firms were chosen after discussion and based on Rubric for Interviews held on February 21, 2021.

They were:

Clifton Larson Allen

MMKR

BerganKDV

The interview team reviewed proposals and interviewed the three finalists. The team unanimously selected Clifton Larson Allen as the recommended firm.

Consideration in our recommendation ranking included:

Perception of a change in auditor is necessary after a certain number of years

Communications skills shown in the interview process.

Cost/Benefit of the decision including the transitional work required

Auditing Firms are a regulated industry with each firm having a peer review process

Communication of technical matter to Public and Board in a manner that is appreciated

Firms are very proud of high percentage of clients retained

It takes a good year for all of the documentation to be completed and for a firm to understand the true risks of the client.

The rates that were offered by the interviewed firms are summarized here:

Firm	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total
Firm 3	38,500	39,650	40,850	42,050	43,250	204,300
Firm 1	43,500	44,588	44,703	45,846	47,017	225,654
Firm 2	45,500	45,500	46,400	47,300	48,200	232,900

It is anticipated that Firm 3 would likely have additional costs considering the scope of work discussed in the interview process that is included in the above stated fees.

An implication to the second choice selected over the first choice is that ISD 191 will pay more for the audit and incur the extra layer of work of a transition.

It is recommended that the Board of Education award the FY2021 Audit to Clifton Larson Allen with the option of auditing its financial statements for each of the four subsequent fiscal years.