



Department of Procurement Services

160 South Hollywood Street · Room 126 · Memphis, TN 38112 · (901) 416-5376

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

RFP 032625JKG Athletic Field Preparations

1. Is a GC license required to hold this contract if it is over \$25,000 or are maintenance services not required to hold this type of license if we have our other TN Department of Agriculture license for spraying and business license?
A GC license is not required for this contract; but the TN Department of Agriculture licenses are required. That company(s) must also possess a Horticulture - Lawn and Turf (HLT) C03 certification (Ornamental and Turf Pest Control) and Weed Control (WEC) - Right of Way and Industrial C06 certification; along with providing a copy of the Company's license #, Pesticide Certifications, and the expiration date of said licenses.

2. Field Assessment (Page 15):
Is the vendor to just identify problems and notify Grounds Management or make recommendations also to Grounds Management?
Both

3. Field Maintenance and Preparations (Page 16)
 - A. Is the mowing only competition fields or to include practice fields?
Competition

 - B. Wording for mowing should be Reel mowing between 1 inch and 2 inches, Rotary mowing between 1 inch and 2.5 inches.
Reel Mowing should be 1.0" – 1.5" and Rotary Mowing should be 2.0" – 2.5"

4. Aeration/Topdressing (Page 16):
 - A. What is the definition of amended soil, because finely screened sand is costly.
Amendment Soil are materials added to soil to improve its physical properties for plant growth. They can include = Organic matter (such as compost or manure), Nutrient-rich materials, Adjustments to pH level, Improvements in soil texture and structure, and Enhancements in water retention, drainage, and aeration.

 - B. When verticuting fields at a depth of ¼ inch what should be done with the debris? Mow back in, blow off or vacuum up.
All three modes can be used.

5. Seeding/Overseeding/Fertilization (Page 16)

A. For bare areas, can bermudagrass sod be used? Otherwise, if pre-emergent is used in late April or May the bermudagrass seed will not germinate.

Yes, but it would have to be approved by Grounds Operations Leadership prior to laying Sod.

B. Should the recommended bermudagrass seeding rates be 5 to 10 lbs. per acre or higher.

Follow the RFP guidelines on Page 16; but incorporate your professional expertise as well.

C. What fields should be overseeded? Only competition fields that have Spring sports on them or all fields.

All Fields.

D. Can the Bid state that only perennial ryegrass blends to be used for Fall overseeding? We would not recommend annual ryegrass for Athletic field overseeding.

No, follow the RFP guidelines as stated. Bermuda seed is used on all MSCS lawns; however, Perennial Ryegrass can be used to fill in divots with a mixture of soil a few days in advance of a game or expected field use.

E. Fertilization on page 17.

Should all fields only get 3 fertilizer applications or should overseeded fields receive 4 applications, with the 4 being applied 10 to 14 days after overseeding?

Fields should be fertilized three times a year: late fall, late summer, and late spring.

6. Turf Fields:

Can bid add synthetic field grooming and cleaning treatments? We would recommend grooming with a piece of equipment that will brush then vacuum debris from turf while leaving and redistributing the crumb rubber. The turf should then be disinfected. This should be done twice a year for the safety of the athletes.

Addendum to be posted

7. Can under weed control be added that overseeded fields have ryegrass be sprayed out after Spring sports conclude in late May to early June? This will help eliminate the ryegrass from competing with the bermudagrass in early summer and allow the turf to get a denser surface before the Fall sports begin.

We were unclear on the exact question here as there are different methods/categories of Weed Control (i.e. Preventive, Cultural, Mechanical, Biological and Chemical).

8. Is there a percentage requirement for Small, Minority and Women-Owned Business participation?

The Office of Economic Opportunity is actively encouraging joint ventures for the Athletic Field Prep Project.

9. If Small, Minority and Women-Owned Business participation is not required, are bidders still required to sign and return the Small, Minority and Women-Owned Business participation forms? Forms A, B, C, and good faith affidavits?

10. How many soil tests are contractors required to take per year and per field?

Initially and then 3-5 years thereafter.

11. Can you please confirm the total annual number of services for the overseeded areas and the non-overseeded areas?

Overseeding is normally conducted once a year in the spring; but depending on the wear and tear of that field/grass, the Transition Zone, and the Soil & Air Temperatures, a second overseeding can be conducted either in the spring/fall.

12. Can you please confirm the mowing height for the reel mowing and the rotary mowing? The specs state 2.5 inches for a reel mower and 1 to 2 inches for a rotary mower.

It was a typo on the RFP. The height for Reel Mowers is normally between 1.0” – 1.5” and for Rotary Mowers 2.0” – 2.5”. However, the height will also depend on the grass terrain and the type of grass. The point made most of the time by mowing (regardless of whether we're talking rotary or reel) is that you shouldn't cut more than 1/3 of the height for the health of the grass.

13. Please confirm that contractors are required to reel mow the competitive fields and the overseeded areas?

Reel Mowers are recommended; but I am good with Rotary Mowers as well.

14. Can you please confirm which fields are overseeded and which ones are not overseeded?

All Athletic fields are required to be overseeded.

15. Can you please confirm the total number of aeration services that contractors are required to perform each year? The specifications state 3 times then they state 2 times per year and lastly at a minimum of 3 to 4 times per growing season.

(A) Aeration will be conducted at least three (3) times per year. If Aeration falls outside the 3 times perimeter, Core Cultivation is highly recommended.

(B) Question “B” refers to the core cultivation process per page 16 verbiage (Fields that see intensive practice/play and that will be overseeded or are constructed with

heavy soil profile; the coring process will be conducted at a minimum of 3 to 4 times per growing season).

16. Can you please confirm that the aeration services are only on the competition playing areas only?

Competition Only

17. Can you please confirm that contractors are to only top dress one time per year or are they to top dress after each aerification?

Topdressing will be conducted three (3) times a year per RFP Page 16.

18. Can you please provide the screen size or sieve size for the top dress sand?

That would depend on the size of the area to be treated. Utilize your expertise to determine the size of the screen or sieve.

19. Can you please confirm that contractors are to apply Bermuda seed in the fall, if so, is it hulled or un-hulled?

Bermuda seed will be applied in the Fall and unhull grass seeds are preferred.

20. Is the overseeding supposed to be Rye seed instead of Bermuda seed?

Bermuda seed is used on all MSCS lawns; but Perennial Ryegrass can be used to fill in divots with a mixture of soil a few days in advance of a game or expected field use.

21. Can you please confirm what areas are not being overseeded?

The entire field will be overseed at least once a year in the late summer, but you may need to overseed high-traffic areas throughout the season as well. The area in front of the mound on baseball fields, the goalmouths on soccer fields, and hash marks on football fields should all be overseeded at least once every two weeks or on a as needed basis during the season.

22. Of the 3 pre-emergent applications should there be a post emergent application along with the pre-emergent application, or just 1 post emergent application per year?

Please follow the RFP Weed Control guidelines Page 17.

23. The specifications state to till the grass areas (if needed) but then states to apply a 6-inch layer of organic compost to the loosened soil and rototill it. How much square footage or acres of bare spots have been serviced in previous years? Can this be handled as a billable line item?

There are no recorded data of previous years for soil penetration, and this is not a separate billable item. If tiling is required, then the Vendor will follow the RFP instructions.

24. Is a letter of financial stability from our auditing firm sufficient for Tab D. Fiscal Integrity/Financial Statements?

This will be acceptable.

25. Can you please confirm that there are no bond requirements for this bid?
Not Applicable for this RFP
26. On Appendix J, Pricing Sheet, should the pricing listed in column H, Total Cost per Location, be provided as a per visit cost, per month cost, annual cost, or other?
Addendum to be posted
27. Will pricing increases be allowed for renewal years and, if so, is there a maximum allowable percentage on a yearly basis?
Addendum to be posted
28. If vendors have already gone through the fingerprinting process for Shelby County Schools, will these employees need to complete this process again for this contract, or will the background checks already completed suffice?
Fingerprinting and background checks must be performed once a year.
29. Please confirm that the Guarantee and warranties for the office equipment is not applicable for this bid.
Not Applicable
30. On Appendix J, some of the school locations have ‘turf field’ listed in the remarks. What is meant by the remark for ‘turf field’ for the 6 locations that list it? Are these artificial turf fields?
“Turf Field” identifies artificial turf; and yes they are Synthetic Turf Fields.
31. Please confirm that artificial turf fields are not included in this contract.
Addendum to be posted
32. Crump Stadium looks to be artificial turf. What is the scope of work for the artificial turf fields?
Addendum to be posted