RESPONSES TO BIDDER QUESTIONS
RFP for New Jersey Public Broadcasting Authority Television Broadcast Stations Agreements
Issued: February 19, 2026

The State Treasurer and New Jersey Public Broadcasting Authority (NJPBA) provide the following responses to questions submitted by prospective bidders in connection with the RFP for New Jersey Public Broadcasting Authority Television Broadcast Stations Agreements (the "RFP"), issued February 5, 2026. These responses are incorporated into and made a part of the RFP. Bidders are responsible for reviewing all posted questions and answers.

Question 1 — Section 8.4 (Page 6): Additional Guidelines for Subchannel Programming Streams
Other than the requirement that the channel streams must consist of "noncommercial educational public TV programming," are there any other guidelines about what type of programming can be aired on these streams?

ANSWER:
The RFP does not impose additional content-specific guidelines beyond compliance with federal statutes in the Communications Act and FCC rules governing noncommercial educational television broadcast stations, including Section 73.621 of the FCC's rules, the prohibition on commercial matter, and applicable underwriting guidelines. Programming must be consistent with the purposes set forth in the New Jersey Public Broadcasting System Transfer Act and NJPBA's public interest obligations. PBS membership is not mandated, but the State strongly favors proposals that maintain the stations' current public broadcasting mission and access to the PBS national schedule, children's programming, and educational resources. Bidders proposing alternative programming models should clearly describe their programming sources and demonstrate how their model will serve New Jersey viewers at a comparable or superior level.

Question 2 — Section 8.5(f) (Page 7): Specific Programs Comprising Current Six Hours of NJ-Centric Programming
Can you please list by name the specific programs that make up the current six hours of news and information programming per week referenced in Section 8.5(f)?

ANSWER:
The six hours consist of programs listed in Attachment B of the RFP (Current Programming, pages 28-29). Note: This list is for current programs from the current manager/operator, which may or may not be available to bidders. Bidders are encouraged to perform due diligence on the availability of these programs and other (new) programs that will comprise NJ-centric programming.

Question 3 — Section 8.8(a) (Page 8): Microwave System HD Capability
Is the existing NJPBA microwave system on the state towers able to relay an HD signal?

ANSWER:
Yes, the NJPBA microwave relay system is capable of carrying high-definition signals and currently distributes two HD channels statewide via the network described in RFP Attachment B.

Question 4 — Section 8.8(a) (Page 8): State House Studio Status and Availability
What is the current status of the State House Studio located in the Visitor's Center? Will the winner of the RFP be able to use this space?

ANSWER:
The RFP and its attachments do not describe a State House studio facility in the Visitor's Center; available studio facilities are described at the Trenton Operations Center (25 South Stockton Street). The studio at the New Jersey State House is managed by the Capital Complex Joint Management Commission. Any questions regarding availability and use of the facility should be directed to the Commission.

Question 5 — Section 8.8(d) (Page 8): Master Control — State RFP and Transition Planning
Should we assume that the new operator will be using the master control selected in the current State RFP (Master Control Services RFP, February 4, 2026) or offer additional master control solutions? Additionally, should we expect that the State's

master control contract will be one year, and should we be ready to either assume that contract or set up our own within that time period?

ANSWER:
Bidders may propose to use the master control services secured through the State's separate Master Control Services RFP, which are expected to represent a short-term solution, or may propose their own master control solutions (cloud-based, outsourced, or in-house). Bidders may either assume or transition away from any short-term State master control arrangement that results from the Master Control Services RFP and should include a clear plan for long-term master control operations independent of any short-term services that result from the Master Control Services RFP.

Question 6 — Appendix B (Page 21): PBS Membership
Should we assume that the state wants its stations to continue to be members of PBS?

ANSWER:
PBS membership is not mandated by the Transfer Act or the RFP, but the State strongly favors proposals that maintain the stations' current public broadcasting mission and access to the PBS national schedule, children's programming, educational resources and other PBS member benefits for the purposes of continuity of service. Bidders proposing alternative programming models should clearly describe their programming sources and demonstrate how their model will serve New Jersey viewers at a comparable or superior level, as well as the ability of the programming to generate sufficient donor and other support for ongoing operations.

Question 7 — Appendix B (Page 30): Projected Tower Rental and Radio Facility Lease Revenues
Can you provide a projected amount for tower rental and radio facility lease revenues for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026? Can you also provide an estimated amount for these revenues for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027?

ANSWER:
As noted in Section 5.0 and Attachment B of the RFP, all financial information is for convenience only and the State makes no representations or warranties as to accuracy; bidders should independently verify all figures. Tower rentals in FY2026, ending June 30, 2026, generated $3.6 million in funding, and the radio facility lease revenue was nearly $69K. We are projecting similar revenues for FY2027.

Question 8 — Section 7.0 (Page 6): Contract Term — Deviations and Termination Rights
Would the State consider, as part of a proposal for any one or more of the agreements, a term that deviates from the initial five-year term with mutual options for additional five-year renewal terms? If no, would the State consider limited rights for termination after the initial five-year term in order to promote continuity of services?

ANSWER:
The initial term of the NJPBA Programming and Services Agreement, any Channel Sharing Agreement, and any agreements regarding other services shall be no less than five years. Renewal options are subject to negotiation.

Question 9 — Sections 11.4 (Pages 12-13): Channel Sharing — Minimum and Maximum Spectrum Availability
Is there a minimum and/or maximum amount of spectrum available for a Channel Share Bidder's station(s) given existing and anticipated use of spectrum on the full power stations for which channel sharing may become available if the necessary legislation is adopted?

ANSWER:
The RFP does not specify a minimum or maximum amount of spectrum for channel sharing; availability will depend on the requirements of FCC rules, technical requirements of NJPBA's current program streams, the technical capacity of the relevant channel, and negotiated terms including proposed financial compensation. Among other things, FCC rules require channel sharing hosts to retain sufficient spectrum to ensure that each licensee can provide at least one standard definition video program stream at all times. Channel Share Bidders should consult with their own communications counsel regarding the requirements of FCC rules. A standard 6 MHz ATSC 1.0 channel has approximately 19.39 Mbps total capacity; the amount available for a sharing partner will be whatever remains after NJPBA's existing streams are allocated their required capacity, provided those streams are maintained without degradation.

Question 10 — Is the link for the State's Standard Terms and Conditions the most current version?

ANSWER:
No, the link in the original RFP is outdated. Please note that the Standard Terms and Conditions have been updated. The current version can be found here:
https://www.nj.gov/treasury/purchase/forms/CombinedStateofNewJerseyStandardTermsandConditions06032025.pdf

Question 11 — Will transition planning between PSA contractors be required?

ANSWER:
The State anticipates that a new PSA will include transition planning between contractors. Terms shall be negotiated to include holdover provisions to maintain service levels through a designated transition period of three to six months, reasonable access to operational, fundraising, and membership information, and the assignment of related contracts, as appropriate.

Question 12 — Does the State anticipate implementing any kind of quality control or service standards with penalties for non-compliance with the new PSA?

ANSWER:
The State anticipates negotiating service standards in the new PSA, including defined communication plans and remedies within reasonable timelines (as permitted by the FCC, if applicable). Termination provisions shall include termination for cause for non-compliance with the PSA, for lack of funding, and/or by operation of law.