

## **Request for Proposals (RFP)**

### **Cybersecurity Services**

**Issue Date:** 04/15/2026

**Proposal Due Date:** 06/05/2026

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#### **1. Introduction**

Houghton County is seeking proposals from qualified firms to provide comprehensive cybersecurity services to protect the County's information technology infrastructure, systems, and data.

The County operates a variety of critical systems supporting governmental functions, public safety, financial operations, and public services. The selected vendor will play a key role in strengthening the County's cybersecurity posture and ensuring compliance with applicable regulations and best practices.

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#### **2. Objective**

The objective of this RFP is to secure a qualified cybersecurity provider to:

- Assess current cybersecurity risks and vulnerabilities
  - Implement and/or recommend security controls and improvements
  - Monitor systems for threats and respond to incidents
  - Support compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and standards
  - Provide ongoing cybersecurity guidance and support
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#### **3. Scope of Services**

The selected firm may be asked to provide some or all the following services:

##### **A. Risk Assessment & Auditing**

- Conduct comprehensive cybersecurity risk assessments
- Perform vulnerability scans and penetration testing
- Identify gaps in policies, procedures, and technical controls

- Provide detailed reports with prioritized recommendations

#### **B. Managed Security Services**

- Continuous network monitoring and threat detection
- Endpoint protection and response
- Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) services
- Firewall and intrusion detection/prevention system management

#### **C. Incident Response**

- Develop and/or update incident response plans
- Provide breach response and forensic investigation services
- Assist with reporting requirements and remediation

#### **D. Compliance & Policy Development**

- Assist with compliance (e.g., CJIS, HIPAA, PCI-DSS, as applicable)
- Develop and update cybersecurity policies and procedures
- Provide audit support and documentation

#### **E. Training & Awareness**

- Conduct employee cybersecurity awareness training
- Provide phishing simulations and reporting tools

#### **F. Additional Services**

- Backup and disaster recovery planning
- Business continuity planning
- Security architecture consulting

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### **4. Vendor Qualifications**

Proposers should demonstrate:

- Experience providing cybersecurity services to government entities or similarly complex organizations

- Relevant certifications (e.g., CISSP, CISM, CEH, etc.)
  - Knowledge of applicable regulatory requirements
  - Proven incident response capabilities
  - Ability to provide references from comparable clients
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## **5. Proposal Requirements**

Proposals should include the following:

### **A. Company Information**

- Company overview and history
- Organizational structure
- Key personnel and qualifications

### **B. Approach & Methodology**

- Description of services offered
- Proposed approach to cybersecurity management
- Tools and technologies utilized

### **C. Experience**

- Relevant project experience
- Case studies or examples
- References (minimum of three)

### **D. Pricing**

- Detailed fee structure (hourly, fixed, or retainer-based)
- Any additional costs or optional services

### **E. Timeline**

- Proposed implementation timeline
  - Availability for ongoing support
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## **6. Evaluation Criteria**

Proposals will be evaluated based on:

- Experience and qualifications
  - Understanding of County needs
  - Quality and completeness of proposal
  - Cost and value
  - References
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## **7. Submission Instructions**

Proposals must be submitted no later than **June 4, 2026, at 4:00 PM EST.**

Submissions should be sent to:

**Chelsea Rheault**  
**Houghton County Administrator's Office**  
**Administrator@houghtoncounty.gov**

Late submissions may not be considered.

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## **8. Questions**

Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to the Administrators' Office.

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## **9. Terms and Conditions**

- Houghton County reserves the right to reject any or all proposals
  - The County may request additional information or interviews
  - The selected vendor will be required to enter into a formal agreement
  - All costs associated with proposal preparation are the responsibility of the proposer
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## **10. Confidentiality**

All information submitted will be subject to applicable public records laws, including the Michigan Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

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## **11. Contract Term**

The anticipated contract term is open to negotiations.

### **Addition to Scope of Services / General Requirements**

The selected cybersecurity firm must demonstrate the ability and willingness to work collaboratively with Houghton County's contracted IT service provider. This includes coordinating efforts, sharing relevant information, and ensuring that cybersecurity measures are effectively integrated with existing IT operations and infrastructure.

The firm shall be expected to:

- Communicate regularly and effectively with the County's IT contractor
- Coordinate implementation of security tools, protocols, and remediation efforts
- Avoid duplication of services and ensure a complementary approach to IT and cybersecurity functions
- Participate in joint planning, incident response, and system reviews as needed

Proposers should describe their experience working alongside third-party IT providers and their approach to maintaining a cooperative and efficient working relationship.