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Tender

Supply And Delivery of Pre Prepared Meals to the Education Authority

the Education Authority

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-047438

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-05849c

Published 8 August 2025, 5:14pm

Scope

Reference

CAT-25-012

Description

The Education Authority invites tenders for the supply and delivery of Pre-Prepared Meals (Individual and Bulk) to school meals kitchens within Northern Ireland for a period of 5 years with the option to extend for a further two 12 month extension periods.

This Contract is established by the Education Authority and is open to the EA, including NI educational bodies as follows, who at some point, during the life of the Contract may wish to utilise the agreement and should have access at any point, with the permission of EA. This Contract is not intended to replace any current agreements that participating or nonparticipating institutions may already have in place.

Department of Education - Schools Plus

<https://www.educationni.gov.uk/services/schoolsplus>

Primary and Post Primary schools under the control of the EA, Catholic Maintained Schools

Independent Schools in NI, Irish Medium Schools in NI, both Controlled and Voluntary Grammar Schools, Nursery School for NI (both controlled, and Catholic Maintained), schoolmeals kitchens on-site at all of these schools, and Controlled Youth Centres.

Further Education Colleges in NI : <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/contacts/further-educationfe-colleges>

NICIE - <https://nicie.org/>

Grant Controlled Integrated Education Schools in NI

Independent Schools in NI <https://www.isc.co.uk/schools/northern-ireland/>

EA Teachers' and Educational Centres

Council for the Curriculum, Examination and Assessment NI (CCEA)

Armagh Observatory and Planetarium

Middletown Centre for Autism

Controlled Schools Support Council (CSSC)

Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education (NICIE)

Pre-Schools and Nurseries included within the EA Pre-School Education Programme (PSEP)

Preliminary market engagement notice ocds-h6vhtk-04e889 was Published 28 February 2025, 10:25am

Total value (estimated)

- £335,000 excluding VAT

- £402,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 December 2025 to 30 November 2030
- Possible extension to 30 November 2032
- 7 years

Description of possible extension:

Two 12 month optional extensions

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

Additional items may be added to the Contract throughout the Term with the agreement of both the Buyer and the Supplier. This may include any individual or bulk pre-prepared meals options that may be required throughout the duration of the Contract. Any items added to the Contract during the Term must be in line with the Pricing submitted with similar items at tender.

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 15894200 - Prepared meals
- 15894210 - School meals
- 15894300 - Prepared dishes

Contract locations

- UKN - Northern Ireland

Participation

Technical ability conditions of participation

CoP 1 Technical ability to perform the contract - Previous Experience

Particular suitability

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
- Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

1 September 2025, 3:00pm

Tender submission deadline

8 September 2025, 3:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

10 November 2025

Recurring procurement

Publication date of next tender notice (estimated): 1 March 2032

Award criteria

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
Quality of Samples - Product Characteristics	Full details can be found in the CfT documents section on eTenderNI https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps	Quality	60%
Proposed Methodology	Full details can be found in the CfT documents section on eTenderNI https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps	Quality	20%
Price	Full details can be found in the CfT documents section on eTenderNI https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps	Price	20%

Other information

Payment terms

Full details can be found in the CfT documents section on eTenderN -

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

Description of risks to contract performance

The Buyer cannot guarantee any particular level of business (volumes/values) within the Contract.

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Contracting authority

the Education Authority

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PPHJ-6982-JPXY

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Region: UKN06 - Belfast

Organisation type: Public authority - central government

Devolved regulations that apply: Northern Ireland