

Department for Children, Youth and Families
Transportation Contract Authorization with Rejha Group L.L.C. for Children with Special Needs Who Travel to Special Education and Therapy Programs

The Department for Children, Youth and Families is requesting that the Albany County Legislature authorize the County to enter into an agreement with Rejha Group L.L.C., for transportation services for children with special needs. The Department is seeking authorization to contract for all 6 zones. The total funding for all zones is not to exceed \$4,733,545.00. The contract term will run from September 1, 2024 to August 1, 2025, with an option to renew for two (2) more years.

The Department issued a Request for Proposals for Transportation Services for pre-School Aged Handicapped Children in Need of special Education—*RFP-2024-049*-- on March 28, 2024 with responses due April 19, 2024. It should be noted that Rejha Group L.L.C was the only company that submitted a proposal.

Transportation of children with special needs to special education and therapy services, as recommended by the individual education/family service plan approved by the child's school district or by the Early Intervention Official, is mandated by New York State law.

Given the varying fluctuations in the fuel market, proposing vendors need to anticipate any potential increases in fuel costs so that they are not inadvertently penalized for swings in the fuel market. This puts the County in a vulnerable situation; requiring it to pay for costs that may not actually be incurred assuming a stabilized fuel market. In order to better safeguard the County financially, the Department, with assistance from the County's Purchasing Department, have structured the bids with a fuel escalation/de-escalation clause. This language provides a safety valve for both the County and the transportation provider so that the effect on either entity's bottom line is minimized in the event(s) of changes in the fuel commodity market.

The costs associated with transportation are reimbursed by the State at a rate of 59.5% after subtracting out any reimbursement received from Medicaid. All contracts will be reviewed and approved by the County Attorney's Office as to form and content prior to execution.

Contracts for transportation services are divided into zones based on program locations. There are six unique zones.

Zone #1—not to exceed \$249,258

Rejha Group L.L.C
23 Railroad Avenue
Albany, NY 12205

Zone #4 – not to exceed \$1,225,501

Rejha Group L.L.C
23 Railroad Avenue
Albany, NY 12205

Zone #2 - not to exceed \$501,894

Rejha Group L.L.C
23 Railroad Avenue
Albany, NY 12205

Zone #5 – not to exceed \$621,729

Rejha Group L.L.C
23 Railroad Avenue
Albany, NY 12205

Zone #3 – not to exceed \$934,772

Rejha Group L.L.C
23 Railroad Avenue
Albany, NY 12205

Zone #6--not to exceed \$1,200,391

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23 Railroad Avenue
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