

Alaska Exchange Carriers Association Request For Proposal Replacement of CABS Reporting System

June 2, 2025

Introduction

Alaska Exchange Carriers Association (AECA) is seeking proposals from web development or software agencies. The purpose of this RFP is to solicit competitive proposals from experienced agencies capable of providing professional services for the replacement of the current CABS reporting system. The replacement could utilize a customizable out-of-the box software and/or development services. The proposal should include replacement of the current CABS reporting system and provide a detailed analysis of the total investment required for each alternative option.

Objectives

- Evaluate the CABS reporting system requirements
- Evaluate replacement CABS reporting system integration with current CABS invoicing system
- Deliver CABS reporting system replacement
 - Detail CABS reporting system replacement recommendations
 - Detail hosting requirements
 - Detail total investment required
 - Detail timeline for implementation
- Keep all company specific information confidential.

Overview of CABS Reporting System Issues and Use

The current web browser based CABS reporting system is outdated, experiencing bugs, and is currently operating on a break-fix model that is not sustainable.

The CABS reporting system is used by local telephone companies (LEC) to report minutes of use (telephone call minutes) and connections (EF) between the LEC and long distance telephone carriers (IXC), and to report monthly revenues (NAF). AECA staff pull summary reports that compile all submitted data from a certain timeframe (categorized by IXC, by LEC, by period and by data category) and input/link the data into Excel format invoices.

Each month LECs enter data into CABS forms for each specific IXC. The minutes of use are categorized by type and are numerical value fields. The EF section consists of entry fields and calculations based on type of EF. Each EF has a different calculation associated with its type that results in a Rate Factor quantity used for invoicing, for example: the calculation for a DTF type Rate Factor = (quantity) x (state percentage) x (meet point percentage). Each of the variables can be modified by the user at any time.

Once a form is submitted the data on the form will never change. A user can submit an adjustment to the submitted form which would result in a new form submission showing the old values, adjustment values and new total value. The adjustment values would be saved in the system.

Scope of Work

- Evaluate CABS reporting system requirements
 - External Users
 - Approximately 50 active external users
 - Access restricted to three user levels
 - Company Reporter - access restricted to company specific data, can submit and adjust forms, modify rates (units) in forms, view submitted forms and summary reports, upload backup documentation
 - Read only - access restricted to company specific data, can view submitted forms and summary reports
 - IXC – can view all submitted forms
 - All users can view AECA uploaded invoices and distribution reports (pdf format)
 - Invoices categorized by specific companies and periods
 - Distribution reports categorized by specific periods
 - Internal Users
 - AECA staff
 - Have full administrative privileges
 - Manage all user accounts
 - Grant/restrict access
 - Modify user type/permissions
 - Full privileges to view/modify forms and associated items
 - Delete submitted forms
 - View all submitted or saved forms
 - View all uploaded documents
 - Modify rates and reporting elements for forms
 - Upload all documents (invoices, distribution reports, backup documentation)
 - CABS reporting system forms
 - Categorize LECs by two types
 - Current period forms
 - Adjustment forms for prior submitted periods
 - Admin ability to customize fields
 - Add new types of minute and EF fields
 - Modify calculations for EF fields
 - CABS reporting system reports
 - Approximately 10 reports that summarize various submitted data
 - Reports may contain addition and subtraction calculations
 - Excel format
 - Admin access to all reports
 - Restrictions on reports available for non-admin users

- Reports generated by search parameters
 - LEC (two type categories)
 - IXC
 - Period range
 - Report submitted date range
 - Secure login for all users
- Evaluate current CABS billing system process and integration with new CABS reporting system
 - Excel reports from current CABS reporting system are linked or entered into the Excel invoices.
- Deliverables
 - Detail CABS reporting system replacement recommendations
 - Detail hosting requirements
 - Detail total investment required
 - Detail timeline for implementation

Pre-Bid Conference

AECA will host a pre-bid conference to demonstrate the current CABS reporting and billing system, detail the issues AECA is seeking to correct, and to answer any questions related to the RFP.

Pre-Bid Conference will be held on June 9, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. AKDT via RingCentral virtual meeting. Please email aece@alaska.net for a meeting link.

Evaluation of Proposals

The proposals will be evaluated based upon the degree to which services match AECA needs and on the technical experience, qualifications and costs of the bidder.

Submission of Proposals

Proposals should be emailed to aece@alaska.net and received no later than close of business July 7, 2025. AECA will acknowledge receipt of email proposals within one business day. If you do not receive such acknowledgement, please contact Keegan Bernier at 907-561-6300 to confirm receipt or to make alternative delivery arrangements.

Contact

Please contact Keegan Bernier, Executive Director with any questions at 907-561-6300 or aece@alaska.net.