Depot maintenance (bench) service may be requested for NEC selected systems or components not requiring on-site support. The contractor shall be able to pick-up equipment for repair or provide mail-in packaging. All mail-in handling costs shall be at the contractor's expense and protective shipping containers shall be provided.

NEC shall bear all costs of maintenance, including parts, and such other expenses (not including on site coverage) as are necessary to keep the equipment in good operating condition, provided that the required repairs are not occasioned by fault or negligence of the state or cooperative customer.

**a. DEPOT SERVICE** The basic monthly rate for each make and model of equipment shall entitle the ordering activity to maintenance service during a mutually agreed upon nine (9) hour principal period of maintenance, Monday through Friday, exclusive of holidays observed at the ordering activity location. Basic monthly maintenance charges include all PBX components (excluding power supply and batteries), telephones and attendant consoles after warranty period at $2.77 per month per port.