

USM SSP 24_008 Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase of Connect Client – D1 G5 w/ 5 Licenses.

http://www.ms.gov/dfa/contract_bid_search/Bid

RFx: 3150005428

Comments/objections will be received as required per Section 31-7-13 (C) of the Mississippi Code until 8:00 a.m. (Central Time) on February 2, 2024.

Any person or entity that objects and proposes that the commodity listed is not sole source and can be provided by another person or entity shall submit a written notice to:

Jacob Cochran

Interim Director of Procurement & Contracts 118 College Dr. Box 5003 Hattiesburg, MS 39406

bids@usm.edu

Phone: 601-266-4131

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection USM SSP 24_008"

The notice shall contain a detailed explanation of why the commodity is not a sole source procurement. Appropriate documentation shall also be submitted if applicable.

If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, USM determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then USM will withdraw the sole source request publication from the procurement portal website and submit the procurement of the commodity to an advertised competitive bid or selection process.

If USM determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then USM will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. USM will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.

Run Dates: 1/16, 1/23

The University of Southern Mississippi
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
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The University of Southern Mississippi anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

1. Description of the commodity that USM is seeking to procure:

The project involves procuring and implementing Collegiate Sports Connect, a dynamic technology platform designed for talent acquisition in collegiate sports administration. The platform will provide our institution with 24/7/365 access to a candidate database containing over 9,000 user profiles. The goal is to identify and acquire top administrative talent that aligns with our vacant job requirements. The collaboration with Collegiate Sports Associates, D1.ticker, and WMT Digital ensures a comprehensive and tailored solution for our specific needs.

2. Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency:

Collegiate Sports Connect is the only platform that offers a comprehensive solution tailored explicitly for collegiate sports administration. Its extensive database of over 9,000 user profiles, coupled with the collaboration with Collegiate Sports Associates, D1.ticker, and WMT Digital, provides unique features and specialized functionality that other generic talent acquisition platforms lack.

3. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity:

Collegiate Sports Connect is purpose built for the unique needs of the collegiate sports industry. Unlike generic talent acquisition platforms or recruitment services, Collegiate Connect is specifically designed to cater to the nuances and specific skillsets required for administrative roles within NCAA institutions. This tailored approach ensures they can

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find candidates who possess the expertise and experience essential for excelling in the collegiate sports environment.

4. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable:

An executive search process at the collegiate level can cost upwards of \$20,000 per search. This platform provides similar access and benefits for a fraction of the cost on an annual basis.

5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:

We talked to several clients of Collegiate Connect and ensured we were getting the best price on the market.

Advertisement Schedule	Date
1st scheduled	1/16/24
2nd scheduled	1/23/24

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Jacob Cochran

Interim Director of Procurement & Contracts

Jacob.Cochran@usm.edu

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection 24_008"

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