

USM SSP 26_028 Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase of Matlab.

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

RFx: 3150006877

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 July 6, 2026.

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

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 26_028"

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: 6/11, 6/18

The University of Southern Mississippi
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
SSP 26_028

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: Individual Academic licenses for MATLAB and associated toolboxes, including Simulink and various discipline-specific toolboxes, purchased through The MathWorks, Inc. The licenses are for use by named faculty, staff, and researchers across multiple departments at the University of Southern Mississippi for teaching and research purposes.

2. What efforts were made to determine that the proposed provider is the only entity that can provide the commodity needed? The MathWorks, Inc. was contacted directly to confirm their sales policy. MathWorks confirmed that MATLAB software and license maintenance are sold exclusively through MathWorks and that no third-party resellers or alternative sales channels exist through which these licenses can be purchased.

3. What efforts were made to ensure the best possible price for the commodity was obtained? A formal quote was requested directly from MathWorks. The pricing provided reflects the academic discount for which USM qualifies as a degree-granting institution. Academic pricing represents the lowest available tier for individual licenses and was confirmed by MathWorks as the best available pricing for USM's license category.

4. Why is the commodity the only one that can meet the needs of the Agency? MATLAB is the industry-standard platform for technical computing used across USM's mathematics, science, engineering, and research departments. It is the only software that enables cross-departmental collaboration on both teaching and research projects at USM. Simulink, available exclusively through MathWorks, is required for Model-Based Design of dynamic and embedded systems. Active courses and ongoing research projects are built specifically around MATLAB and its toolboxes, for which no functionally equivalent alternative exists.

5. Why is the amount expended for the commodity reasonable? MathWorks is a commercial software company that provides a significant academic discount for which USM qualifies. The quoted price reflects academic individual annual license pricing - the most cost-effective license structure available for the named users involved. MathWorks has confirmed that this represents the best available pricing for USM's institution type and license category, and the cost is consistent with pricing provided to peer institutions purchasing under the same academic license terms.

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Advertisement Schedule	Date
1st scheduled	06/11/2026
2nd scheduled	06/18/2026

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 by July 6, 2026, 8:00 AM CST, to:

Jacob Cochran

Director of Procurement & Contracts

Jacob.Cochran@usm.edu

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection 26_XXX"

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.

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