

USM SSP 27_006 Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase of Dropout Detective.

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

RFx: 3150006949

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 August 28, 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 27_006"

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: 8/13, 8/20

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 recent behavior of students in their courses can tell you whether they are going to succeed. Dropout Detective™ integrates with your existing learning management system (LMS), which already tracks these behaviors. Our solution retrieves the necessary data, applies the algorithm, and populates an easy-to-use dashboard to the school's administrators and/or instructors. Students are assigned a Risk Index Score and are displayed in a red-yellow-green "stop light" format to draw attention to the most at-risk members of the student body. Administrators can then drill into the individual student's profile to determine the risk reasons and to develop a pro-active plan of action. Through search capabilities and filters, the institution can target its efforts by assigning the right staff to the right students.

2. What efforts were made by the Agency to determine that the proposed provider is the only entity that can provide the commodity needed?

- Direct integration with the LMS allows us to analyze data every day;
- LTI integration gives us single-sign-on with the LMS; we don't look like a separate system
- Minimal training and technical support leads to strong adoption in your school;
- Implementation can be completed within days, with minimal resources required from you;

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- Includes tools for manual flagging and support of students – not just data-driven;
3. What efforts were made to ensure the best possible price for the commodity was obtained?
- Price is set and non-negotiable
4. Why is the commodity the only one that can meet the needs to the Agency?
- Direct integration with the LMS allows us to analyze data every day;
 - LTI integration gives us single-sign-on with the LMS; we don't look like a separate system
 - Minimal training and technical support leads to strong adoption in your school;
 - Implementation can be completed within days, with minimal resources required from you;
 - Includes tools for manual flagging and support of students – not just data-driven;
 -
5. Why is the amount expended for the commodity reasonable?
- **Least expensive retention tool integrating with Canvas and timely API**

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Advertisement Schedule	Date
1st scheduled	8/13/26
2nd scheduled	8/20/26

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Jacob Cochran

Director of Procurement & Contracts

Jacob.Cochran@usm.edu

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