

The University of Southern Mississippi
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
SSP 19_011

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 Physics and Astronomy discipline within the School of Mathematics and Natural Sciences is seeking to procure various pieces of specialized lab equipment for PHY 341L, which is the lab for the junior-level Optics course, PHY 341, that has recently been added as a requirement of our degree program. This equipment interfaces with the lab equipment and data acquisition and analysis software that is already employed in this lab, allows for the full range of intermediate to advanced computer-based optics demonstrations and experiments needed for this lab, and is sufficient for expected student enrollment levels for this course.**
2. Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency: **Only this equipment will meet our laboratory needs since it is the only equipment that is compatible with the equipment that we already have, the lab manuals that we use, and the data acquisition software and hardware that are used in these labs.**
3. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity: **Pasco provides a proprietary integrated solution for educational laboratory environments that includes a wide array of laboratory equipment, physical sensors, data acquisition and analysis software, and instructional support materials that are all completely compatible. While there are other companies that also provide integrated solutions for educational laboratories, that equipment is not compatible with the equipment and software in this lab.**

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4. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable: **This equipment works well, is durable, and is well supported by Pasco. The pricing of this equipment is also completely compatible with the prices for lab equipment provided by other companies that also provide similar integrated solutions for educational lab environments, but our existing lab equipment and instructional materials are not compatible with those solutions.**
5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity: **A discount of 100% has been obtained for some of the items in this order as a result of working directly with a Pasco sales representative.**

Advertisement Schedule	Date
1st scheduled	11/16/18
2nd scheduled	11/23/18

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:

Steve Ballew
Director of Procurement & Contracts
Steve.ballew@usm.edu

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection"

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

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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.