

## State of Maine Waiver of Competitive Bidding Request Form

**Form Instructions:** Please provide the requested information in the white boxes below. This form is to precede all contract requests that are not the direct result of a competitive bid process.

<b>Requesting Department's Contract Administrator:</b>	Shawn Belanger	<b>Office/Division/Program of Contract Administrator:</b>	Sara Robinson, CDC
<b>Est. Contract Amount:</b>	\$ 35,000	<b>Contract or RQS Number:</b>	RQS 10A 20190718*0061
<b>Proposed Start Date:</b>	July 1, 2019	<b>Proposed End Date:</b>	November 30, 2019
<b>Vendor/Provider Name, City, State:</b>	Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory Laurel, Maryland		
<b>Short Description of Good or Service:</b>	Installation and configuration of ESSENCE platform		
<b>Please note, for transparency purposes, Waivers of Competitive Bidding will be publicly posted. Public postings are placed on the Division of Procurement Services website for a period of seven consecutive calendar days.</b>	<i>To be completed by the Division of Procurement Services</i> Posting dates on Division of <i>Procurement Services</i> website: From: <u>07/19/19</u> To: <u>07/25/19</u>		
<b>Notice of Intent to Waive Competitive Bidding Number:</b>	NOI# 0720191237		
<b>1. Statutory Justification</b>			
State of Maine statute (5 M.R.S. §1825-B(2)) allows waivers of competitive bidding only for the specific reasons listed below. Please mark the appropriate box (X) next to the justification which applies to this specific request.			
<input type="checkbox"/>	A. The procurement of goods or services by the State for county commissioners pursuant to Title 30-A, section 124, involves the expenditure of \$2,500 or less, and the interests of the State would best be served;		
<input type="checkbox"/>	B. The Director of the Bureau of General Services is authorized by the Governor, or the Governor's designee, to make purchases without competitive bidding because, in the opinion of the Governor or the Governor's designee, an emergency exists that requires the immediate procurement of goods or services;		
	<i>If citing the above justification for this Waiver of Competitive Bidding request, please have the requesting Department's Commissioner or Chief Executive (as the Governor's "designee") sign and date on the right.</i>	<i>By signing below, I signify as the Governor's designee there is an emergency that necessitates this non-competitive procurement.</i> <b>Signature:</b>	
		<b>Printed Name:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C. After reasonable investigation by the Director of the Bureau of General Services, it appears that any required unit or item of supply, or brand of that unit or item, is procurable by the State from only one source;		
<input type="checkbox"/>	D. It appears to be in the best interest of the State to negotiate for the procurement of petroleum products;		
<input type="checkbox"/>	E. The purchase is part of a cooperative project between the State and the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System, the Maine Maritime Academy, or a private, nonprofit, regionally accredited institution of higher education with a main campus in this State involving: (1) An activity assisting a state agency and enhancing the ability of the university system, community college system, Maine Maritime Academy, or a private, nonprofit, regionally accredited institution of higher education with a main campus in this State to fulfill its mission of teaching, research, and public service; (2) A sharing of project responsibilities and, when appropriate, costs;		
	<i>If citing the above justification for this sole source request, please note that the specific approval of the Governor's Office is required, in accordance with Executive Order 26 FY 11/12, "An Order to Enhance Competitive Bidding". The approval must be documented on DAFS/BGS/Division of Procurement Services "GOVCOOP" form, found here: <a href="http://www.maine.gov/purchases/info/forms/govcoop.doc">http://www.maine.gov/purchases/info/forms/govcoop.doc</a>.</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	F. The procurement of goods or services involves expenditures of \$10,000 or less, in which case the Director of the Bureau of General Services may accept oral proposals or bids;		

## State of Maine Waiver of Competitive Bidding Request Form

	G. The procurement of goods or services involves expenditures of \$10,000 or less, and procurement from a single source is the most economical, effective and appropriate means of fulfilling a demonstrated need.	
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	If a different authorization specifically allows for this non-competitive procurement, please provide that reference here:	
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**Please note that the following four points below (#2 through 5) all require a response.**

**2. Description of Specific Need**

Please identify, and fully describe, the specific problem, requirement, or need the resulting non- competitive contract would address and which makes the goods or services necessary. Explain how the requesting Department determined that the goods or services are critical and/or essential to agency responsibilities or operations.

Maine CDC conducts near real-time disease surveillance (“syndromic surveillance”) as required by statute. Maine CDC receives data from hospital emergency rooms, emergency medical services, Maine vital statistics, and Maine CDC’s reportable conditions surveillance system. We extract, transform, and load this data and apply classification algorithms to text variables in order to group incidents into “syndromes,” which are defined by combinations of demographic, diagnostic, and pre-diagnostic indicators. Currently Maine has an in-house developed system that applies more than 20 syndromes to the data and delivers automated reports on regular intervals (weekly, monthly, quarterly, etc).. This system requires technical staff to develop new syndromes and reports, updating existing syndromes and reports, and perform simplistic ad-hoc analysis. This is very IT resource heavy and does not meet the needs of the program or our partners as data is not easily accessible by business users. Maine CDC needs a better system to analyze and visualize the data including aberration detection to automate statistical evaluation of data to determine if an event is significant. This system needs to be flexible and available to multiple partners so that they can use syndromic information in real time in order to make public health decisions.

**3. Availability of other Public Resources**

Please explain how the requesting Department concluded that sufficient staffing, resources, or expertise is not available within the State of Maine’s government, or other governmental entities (local, other state, or federal agencies) external to the requesting Department, which would be able to address the identified need more efficiently and effectively than the identified vendor.

Sufficient staffing, resources, or expertise is not available within the State of Maine’s government, or other governmental entities.

**4. Cost**

Since a waiver of competitive bidding is being requested for this procurement, please explain how the requesting Department concluded the negotiated costs, fees, or rates are **fair and reasonable**.

There is no cost for the application itself (it is a royalty-free license), the only cost is for the staff that support the product to install and configure the application for our use in Maine.

**5. Future Competition**

Please describe potential opportunities which may be available to foster competition for these goods or services in the future.

## State of Maine Waiver of Competitive Bidding Request Form

NA – this is a one-time purchase. If Maine decides to replace the application for syndromic surveillance in the future we will review options and determine if an RFP would be useful.

**Please note that only one of the two points below (“Uniqueness” or “Timeframe”) requires a response. Requesting Departments are not required to respond to both points.**

**6. Uniqueness**

Please explain if the goods or services required are unique to a specific vendor. Describe the unique qualifications, abilities, and/or expertise of the vendor and how those particular unique factors address the specific need identified above. If the vendor has unique equipment, facilities, or proprietary data, also explain the necessity of these particular unique assets.

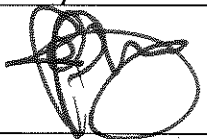
The ESSENCE platform is the standard utilized by federal CDC and over 20 other jurisdictions. This application already has over 100 pre-built validated syndromes that will immediately be available for use. The system is flexible enough that new syndromes can be built and tested by any user, allowing business users to complete tasks without going thru a technical staff intermediary. The ESSENCE platform has existing aberration detection algorithms, and has multiple visualization capabilities including charts, tables, and maps. The ESSENCE platform is a web-based system which will allow Maine CDC to share the data in real time with other partners and public health officials, allowing for the data to be used to drive decision making in real time. As there is no charge for the application itself and it is widely used, anytime any consumer of the application contracts for an upgrade, that upgrade is available to all other users. There is no other system that is so widely used, and open to customization and improvements in real time.

**7. Timeframe (Complete only if B. is the Statutory Justification marked on Page 1)**

Please explain if time is of the essence and an emergency exists which requires the immediate procurement of goods or services. Describe the nature of this emergency, provide the date by which the goods or services must be delivered, and explain how that date was determined and its significance (i.e. impact if delayed beyond this date). Also, provide information as to how it was determined this vendor is the best option to address this time-sensitive procurement.

**Signature of requesting Department’s Commissioner or Chief Executive (or designee within the Commissioner’s Office):**

*By signing below, I signify that my Department requests, and I approve of, this Waiver of Competitive Bidding.*



**Printed Name:**

Jeff Wiley

**Date:**

18 July 19