

State of Maine Procurement Justification Form

This form must accompany all contract requests and sole source requisitions (RQS) over \$5,000 submitted to the Division of Procurement Services.

INSTRUCTIONS: Please provide the requested information in the white spaces below. All responses (except signatures) must be typed; no hand-written forms will be accepted. See the guidance document posted with this form on the Division of Procurement Services website (Forms page) for additional instructions.

PART I: OVERVIEW

Department Office/Division/Program:		DOL/BRS/DBVI	
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Annette Stevens	
(If applicable) Department Reference #:			
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 21,300.00	Advantage CT / RQS #:	2020042800000003013
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:		Proposed End Date:
AMENDMENT	Original Start Date:	5/15/2020	Effective Date:
	Previous End Date:		New End Date:
GRANT	Project Start Date:		Grant Start Date:
	Project End Date:		Grant End Date:
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		Sky's the Limit Communications LLC	
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		ACE ACADEMY ONLINE-prevocational and personalized curriculum for Maine clients who are blind and visually impaired to be delivered in a virtual online format.	

PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION

Mark an "X" before the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)

	A. Competitive Process		G. Grant
	B. Amendment		H. State Statute/Agency Directed
x	C. Single Source/Unique Vendor		I. Federal Agency Directed
	D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents		J. Willing and Qualified
	E. Emergency		K. Client Choice
	F. University Cooperative Project		L. Other Authorization

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Please respond to ALL of the following:

1. Provide a more detailed description and explain the need for the goods, services or grant to supplement the response in Part I.

**State of Maine
Procurement Justification Form**

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

To add to scope of work to current contract #2020042800000003013

ACE Academy Online Self-Advocacy Nuts and Bolts

Overview

During the ACE Advocacy Academy Self-Advocacy Nuts and Bolts, participants will grow in confidence, independence and skill as they practice essential elements of self-advocacy including:

- listening, collaboration and team-building;
- notetaking and documentation;
- time management and personal organization;
- solution finding and collaborative problem solving.
- develop a positive philosophy of disability, and practice strategies for disability self-disclosure.
- identifying opportunities to self-advocate;
- learning about special education laws;
- participating in their own IEP/504 plans and meetings;
- advocating for accessible technology and standardized testing accommodations.
- practicing strategies for effective collaboration with their vocational rehabilitation team
- identifying helpful community-based advocacy organizations and resources.

Capstone Project

Students will complete a list of the self-advocacy skills/resources which every successful self-advocate needs. Students will compose a letter to an elected official to discuss concerns and opportunities important to individuals with disabilities.

2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II.

David DeNotaris, of Sky's the Limit Communication LLC, has over 25 years of professional experience assisting public and private sector organizations transform obstacles in to opportunities. He is the former State Director of Vocational Services for Pennsylvania.

David has planned, designed, and delivered customized trainings for state/federal agencies, college/universities, community agencies and employers nationally. David has delivered presentations for intimate groups of thirty to capacity crowds of over seventeen thousand.

David's education credentials include:

M.A. Administration Supervision, Leadership, Training and Development, Montclair State University

B.A. Speech Communication, East Stroudsburg University

Certified Public Manager (CPM), Fairleigh Dickinson University

David's Publications include:

Scholastic Publications; Exceptional parent Magazine; Associated Press International; USA Today; Washington Post; Newark Star Ledger; Bergen Record; Charleston, SC Business Review; Comcast One on One (TV); WFME (Family Radio); "Keep Your Ear On The Ball" (children's book) Tilbury House Publishers

State of Maine Procurement Justification Form

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

David's past clients include:

Educational Testing Services (ETS); Seton Hall University; United States Army; National Aeronautic Space Administration (NASA); Penn State University; University of Scranton; Temple University; SAP/Philadelphia Eagles Autism at Work Program; Maine Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired

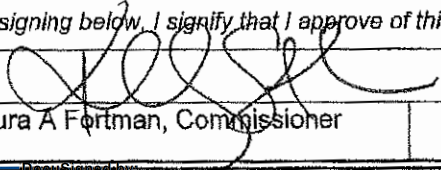
3. Explain how the negotiated costs or rates are fair and reasonable; or how the funding was allocated to grantee.

David has a fee structure for his trainings and is a nationally known speaker and trainer. DBVI negotiated with David in order to provide this online personalized curriculum to a group of Maine clients in an online format versus an in-person instructional method. There will be no transportation costs or reimbursements for this online academy.

4. Describe the plan for future competition for the goods or services.

It is not known at this time if this online Academy will be provided in the future, as the structure of the program may change given environmental barriers we are experiencing at this present time.

PART IV: APPROVALS

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):	<i>By signing below, I signify that I approve of this procurement request.</i>		
			
Printed Name:	Laura A Fortman, Commissioner	Date:	7/1/2020
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	<small>DocuSigned by:</small> <i>Kathy Paquette</i>		
Printed Name:	<small>41C2BA36FAF44CD...</small> Kathy Paquette	Date:	7/6/2020