

PROCUREMENT JUSTIFICATION FORM (PJF)

This form must accompany all contract requests and sole source requisitions (RQS) <u>over \$5,000</u> submitted to the Office of State Procurement Services.

PART I: OVERVIEW							
Department Office/Division/Program:			Office of Special Services and Inclusive Education				
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:			Stacey Bean				
(If applicable) Department Reference #:			N/A				
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant) \$ 50,000		.00 Advantage CT / RQS #: 20250609*3097			0609*3097		
CONTRACT	Proposed St	art Date:	9/1/2025		Proposed End [Date:	12/31/2026
AMENDMENT	Original Start Date:				Effective [Date:	
AWENDWENT	Previous E	nd Date:			New End [Date:	
GRANT Project Start Date: Project End Date:				Grant Start Date:			
		ind Date:			Grant End Date:		
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name,		International Association for Spelling as Communication					
City, State:			Herndon, VA				
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:			Training on the Speller's program.				

	PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION				
Check the box below for the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)					
	A. Competitive Process		G. Grant		
	B. Amendment		H. State Statute/Agency Directed		
\boxtimes	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		

Please respond to ALL of the questions in the following sections.

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

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

Spelling to Communicate (S2C) methodology. S2C is a specialized motor-based approach that supports individuals with complex communication and sensory-motor differences to access reliable communication through spelling and typing. This methodology increases communication for individuals who are non-verbal and limited ability to participate in their general education program. In one SAU we have identified a cohort of children who are non-verbal and making limited progress on communicating with augmentative devices. This work will support increased participation in educational programming and the school community.

2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II. Reference the RFP number, if applicable.

The International Association for Spelling as Communication (I-ASC) is the sole organization authorized to train and certify practitioners in the Spelling to Communicate (S2C) methodology. S2C is a specialized motor-based approach that supports individuals with complex communication and sensory-motor differences to access reliable communication through spelling and typing.

I-ASC was founded by Elizabeth Vosseller, the originator of the S2C methodology, and serves as the central hub for training, research, certification, and professional standards. All S2C Practitioner training is conducted through I-ASC's highly structured and evidence-aligned certification program, which ensures adherence to the 4 Rs of S2C: Replicability, Reliability, Responsibility, and Researchability.

No other organization is licensed, qualified, or authorized to provide training or certify individuals in the S2C methodology. This ensures consistency in quality, safety, and fidelity of implementation across all practitioner-client relationships.

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

Spelling to Communicate (S2C) is unique in the country and there is no available price comparison for analysis.

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

Any future training will be discussed and then processed in accordance with State procurement policies and procedures.

PART IV: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) / MAINE JOBS & RECOVERY PLAN (MJRP)

Does this request utilize ARPA/MJRP funds?

 \Box Yes, MJRP funds (023) – If Yes, please attach the approved Business Case(s).

 \Box Yes, ARPA funds (025) – If Yes, please be aware of the requirements from awarding federal agencies.

 \boxtimes No – If No, proceed to Part V.

PART V: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (COI); CONTRACT WITH THE STATE

Maine law contains Conflict of Interest statutes directed to State Departments, State Officers, and Employees Generally under MRS <u>Title 5, §18</u> and <u>§18-A</u>, in harmony with MRS <u>Title 17, §3104</u>.

⊠ The requesting department signatory understands and acknowledges Maine's Conflict of Interest statutes.

PART VI: APPROVALS					
The signatures below indicate approval of this procurement request.					
Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):	W/2 With				
Typed Name:	Megan Welter	Date:	7/21/2025		
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	Signed by: Sterling Doiron 4C537C52B586437				
Typed Name:	Sterling Doiron	Date:	7/23/2025		

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Certificate Of Completion

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