

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:		DHHS/OCFS		
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Chris Moiles/ Lora Blackwell		
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		CBH-22-3015		
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 49,510.00	Advantage CT / RQS #:	CT 10A 20210603*3555	
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	7/1/2021	Proposed End Date:	6/30/2022
AMENDMENT	Original Start Date:		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:		National Early Childhood Systems, LLC (Elizabeth Bicio) 9 East Washington Road Terryville, CT 06786		
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Consultation/Support Services for Early Childhood Consultation Program		

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.

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PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

This Agreement is a result of State of Maine LD 997: An Act To Promote Social and Emotional Learning and Development for Young Children. This legislation states that the Department shall develop, establish, and implement the Early Childhood Consultation Partnership® (ECCP®). The ECCP® shall provide support, guidance, and training to improve the abilities and skills of Early Care and Education Settings teachers and providers. The goal is to prevent/reduce the risk of Infants and Children under the age of eight (8) of developing learning difficulties and removal from Early Care and Education Settings due to challenging behaviors. The ECCP® shall be implemented in eight (8) pilot sites Statewide. The Provider shall provide Consultation and Support Services to the State's IECMHC program team, the ECCP® Information System's team, and the Office of Child and Family Services. This support shall include technical assistance regarding implementation of the ECCP® and integration of the model into the pilot sites, identification and connections to resources related to IECMHC as a field, consultation regarding workforce development, and coordination with Advanced Behavioral Health, Inc. regarding replication of the ECCP® model with fidelity within Maine's system of behavioral health and early childhood services.

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

Elizabeth Bicio was the founder and developer of the Early Childhood Consultation Partnership (ECCP®) model, as well as the ECCP® Information System. Ms. Bicio is the only expert in the field who can provide Maine guidance and support to ensure that the ECCP® model is successfully implemented, and fidelity measures are in place. As the developer of the ECCP® model and a recognized national expert in IECMHC, Ms. Bicio is best able to provide technical assistance to OCFS on successful replication of the model in Maine's system of care. Ms. Bicio oversaw the original statewide implementation of ECCP® in Connecticut as well as a subsequent replication in Nassau County, New York. Her expertise in ECCP®, implementation science and IECMHC policy is necessary to ensure successful and sustainable implementation of ECCP® in Maine.

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

The rate of \$215.00/hour was negotiated by the Department and the Provider. This rate is considered fair and reasonable based on other contracts providing similar services such as CFS-19-903 (Trisha Mosher charges \$260.00/hour) and OVP-20-1504 (Carole Martin charges \$150.00/hour).

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

The Department anticipates that this service will be renewed annually through the pilot period of the program, which concludes March 31, 2023, to implement the requirements of LD 997.

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:	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date:	<i>10-21-21</i>
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	<i>[Signature]</i>		
Printed Name:	<i>Debbie Jacques</i>	Date:	8/10/2021