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DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES

STATE OF MAINE

PROCUREMENT JUSTIFICATION FORM (PJF)

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 intranet site (Forms page) for additional instructions.

PART I: OVERVIEW				
Department Office/Division/Program:		Education / Office of Federal Programs / Assessment		
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Jodi Bossio-Smith		
(If applicable) Department Reference #:				
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)		\$234,959.50	Advantage CT #:	20230516*3216
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	7/1/2023	Proposed End Date:	6/30/2024
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:		Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, University of Wisconsin-Madison's Wisconsin Center for Education Research (WCER), Madison, WI		
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		English language proficiency assessment online platform, scoring, reporting, training, and professional development services.		

PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION			
Check the box below for the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	A. Competitive Process	<input type="checkbox"/>	G. Grant
<input type="checkbox"/>	B. Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/>	H. State Statute/Agency Directed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C. Single Source/Unique Vendor	<input type="checkbox"/>	I. Federal Agency Directed
<input type="checkbox"/>	D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents	<input type="checkbox"/>	J. Willing and Qualified
<input type="checkbox"/>	E. Emergency	<input type="checkbox"/>	K. Client Choice
<input type="checkbox"/>	F. University Cooperative Project	<input type="checkbox"/>	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.

The Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) requires local educational agencies (LEAs/SAUs) to provide an annual assessment of English language proficiency for all students with limited English proficiency in schools served by the State educational agency (SEA).

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

Maine has maintained membership within the WIDA consortium and utilized the ACCESS for ELLS® assessment to meet the Federal requirements under Title III of the ESEA since 2003. The Maine DOE as a WIDA Consortium Member approves and/or purchases the Core Package of WIDA Consortium educational services. This aids the state in:

- satisfying the state and local educational agency requirements of Title I and Title III of the ESEA;
- building and enhancing Maine DOE's capacity to assist English Learners obtain academic standards and English language proficiency
- determine annual growth towards and attainment of English language proficiency to meet accountability requirements.

Changing to another vendor would incur additional costs for an external contractor to perform an independent alignment and crosswalk study in addition to any further costs regarding the implementation of the assessment in general and subsequent training for assessment administrators.

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

Maine completed a cost analysis of membership to the WIDA consortium in 2002 and has reviewed this analysis in recent years to ensure the costs are fair and reasonable with other known and accepted computer based English language proficiency assessments. Additionally, the WIDA ACCESS for ELLs ® assessment is aligned to Maine's English language development standards and correspond to Maine's academic standards.

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

Maine is one of thirty-six (36) member states within the WIDA Consortium. A current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is in effect through the 2023 assessment administration cycle. Participation in the WIDA consortium continues to provide the greatest cost benefit to Maine at this time. Maine will continue to complete periodic cost analyses of other English language proficiency assessments that are aligned with Maine's English language development standards and ensures compliance with all federal regulations under Titles I and III.

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


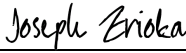
Does this request utilize ARPA/MJRP funds?

☐ Yes – If Yes, please attach the approved Business Case(s).

☒ No – If No, proceed to Part V.

PART V: APPROVALS

The signatures below indicate approval of this procurement request.

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):			
Typed Name:	Daniel Chuhta, Deputy Commissioner	Date:	5/31/2023
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	<div>DocuSigned by:  EA813178102243C...</div>		
Typed Name:	Joseph Zrioka, Director of IT Procurement	Date:	5/26/2023

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Daniel A. Chuhta

AutoNav: Enabled

Daniel.Chuhta@maine.gov

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Daniel A. Chuhta



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Daniel.Chuhta@maine.gov

Viewed: 5/31/2023 1:25:28 PM

Deputy Commissioner

Signed: 5/31/2023 1:26:21 PM

Maine Department of Education

Freeform Signing

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
(None)Signature Adoption: Uploaded Signature Image
Using IP Address: 72.231.250.95**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**

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