

The University of Southern Mississippi
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
SSP 21_038

The University of Southern Mississippi anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

1. Description of the commodity that USM is seeking to procure: **The project is implementing the use of the on-line national cost database in the Estimating 1 and Construction Project Planning and Scheduling courses. We will do this using the student version of RsMeans on-line cost database and estimating software.**
2. Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency: **Each student will be required to have this database/on-line software for the Estimating 1 Class but will also use it in the Construction Planning and Scheduling Course. We have 53 students currently enrolled in Estimating 1 for this Summer Session. We will probably have around 100 students for Estimating 1 in the fall. As this is a yearly license, we believe that there will be overlap in licenses for the Construction Project Planning and Scheduling and Estimating courses so we are estimating 200 licenses a year.**
3. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity: **RsMeans is the ONLY comprehensive national database of construction prices that is used universally by the construction industry in the United States. There are scores of estimating software but none that include the RsMeans cost database without directly paying for it.**
4. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable: **The cost is being paid through course fees as previously approved by the School**

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Director. We plan to use the RsMeans system from here on out. We estimate 200 licenses/year for the near future, depending of course on enrollment.

5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:
Over the last year and a half, we negotiated a discounted price for USM. It is at a price point now where we believe it is cost effective to implement.

Advertisement Schedule	Date
1st scheduled	5/25/21
2nd scheduled	6/1/21

Any person or entity that objects and proposes that the commodity listed is not sole source and can be provided by another person or entity shall submit a written notice to:

Steve Ballew
Director of Procurement & Contracts
steve.ballew@usm.edu

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection"

The notice shall contain a detailed explanation of why the commodity is not a sole source procurement. Appropriate documentation shall also be submitted if applicable.

If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, USM determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then USM will withdraw the sole source request publication from the procurement portal website and submit the procurement of the commodity to an advertised competitive bid or selection process.

If USM determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then USM will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. USM will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.

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