

USM SSP 22\_013 Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchases of the following:

GSI AudioStar Pro System

Radioear 90dB Corner Mount Speakers

Conditioned Play Innovations VRA System

Installation/Training - Premium

RFx: 3150004221

[http://www.ms.gov/dfa/contract\\_bid\\_search/Bid](http://www.ms.gov/dfa/contract_bid_search/Bid)

Comments/objections will be received as required per Section 31-7-13 (C) of the Mississippi Code until 8:00 a.m. (Central Time) on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

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 written notice, by 8:00 AM CST, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022, to:

Steve Ballew

Director of Procurement & Contracts 118 College Dr. Box 5003 Hattiesburg, MS 39406

[bids@usm.edu](mailto:bids@usm.edu)

Phone: 601-266-4131

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection – USM SSP 22\_013"

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.

**Run Dates:**

**03.25.22**

**04.01.22**

**The University of Southern Mississippi**  
**Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase**  
**SSP 22\_013**

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 Children's Center for Communication and Development is seeking to procure a GSI AudioStar Pro system with corner mount speakers and VRA (visual reinforcement audiometry) system to perform diagnostic behavioral audiometry to diagnose hearing disorders in children.

**2. Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency:**

The Children's Center serves children who are at-risk for developing hearing loss and many children who have documented diagnoses of hearing loss. The commodity requested is needed for our staff audiologist to be able to evaluate hearing abilities in this population. The GSI AudioStar Pro is a clinical audiometer, which is necessary for presenting calibrated speech and tonal stimuli for diagnostic hearing evaluations. It is the only audiometer available that offers the types of tests specifically needed for pediatric assessment. The Radioear 90dB Corner Mount Speakers are necessary to perform audiometry in soundfield, which is frequently needed to assess aided speech perception in children. The Conditioned Play Innovations VRA System is necessary to perform visual reinforcement audiometry, the recommended assessment method for children developmentally under the age of 2 years, and is compatible with the audiometric room.

**3. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity:**

e3 Med-Acoustics has an exclusive contract with the manufacturers to distribute the required items in the state of Mississippi.

**4. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable:**

The department considers the quoted cost reasonable due to the profound benefits that are provided exclusively by this system.

**The University of Southern Mississippi**  
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**5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:**

The department has contacted the manufacturers and the distributor, e3 Med-Acoustics, to request competing quotes/bids. Both informed us that Med-Acoustics, Inc. is the sole distributor of the products to Mississippi agencies.

<b>Advertisement Schedule</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> scheduled</b>	<b>03.25.22</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> scheduled</b>	<b>04.01.22</b>

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 –USM SSP 22\_013"**

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