

# Mississippi State University

## Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

234-98

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

**1. Commodity or commodities to be purchased (make, model, description):**

IBM SPSS Statistics Premium Campus Edition Campus Value Unit Term License Subscription and Support 12 months

IBM SPSS AMOS Campus Value Unit Term License Subscription and Support 12 months

**2. Explanation of the need to be fulfilled by this item(s) and why it is the only one that can meet the specific needs of the department:**

Information Technology Services (ITS) currently provides a university site license for SPSS software. MSU faculty have chosen to use SPSS because they judge it meets their research and teaching needs by providing extensive capabilities for advanced analytics. Many MSU faculty teach SPSS in the classroom giving students an opportunity to analyze data with a broad range of statistical methods. All MSU employees and students are eligible to use SPSS on university and personal computers.

**3. Name of company/individual selling the item and why that source is the only possible source that can provide the required item(s):**

IBM:

IBM is the sole manufacturer and publisher of SPSS and AMOS software.

IBM is the sole source for obtaining SPSS Campus Edition and AMOS Campus Value edition software licenses. The Campus Value License is a unique and customized client offering designed specifically for institutions of higher learning. This license is only offered via IBM SPSS Corporation, US and can only be purchased via IBM SPSS, US. This offering is not eligible for resell from authorized US IBM business partners and/ or resellers.

**4. Estimated cost of item(s) and an explanation why the amount to be expended is considered reasonable:**

IBM increased maintenance costs from last year. To continue use of SPSS across campus, ITS must purchase maintenance prior to the June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, expiration date. Should ITS choose not to purchase our SPSS subscription for the next fiscal year the software will stop working.

**5. Explanation of the efforts taken by the department to determine this is the only source and the efforts used to obtain the best possible price:**

ITS spoke to IBM and confirmed in writing that they sell SPSS Campus Edition and AMOS Campus directly and have no other sales channel for SPSS maintenance. IBM sells SPSS admin licenses through Resellers.

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:

Jennifer Mayfield  
Interim Deputy Director of Procurement & Contracts  
[jmayfield@procurement.msstate.edu](mailto:jmayfield@procurement.msstate.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, MSU determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then MSU 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 MSU determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then MSU will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. MSU will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.

.

