

Mississippi State University
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

190-42

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):

200 ASE Online Student Certification Exams

2. Explanation of the need to be fulfilled by this item(s), how is it unique from all other options, and why it is the only one that can meet the specific needs of the department:

To fulfill the MS-CPAS3 assessment contract with the Mississippi Department of Education, the RCU must provide the ASE Entry-level Certification test to measure students' knowledge in the automotive training program.

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

National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence

1503 Edwards Ferry Road, NE Ste 401

Leesburg, VA 201766

The ASE Entry-level Certification test are sold exclusively by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence

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

\$9,000

The cost of the ASE Entry-level Certification is quoted at \$45 per exam. Other national certification exams range from \$35-\$70 per assessment attempt.

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:

Verification is attached that National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence is the sole-source provider for the ASE Entry-level Certification.

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:

Don Buffum, CPPO

Director of Procurement & Contracts

dbuffum@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.

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