

Mississippi State University
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

223-31

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):

Exxat software with all modules (<http://exxat.com/>)

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:

This tool will align curricula to ARC-PA accreditation standards. It will also track and report on the clinical experiences of students as well as manage affiliation agreements. This single-source solution provides a tool to manage all these complicated tasks on one platform. Other software solutions do not automate notification for board certification, licensure, or affiliation agreement expiration. Exxat contains all the standard features needed in its program to meet accreditation standards. It is the only comprehensive solution we are aware of that directly connects the data collected to ARC-PA accreditation standards.

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

Kuna I Vaishnav, Chief Operating Officer, Exxat. We have not discovered another system as comprehensive that can manage all components of program development and management.

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

\$20,350 over a one and half-year span. This is reasonably priced when compared to other similar curriculum mapping and clinical practice management software options. IT would be more expensive to acquire each component through separate vendors.

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:

This is the most in line with current accreditation standards and assessment practices. ARC-PA is cracking down hard on standard 83.03 -Supervised Clinical Practice experiences

must provide sufficient patient exposure to allow each student to meet program expectations and acquire the competencies needed for entry into clinical PA practice.

The Exxat database collects everything you need in one place: Student Data, Site Data, Placements Data, Required Documents, and Evaluations. All site information can be managed in one place, including location, personnel, requirements, and contracts. It is the only comprehensive solution we found that directly connects the data collected to ARC-PA accreditation standards. Other programs were not able to offer these required features.

Other software solutions do not automate notifications for board certification, licensure, or affiliation agreement expiration.

It is the only program found that contained a process with data reported and analysis of that data to show that each site provides sufficient exposure. These reports are crucial to the process.

Any person or entity that objects to and proposes that the commodity listed is not the 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

The 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.