

Mississippi State University

Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

234-86

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):

ATI Complete Partnership Agreement.

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:

The ATI Complete Partnership provides a single platform for all ATI products (proctored assessments, practice assessments, simulations, remediation, NCLEX prep). Students that use ATI's bundled resources, on average, have a higher rate of passing the NCLEX on the first attempt as compared to students who don't use ATI bundled resources. In an ATI study conducted in 2022, students at institutions that utilized ATI bundled resources were shown to have, on average, a 6.2% higher NCLEX pass rate than those who did not.

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

The entire bundle of ATI Complete Partnership resources is distributed exclusively by ATI. The ATI Complete Partnership bundle is not available for purchase through any other source and may only be procured directly from ATI. Currently, ATI Complete Partnership is the only bundles of resources like this available that, in addition to including standardized assessments, tutorials, simulation, a full suite of NCLEX preparation and faculty/department support and resources, also includes Program Manager and Consulting.

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

\$2,500 Per Student. The amount to be expended is considered reasonable because ATI is the only nursing specific product that provides learning tools, data management, and standardized testing under one umbrella that meets the curriculum needs of the program. The acquisition of less desirable products that do not meet all the program requirements from multiple vendors would exceed the cost of ATI.

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:

Other sources could not provide a complete comparison since they did not have all the required products. This is the sole source identified that has all the needed products under one umbrella that meets program requirements and supports student success. Nursing students trained in ATI supported education programs significantly outperformed their non-ATI peers on the NCLEX.

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, CPPO
Interim Deputy Director of Procurement & Contracts
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.