

Mississippi State University
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
245-11

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):

Zeeme app which is a program for prospective students to connect with colleges, interact, connect with other students, and host online events with in the app.

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:

We are needing an app that can connect prospective students with other prospective students and current students. This is a crucial part of the yield/recruitment/enrollment process.

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

Zeeme Is the only company that we can find that allows, videos, pictures, events, along with the connect and chat feature. Patio use to provide this option but they have gone out of business. Nearpeer has a similar product but the functionality is limited and not the same as zeeme.

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

\$38,000 for year 1. \$39,900 for year 2 and \$41,895 for year 3. This is very similar to our current contract.

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:

Patio was a company that use to offer this service but they have gone out of business. Nearpeer is the only other company but they cant' provide the same services. We have not found another company to provide this service.

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.