

**Mississippi State University
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase**

245-122

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):

LEGO® Education SPIKE™ Essential Set (45345)

LEGO® Education SPIKE™ Prime Set (45678)

LEGO® Education Science Kits (K–2: 45620, 3–5: 45621, 6–8: 45622)

LEGO® Education Multi-charger (45623)

LEGO® Education Connection Cards V46 (45657)

LEGO® Large Creative Brick Box (10698)

LEGO® Education SPIKE™ Essential Minifig (2000727)

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 Imaginarium Creativity and STEAM Center at Mississippi State University requires LEGO Education products to deliver hands-on, inquiry-based STEAM education for K–12 students. LEGO Education products are unique because they are specifically designed for educational use, integrating comprehensive curricula, lesson plans, and support materials aligned with STEAM standards. No other provider offers the same combination of hardware, software, and educational content that is fully compatible with LEGO Education SPIKE™ systems and official FIRST® LEGO® League materials. Their sets are specifically designed to foster STEAM skills, creativity, and collaboration, making them essential to achieving the Center’s learning outcomes.

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

Company: LEGO Education (a division of LEGO Brand Retail, Inc.)

Reason: LEGO Education United States is the **only authorized distributor** for these specific educational products and professional development services in the U.S., as confirmed in their Sole Source Letter dated January 1, 2025. No third-party vendors are authorized to sell these products for K–12 classroom use.

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

Estimated Cost: \$10,757.81 (discount applied; shipping and handling included; no tax)

Reasonableness of Cost:

Pricing is directly from LEGO Education and includes a promotional discount of \$448.24.

LEGO Education products are specialized for educational use, combining durable materials with standards-based curricula.

The pricing is competitive compared to the educational value and longevity of use across multiple years and programs.

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:

The department confirmed through direct communication with LEGO Education and the provided Sole Source Letter that LEGO Education is the only authorized distributor for these educational products.

The department worked with LEGO Education to secure a promotional discount (Promo Code XSPLAIAY2J) to ensure the most favorable pricing.

No other vendors are authorized to provide the full LEGO Education sets, associated curriculum, and necessary support services required for the Imaginarium's programming.

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

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.