

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

256-110

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):

Two published Pearson assessment kits for the School Psychology program:

WISC-V Complete Kit (Print), Pearson product number 0158978447, quantity 4. The Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children, Fifth Edition (WISC-V) is an individually administered, norm-referenced measure of cognitive ability for children ages 6 years 0 months through 16 years 11 months.

WIAT-4 Complete Kit (Print Plus Digital), Pearson product number A103000393805, quantity 5. The Wechsler Individual Achievement Test, Fourth Edition (WIAT-4) is an individually administered, norm-referenced measure of academic achievement across areas including reading, written expression, and mathematics.

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:

These instruments are required for hands-on training in the School Psychology graduate program, where students learn the standardized administration, scoring, and interpretation of individually administered cognitive and academic achievement tests. The WISC-V and WIAT-4 are among the most widely used instruments in school psychology practice and are the specific tests students must be trained to use in preparation for practicum, internship, and professional credentialing. Each is a proprietary, copyrighted, norm-referenced test with its own standardization sample and administration protocol, so a test from another publisher would not meet this need.

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

Pearson (NCS Pearson, Inc. / Pearson Clinical Assessment; PO Box 599700, San Antonio, TX 78259) is the exclusive publisher and copyright holder of the WISC-V and WIAT-4. These instruments are sold only through Pearson and are not available from any other distributor or reseller. Because Pearson owns and controls these copyrighted instruments, it is the only possible source.

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

The total quoted cost is \$9,853.48 (Pearson quote number 10000178949877, dated June 12, 2026). This reflects a subtotal of \$12,474.50, less a \$3,000.00 Training Partner Program discount, plus \$378.98 shipping and handling, with \$0.00 tax. The cost is reasonable because Pearson's University Alliance Program pricing and the Training Partner Program discount (the maximum institutional discount available, capped at \$3,000 per year) have been applied, lowering the price below standard list cost. As the sole publisher, Pearson sets the price for these materials, and the quoted figure represents the best available pricing.

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 that Pearson is the only publisher and distributor of these copyrighted, qualification-restricted instruments, so no competitive market exists for them and a competitive bid is not possible. To obtain the best available price, the department requested a formal quote through Pearson's qualified-user account with both the University Alliance Program pricing and the Training Partner Program discount applied, which together provide the lowest cost Pearson offers to the institution.

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 Services, Chief Procurement Officer

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..