

**Jackson State University
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
SSP23-15 RFx 3150004811**

Jackson State University anticipates purchasing the item listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

Product Overview:

The Audio CARL is an advanced universal, multi-functional head manikin designed to simulate a hearing loss patient. It allows users to practice with real audiometers to 'test' CARLs hearing across a range of representative hearing losses. This product provides hands-on education, training, research and development of hearing technologies. Audio CARL is provided by AHEAD Simulations- the only authorized source for CARL-series products around the world. They are the only company authorized to provide quotations and product assistance for CARL manikins.

Explanation of need to be fulfilled by this item, how it is unique from all other options, and why it is the only one that can meet the specific needs of the department:

The Audio CARL is a simulator that can be utilized by students to practice the skills of pure-tone hearing screenings and assessments, otoscopic screening and assessment. It can also be used in research to measure sound levels at the level of the eardrum, which is applicable in hearing conservation (hearing loss prevention) and hearing aid programming. There is no other simulator on the market that provides all of these functions.

Name of company selling the item and why that source is the only possible source that can provide:

The Audio CARL is developed and provided by AHEAD Simulations. Founded on the belief that effective education moves the world forward, this company has built solutions that enable designers, teachers, and learners to more effectively conduct education in hearing healthcare. AHEAD Simulations is the only company authorized to provide quotations and assistance for any and all CARLs manikins.

Estimated cost of item and explanation of why the amount to be expended is considered reasonable:

This product has an estimated cost of \$8,412. The University was unable to compare prices because the product is only manufactured by one company, AHEAD Simulations, Ltd and this company does not use other distributors.

Explanation of the efforts taken by the department to determine that this is the only source and efforts used to obtain the best possible price:

1. With departmental need at front of mind, faculty researched the marketplace and found that this equipment is the only product available that will adequately meet the needs for the University's Department of communicative Disorders.
2. Office of Purchasing and Travel searched DFA for item and vendor to no avail. Also searched web for alternate vendors to no avail as all listings of the product linked to AHEAD Simulations as the primary source/vendor for Audio CARL products.

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:

Laura Furdge, CMPA
Special Projects Coordinator
Laura.R.Furdge@jsums.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, JSU determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then JSU 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 JSU determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then JSU will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. JSU will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.