

Notice of Intent to Certify Sole Source

To: Interested Parties

From: Dr. Paul Veregge
CIO/CMIO

Date: April 3, 2018

Re: Sole Source Certification Number **SS9055** for **Canvas and Arc Cloud Subscription**

Contact Email Address: solesource@umc.edu

Sole Source Certification Award Details

Regarding UMMC Sole Source Certification Number **SS9055** for **Canvas and Arc Cloud Subscription**, please be advised that UMMC intends to award the purchase of the **Canvas and Arc Cloud Subscription** to **Instructure** as the sole source provider of the **Canvas and Arc Cloud Subscription**.

UMMC issues this notice in accordance with Mississippi state law, policy, and procedures for sole source procurements.

Sole Source Criteria

1. Where the compatibility of equipment, accessories, or replacement parts is the paramount consideration (and manufacturer is the sole supplier).
2. Where a sole supplier's item is needed for trial use or testing.
3. Where a sole supplier's item is to be required when no other item will service the needs of UMMC.

Schedule

Task	Date
First Advertisement Date	April 9, 2018
Second Advertisement Date	April 16, 2018
Response Deadline from Objectors	April 23, 2018, at 3:00 p.m. Central Time
Notice of Award/No Award Posted	Not before April 25, 2018

Project Details

1. Describe the commodity/service that the agency/institution is seeking to procure:

The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) seeks to subscribe to Canvas and Arc Cloud Subscription which it has subscribed to for the past two years.

The Canvas Learning platform has a true cloud-native architecture. It is a single instance, multi-tenant system that is designated to scale to tens of millions of users with maximum op-time. Canvas Arc is the next generation online video platform that unmutes learning by turning one-way, passive video into inclusive productive discussion.

2. Explain why the commodity/service is the only one (1) that can meet the needs of the agency/institution:

UMMC currently has a subscription to Canvas and Arc Cloud. School data is replicated in near-real-time for preservation of data and to facilitate failure. Arc is a more video-centric, interactive way to approach online learning. Where video-as-a-learning tool has typically been one way and passive, Arc makes learning an active collaborative, impactful two-way street.

3. Explain why the source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity/service:

Using Amazon Web Services, the entire architecture is designed to scale in a horizontal fashion and avoid the “single database bottleneck” constraint found in traditional LMS architectures. Arc interface actually lets learners and instructors engage with video content by commenting directly on the video timeline (in real time) Students can learn from each other’s insight as well as from the instructor’s direction and feedback, Videos can easily be analyzed to see which video students are watching. Instructors are able to optimize videos to communicate critical information more effectively and monitor student behavior.

They are not available from any other distributor. See supporting letter from **Instructure**, Attachment A.

4. Explain why the amount to be expended for the commodity/service is reasonable:

The estimated amount to be expended is for the purchase of the **Canvas and Arc Cloud Subscription** is **\$174,949.12**. Total investment to-date will be **\$174,949.12**. This amount is within the expected price range for these products.

5. Describe the efforts that the agency/institution went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity/service:

Through market intelligence, UMMC was able to negotiate best pricing for these products. All applicable discounts were explored and applied.

Submission Instructions and Format of Response from Objecting Parties

Interested parties who have reason to believe that the **Canvas and Arc Cloud Subscription** (hereafter, “Products”) should not be certified as a sole source should provide information in the Vendor Form for the State to use in determining whether or not to proceed with awarding the sole source to **Instructure**. The Vendor Form may be found at <http://www.dfa.state.ms.us/Purchasing/documents/ObjectiontoSoleSourceDetermination.pdf>.

Objections must include the certification in Attachment B.

Comments will be accepted at any time prior to Monday, April 23, 2018, at 3:00 p.m. (Central Time) to solesource@umc.edu. Responses may be delivered via email to solesource@umc.edu. UMMC WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DELAYS IN THE DELIVERY OF RESPONSES. It is solely the responsibility of the Interested Parties that responses reach UMMC on time. Responses received after the deadline and responses that lack all required information will be rejected. UMMC reserves the right to inspect Interested Party’s commodity for comparison purposes.

If you have any questions concerning the information above or if we can be of further assistance, please contact solesource@umc.edu.

Attachment A: Vendor Correspondence

Attachment B: Objection Certification

Attachment B

**SUBMITTED IN RESPONSE TO
Sole Source Certification No. SS9055**

Accepted until April 3, 2018, at 3:00 p.m.

I certify that the information contained in this objection is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that UMMC will investigate all statements made in this objection and that any false or misleading information provided may result in adverse action.

Objector Name
Objector's title

Date