

USM SSP 23_017 Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchases of the following:

Ad Astra Scheduling Software

RFx: 3150004687

http://www.ms.gov/dfa/contract_bid_search/Bid

Comments/objections will be received as required per Section 31-7-13 (C) of the Mississippi Code until 8:00 a.m. (Central Time) on December 16th, 2022.

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 written notice, by 8:00 AM CST, December 16th, 2022.

to:

Steve Ballew

Director of Procurement & Contracts 118 College Dr. Box 5003 Hattiesburg, MS 39406

bids@usm.edu

Phone: 601-266-4131

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection – USM SSP 23_017"

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, USM determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then USM 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 USM determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then USM will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. USM will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.

Run Dates:

12.02.22

12.09.22

The University of Southern Mississippi
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
SSP 23_017

The University of Southern Mississippi anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

1. Description of the commodity that USM is seeking to procure:

Ad Astra Scheduling Software. The Ad Astra Scheduling software provides the means for USM to efficiently utilize all buildings, rooms, and appropriate spaces at each campus to satisfy the purpose of classroom assignments and event management.

2. Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency:

Ad Astra provides a Strategic Scheduling Checkup, enabling USM to analyze our previous scheduling data and provide data for Platinum Analytics, a proprietary patented modeling tool. These two systems are set up for bi-directional collaboration with the university's E.R.P. application. The requirement from IHL that we use Platinum Analytics, which relies on Ad Astra makes Ad Astra a necessity, not an option.

3. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity:

The Ad Astra application uses complex algorithms that eliminate overbookings and underutilization of rooms, but it is the integration with Ad Astra's Platinum Analytics, as required by IHL that are exclusive.

4. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable:

This product is a factor necessary to satisfy a mandate by IHL. The combined cost to purchase and implement a new tool would outweigh the cost to continue this service and would cause USM to be out of compliance with IHL.

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5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:

Worked with the vendor to ensure services delivered are in line with cost of said services.

Advertisement Schedule	Date
1st scheduled	12.02.22
2nd scheduled	12.09.22

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Steve Ballew

Director of Procurement & Contracts

steve.ballew@usm.edu

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