

## SOURCEWELL PROGRAM AGREEMENT

This Sourcewell Program Agreement (“Program Agreement”) by and between **State of Mississippi** (“Buyer”) and **Staples Contract & Commercial Inc.**, is made effective as of August 1, 2020 (the “Program Agreement Effective Date”) and is attached to and governed by the Sourcewell Agreement(s) specifically marked and identified in Section 2.2 below (“Sourcewell Agreement(s)”) between Staples Contract & Commercial Inc. and Sourcewell. Buyer and Staples Contract & Commercial Inc. are collectively referred to herein as the “Parties”. All capitalized terms used herein shall have the meaning assigned to them in the Sourcewell Agreement unless otherwise defined herein.

**WHEREAS**, Buyer, a member of Sourcewell (as defined below), and Staples Contract & Commercial Inc. desire to enter into this Program Agreement pursuant to which Buyer may participate in the Sourcewell Program to purchase Products (as defined below).

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the foregoing mutual promises and covenants contained herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

**1.0 Term.** The term of this Program Agreement with respect to Buyer shall commence on the Program Agreement Effective Date and shall terminate upon the earlier of (i) termination or expiration of the Agreement, or (ii) the date at which Buyer ceases to be a Member of the Program. In the event that the Program Agreement terminates or expires pursuant to (i) or (ii) above, Staples agrees to offer Buyer the option to enter into a separate agreement with Staples only, provided, however, Staples and Buyer mutually agree upon the terms and conditions of such separate agreement.

### **2.0 Definitions.**

2.1 **Sourcewell.** The specific program(s) checked below.

2.2 ☒ **Office Supplies Program.** Office, school and other workplace-related supplies for sale by Staples to Sourcewell members that are included in the Sourcewell purchasing program for office supplies pursuant to RFP award #R012320 as amended from time to time or any future equivalent IFB/RFP for office supplies awarded to Staples.

2.3 **Products.** All office supply items included in the Sourcewell Program that Buyer purchases or may purchase from Staples; except, however, those items which are available on the Buyer’s competitively bid state contracts are not included in this Agreement.

### **3.0 Buyer Representations.** Buyer hereby represents that:

- 3.1 it is a governmental entity or it is a nonpublic school administrative unit or non-profit eligible to participate in the Sourcewell Program;
- 3.2 it is an Sourcewell member and will maintain its Sourcewell membership during the Program Agreement Term;
- 3.3 it has the local legal ability to recognize and participate in joint exercise of powers activities under the applicable state and federal procurement laws; and
- 3.4 as a member of Sourcewell, Buyer may participate in the Sourcewell Program, provided, however, Buyer acknowledges that it will be bound in all respects by the terms and

conditions of the Sourcewell Agreement and terms and conditions of this Program Agreement.

**4.0**        **Prices.** Prices for Products are available at the time of purchase as provided by the Sourcewell Program.

**5.0**        **Precedence.** The agreement between the parties consists of this Program Agreement, the Sourcewell Agreement, and the attached Exhibit A *State of Mississippi Terms and Conditions*. In the event of conflict between this Program Agreement and the Sourcewell Agreement, the terms and conditions of this Program Agreement shall control. In the event of a conflict between the Program Agreement or the Sourcewell Agreement and the attached Exhibit A, the terms and conditions of the Exhibit A shall control.

**6.0**        **Termination.** Either Party may terminate this Program Agreement for any reason upon at least thirty (30) calendar days' prior written notice to the other Party.

**[Signature Page Follows]**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Program Agreement under seal as of the Program Agreement Effective Date.

**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**

By its authorized agent:

  
(Signature)

Name: Ross Campbell

Title: Director – DFA OPTFM


Date: 8/3/20

**Address for Notices:**

State of Mississippi  
Department of Finance and Administration  
Office of Purchasing, Travel and Fleet  
Management  
701 Woolfolk Building Suite A  
501 North West Street  
Jackson, Mississippi 39201  
ATTN: Ross Campbell  
Telephone: 601-359-3409  
Facsimile: 601-359-3910  
Email: ross.campbell@dfa.ms.gov

**Staples Contract & Commercial Inc.**

By its authorized agent:

  
(Signature)

Name: Sim Sohn

Title: VP Business Development

Date: Jul 27, 2020

**Address for Notices:**

Staples Contract & Commercial, Inc.  
500 Staples Drive  
Farmington, MA 01702  
ATTN:  
Telephone:  
Facsimile:  
Email:  
With a copy to:  
(Ref: State of Mississippi – Sourcewell)

**Exhibit A**  
**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**A. PRECEDENCE**

These STATE OF MISSISSIPPI TERMS AND CONDITIONS shall take precedence over the CONTRACTOR'S Proposal, and should ambiguities, conflicts, or questions of interpretation of these documents arise, they shall be resolved first by reference to the STATE OF MISSISSIPPI TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

**B. E-PAYMENT**

Contractor agrees to accept all payments in United States currency via the State of Mississippi's electronic payment and remittance vehicle. The State of Mississippi (the "State") agrees to make payment in accordance with Mississippi law on "Timely Payments for Purchases by Public Bodies," which generally provides for payment of undisputed amounts by the State within forty-five (45) days of receipt of invoice. Mississippi Code Annotated § 31-7-301 *et seq.*

**C. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS**

It is expressly understood and agreed that the obligation of the State to proceed under this agreement is conditioned upon the appropriation of funds by the Mississippi State Legislature and the receipt of state and/or federal funds. If the funds anticipated for the continuing fulfillment of the agreement are, at any time, not forthcoming or insufficient, either through the failure of the federal government to provide funds or of the State to appropriate funds or the discontinuance or material alteration of the program under which funds were provided or if funds are not otherwise available to the State, the State shall have the right upon ten (10) working days written notice to Contractor, to terminate this agreement without damage, penalty, cost or expenses to the State of any kind whatsoever. The effective date of termination shall be as specified in the notice of termination.

**D. RECORD RETENTION AND ACCESS TO RECORDS**

Provided Contractor is given reasonable advance written notice and such inspection is made during normal business hours of Contractor, the State or any duly authorized representatives shall have unimpeded, prompt access to any of Contractor's books, documents, papers, and/or records which are maintained or produced as a result of the project for the purpose of making audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcriptions. All records related to this agreement shall be retained by Contractor for three (3) years after final payment is made under this agreement and all pending matters are closed; however, if any audit, litigation or other action arising out of or related in any way to this project is commenced before the end of the three (3) year period, the records shall be retained for one (1) year after all issues arising out of the action are finally resolved or until the end of the three (3) year period, whichever is later.

**E. APPLICABLE LAW**

The contract shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State, excluding its conflicts of laws provisions, and any litigation with respect thereto shall be brought in the courts of the State. Contractor shall comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

**F. ANTI-ASSIGNMENT/SUBCONTRACTING**

Contractor acknowledges that it was selected by the State to perform the services required hereunder based, in part, upon Contractor's special skills and expertise. Contractor shall not assign, subcontract, or otherwise transfer this agreement, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of the State, which the State may, in its sole discretion, approve or deny without reason. Any attempted assignment or transfer of its obligations without such consent shall be null and void. No such approval by the State of any subcontract shall be deemed in any way to provide for the incurrence of any obligation of the State in addition to the total fixed price agreed upon in this agreement. Subcontracts shall be subject to the terms and conditions of this agreement and to any conditions of approval that the State may

deem necessary. Subject to the foregoing, this agreement shall be binding upon the respective successors and assigns of the parties.

#### **G. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS**

Contractor understands that the State is an equal opportunity employer and therefore, maintains a policy which prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, physical handicap, disability, genetic information, or any other consideration made unlawful by federal, state, or local laws. All such discrimination is unlawful and Contractor agrees during the term of the agreement that Contractor will strictly adhere to this policy in its employment practices and provision of services. Contractor shall comply with, and all activities under this agreement shall be subject to, all applicable federal, State, and local laws and regulations, as now existing and as may be amended or modified.

#### **H. TRANSPARENCY**

This contract, including any accompanying exhibits, attachments, and appendices, is subject to the "Mississippi Public Records Act of 1983," and its exceptions. See Mississippi Code Annotated §§ 25-61-1 *et seq.*, and Mississippi Code Annotated § 79-23-1. In addition, this contract is subject to the provisions of the Mississippi Accountability and Transparency Act of 2008. Mississippi Code Annotated §§ 27-104-151 *et seq.* Unless exempted from disclosure due to a court-issued protective order, a copy of this executed contract is required to be posted to the Department of Finance and Administration's independent agency contract website for public access at <http://www.transparency.mississippi.gov>. Information identified by Contractor as trade secrets, or other proprietary information, including confidential vendor information or any other information which is required confidential by state or federal law or outside the applicable freedom of information statutes, will be redacted.

#### **I. E-VERIFICATION**

If applicable, Contractor represents and warrants that it will ensure its compliance with the Mississippi Employment Protection Act of 2008, and will register and participate in the status verification system for all newly hired employees. Mississippi Code Annotated §§ 71-11-1 *et seq.* The term "employee" as used herein means any person that is hired to perform work within the State. As used herein, "status verification system" means the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act of 1996 that is operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security, also known as the E-Verify Program, or any other successor electronic verification system replacing the E-Verify Program. Contractor agrees to maintain records of such compliance. Upon request of the State and after approval of the Social Security Administration or Department of Homeland Security when required, Contractor agrees to provide a copy of each such verification. Contractor further represents and warrants that any person assigned to perform services hereafter meets the employment eligibility requirements of all immigration laws. The breach of this agreement may subject Contractor to the following:

- (1) termination of this contract for services and ineligibility for any state or public contract in Mississippi for up to three (3) years with notice of such cancellation/termination being made public;
- (2) the loss of any license, permit, certification or other document granted to Contractor by an agency, department or governmental entity for the right to do business in Mississippi for up to one (1) year or,
- (3) both. In the event of such cancellations/termination, Contractor would also be liable for any additional costs incurred by the State due to Contract cancellation or loss of license or permit to do business in the State.

#### **J. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS**

Contractor shall, at all times, be regarded as and shall be legally considered an independent contractor and shall at no time act as an agent for the State. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed or construed by the State, Contractor, or any third party as creating the relationship of principal and agent, master and servant, partners, joint ventures, employer and employee, or any similar such relationship between the State and Contractor. Neither the method of computation of fees or other charges, nor any other provision contained herein, nor any acts of the State or Contractor hereunder creates, or shall be deemed to create a relationship other than the independent relationship of the State and Contractor.

Contractor's personnel shall not be deemed in any way, directly or indirectly, expressly or by implication, to be employees of the State. Neither Contractor nor its employees shall, under any circumstances, be considered servants, agents, or employees of the State and the State shall be at no time legally responsible for any negligence or other wrongdoing by Contractor, its servants, agents, or employees. The State shall not withhold from the contract payments to Contractor any federal or state unemployment taxes, federal or state income taxes, Social Security tax, or any other amounts for benefits to Contractor. Further, the State shall not provide to Contractor any insurance coverage or other benefits, including Worker's Compensation, normally provided by the State for its employees.

#### **K. MODIFICATION OR RENEGOTIATION**

This agreement may be modified only by written agreement signed by the parties hereto. The parties agree to renegotiate the agreement if federal and/or state revisions of any applicable laws or regulations make changes in this agreement necessary.

#### **L. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE**

(1) *Termination.* The Agency Head or designee may, when the interests of the State so require, terminate this contract in whole or in part, for the convenience of the State. The Agency Head or designee shall give written notice of the termination to Contractor specifying the part of the contract terminated and when termination becomes effective.

(2) *Contractor's Obligations.* Contractor shall incur no further obligations in connection with the terminated work and on the date set in the notice of termination Contractor will stop work to the extent specified. Contractor shall also terminate outstanding orders and subcontracts as they relate to the terminated work. Contractor shall settle the liabilities and claims arising out of the termination of subcontracts and orders connected with the terminated work. The Agency Head or designee may direct Contractor to assign Contractor's right, title, and interest under terminated orders or subcontracts to the State. Contractor must still complete the work not terminated by the notice of termination and may incur obligations as are necessary to do so.

#### **M. TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT**

(1) *Default.* If Contractor refuses or fails to perform any of the provisions of this contract with such diligence as will ensure its completion within the time specified in this contract or any extension thereof, or otherwise fails to timely satisfy the contract provisions, or commits any other substantial breach of this contract, the Agency Head or designee may notify Contractor in writing of the delay or nonperformance and if not cured in ten (10) days or any longer time specified in writing by the Agency Head or designee, such officer may terminate Contractor's right to proceed with the contract or such part of the contract as to which there has been delay or a failure to properly perform. In the event of termination in whole or in part, the Agency Head or designee may procure similar supplies or services in a manner and upon terms deemed appropriate by the Agency Head or designee. Contractor shall continue performance of the contract to the extent it is not terminated and shall be liable for excess costs incurred in procuring similar goods or services.

(2) *Contractor's Duties.* Notwithstanding termination of the contract and subject to any directions from the Chief Procurement Officer, Contractor shall take timely, reasonable, and necessary action to protect and preserve property in the possession of Contractor in which the State has an interest.

(3) *Compensation.* Payment for completed services delivered and accepted by the State shall be at the contract price. The State may withhold from amounts due Contractor such sums as the Agency Head or designee deems to be necessary to protect the State against loss because of outstanding liens or claims of former lien holders and to reimburse the State for the excess costs incurred in procuring similar goods and services.

(4) *Excuse for Nonperformance or Delayed Performance.* Except with respect to defaults of subcontractors, Contractor shall not be in default by reason of any failure in performance of this contract in accordance with its terms (including any failure by Contractor to make progress in the prosecution of the work hereunder which endangers such performance) if Contractor has notified the Agency Head or designee within 15 days after the cause of the delay and the failure arises out of causes such as: acts of God; acts of the public enemy; acts of the State and any other governmental entity in its sovereign or contractual capacity; fires; floods; epidemics; quarantine restrictions; strikes

or other labor disputes; freight embargoes; or unusually severe weather. If the failure to perform is caused by the failure of a subcontractor to perform or to make progress, and if such failure arises out of causes similar to those set forth above, Contractor shall not be deemed to be in default, unless the services to be furnished by the subcontractor were reasonably obtainable from other sources in sufficient time to permit Contractor to meet the contract requirements. Upon request of Contractor, the Agency Head or designee shall ascertain the facts and extent of such failure, and, if such officer determines that any failure to perform was occasioned by any one or more of the excusable causes, and that, but for the excusable cause, Contractor's progress and performance would have met the terms of the contract, the delivery schedule shall be revised accordingly, subject to the rights of the State under the clause entitled (in fixed-price contracts, "Termination for Convenience," in cost-reimbursement contracts, "Termination"). (As used in this Paragraph of this clause, the term "subcontractor" means subcontractor at any tier).

(5) *Erroneous Termination for Default.* If, after notice of termination of Contractor's right to proceed under the provisions of this clause, it is determined for any reason that the contract was not in default under the provisions of this clause, or that the delay was excusable under the provisions of Paragraph (4) (Excuse for Nonperformance or Delayed Performance) of this clause, the rights and obligations of the parties shall, if the contract contains a clause providing for termination for convenience of the State, be the same as if the notice of termination had been issued pursuant to such clause.

(6) *Additional Rights and Remedies.* The rights and remedies provided in this clause are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this contract.

#### **N. STOP WORK ORDER**

(1) **Order to Stop Work:** The Chief Procurement Officer, may, by written order to Contractor at any time, and without notice to any surety, require Contractor to stop all or any part of the work called for by this contract. This order shall be for a specified period not exceeding 90 days after the order is delivered to Contractor, unless the parties agree to any further period. Any such order shall be identified specifically as a stop work order issued pursuant to this clause. Upon receipt of such an order, Contractor shall forthwith comply with its terms and take all reasonable steps to minimize the occurrence of costs allocable to the work covered by the order during the period of work stoppage. Before the stop work order expires, or within any further period to which the parties shall have agreed, the Chief Procurement Officer shall either:

(a) cancel the stop work order; or

(b) terminate the work covered by such order as provided in the Termination for Default clause or the Termination for Convenience clause of this contract.

(2) **Cancellation or Expiration of the Order:** If a stop work order issued under this clause is canceled at any time during the period specified in the order, or if the period of the order or any extension thereof expires, Contractor shall have the right to resume work. An appropriate adjustment shall be made in the delivery schedule or Contractor price, or both, and the contract shall be modified in writing accordingly, if:

(a) the stop work order results in an increase in the time required for, or in Contractor's properly allocable to, the performance of any part of this contract; and

(b) Contractor asserts a claim for such an adjustment within 30 days after the end of the period of work stoppage; provided that, if the Chief Procurement Officer decides that the facts justify such action, any such claim asserted may be received and acted upon at any time prior to final payment under this contract.

(3) **Termination of Stopped Work:** If a stop work order is not canceled and the work covered by such order is terminated for default or convenience, the reasonable costs resulting from the stop work order shall be allowed by adjustment or otherwise.

(4) **Adjustments of Price:** Any adjustment in contract price made pursuant to this clause shall be determined in accordance with the Price Adjustment clause of this contract.

#### **O. ORAL STATEMENTS**

No oral statement of any person shall modify or otherwise affect the terms, conditions, or specifications stated in this contract. All modifications to the contract must be made in writing by the State and agreed to by Contractor.

#### **P. OWNERSHIP OF DOCUMENTS AND WORK PAPERS**

The State shall own all documents, files, reports, work papers and working documentation, electronic or otherwise, created in connection with the project which is the subject of this agreement, except for Contractor's internal administrative and quality assurance files and internal project correspondence. Contractor shall deliver such documents and work papers to the State upon termination or completion of the agreement. The foregoing notwithstanding, Contractor shall be entitled to retain a set of such work papers for its files. Contractor shall be entitled to use such work papers only after receiving written permission from the State and subject to any copyright protections.

#### **Q. INDEMNIFICATION**

To the fullest extent allowed by law, Contractor shall indemnify, defend, save and hold harmless, protect, and exonerate the State, its commissioners, board members, officers, employees, agents, and representatives, and the State from and against all claims, demands, liabilities, suits, actions, damages, losses, and costs of every kind and nature whatsoever including, without limitation, court costs, investigative fees and expenses, and attorney's fees, arising out of or caused by Contractor and/or its partners, principals, agents, employees and/or subcontractors in the performance of or failure to perform this agreement. In the State's sole discretion, Contractor may be allowed to control the defense of any such claim, suit, etc. In the event Contractor defends said claim, suit, etc., Contractor shall use legal counsel acceptable to the State. Contractor shall be solely responsible for all costs and/or expenses associated with such defense, and the State shall be entitled to participate in said defense. Contractor shall not settle any claim, suit, etc. without the State's concurrence, which the State shall not unreasonably withhold.

#### **R. THIRD PARTY ACTION NOTIFICATION**

Contractor shall give the customer prompt notice in writing of any action or suit filed, and prompt notice of any claim made against Contractor by any entity that may result in litigation related in any way to this agreement.

#### **S. RECOVERY OF MONEY**

Whenever, under the contract, any sum of money shall be recoverable from or payable by Contractor to the State, the same amount may be deducted from any sum due to Contractor under the contract or under any other contract between Contractor and the State. The rights of the State are in addition and without prejudice to any other right the State may have to claim the amount of any loss or damage suffered by the State on account of the acts or omissions of Contractor.

#### **T. FAILURE TO ENFORCE**

Failure by the State at any time to enforce the provisions of the contract shall not be construed as a waiver of any such provisions. Such failure to enforce shall not affect the validity of the contract or any part thereof or the right of the State to enforce any provision at any time in accordance with its terms.

#### **U. PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS**

This Agreement shall be governed by the applicable provisions of the *Mississippi Procurement Manual*, a copy of which is available online at [www.dfa.ms.gov](http://www.dfa.ms.gov)

#### **V. REPRESENTATION REGARDING CONTINGENT FEES**



The Vendor represents that it has not retained a person to solicit or secure a STATE OF MISSISSIPPI contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee, except as disclosed in the Vendor's bid or proposal.

#### **W. REPRESENTATION REGARDING GRATUITIES**

The Vendor represents that it has not violated, is not violating, and promises that it will not violate the prohibition against gratuities set forth in Section 6-204 (Gratuities) of the *Mississippi Personal Service Contract Review Board Rules and Regulations*.

#### **X. CHANGE IN SCOPE OF WORK**

The STATE OF MISSISSIPPI may order changes in the work consisting of additions, deletions, or other revisions within the general scope of the Agreement. No claims may be made by the Vendor that the scope of the project or of the Vendor's services has been changed, requiring changes to the amount of compensation to the Vendor or other adjustments to the Agreement, unless such changes or adjustments have been made by written amendment to the Agreement signed by the STATE OF MISSISSIPPI and the Vendor.

If the Vendor believes that any particular work is not within the scope of the project, is a material change, or will otherwise require more compensation to the Vendor, the Vendor must immediately notify the STATE OF MISSISSIPPI in writing of this belief. If the STATE OF MISSISSIPPI believes that the particular work is within the scope of the Agreement as written, the Vendor will be ordered to and shall continue with the work as changed and at the cost stated for the work within the Agreement.

#### **Y. CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL**

The STATE OF MISSISSIPPI shall, throughout the life of the Agreement, have the right of reasonable rejection and approval of staff or Subcontractors assigned to the work by the Vendor. If the STATE OF MISSISSIPPI reasonably rejects staff or Subcontractors, the Vendor must provide replacement staff or Subcontractors satisfactory to the STATE OF MISSISSIPPI in a timely manner and at no additional cost to the STATE OF MISSISSIPPI. The day-to-day supervision and control of the Vendor's employees and Subcontractors is the sole responsibility of the Vendor.

#### **Z. TRADE SECRETS, COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

It is expressly understood that Mississippi law requires that the provisions of this Agreement which contain the commodities purchased or the personal or professional services provided, the price to be paid, and the term of the Agreement shall not be deemed to be a trade secret or confidential commercial or financial information and shall be available for examination, copying, or reproduction.

#### **AA. TERMINATION UPON BANKRUPTCY**

This Agreement may be terminated in whole or in part by the STATE OF MISSISSIPPI upon written notice to Vendor, if Vendor should become the subject of bankruptcy or receivership proceedings, whether voluntary or involuntary, or upon the execution by Vendor of an assignment for the benefit of its creditors. In the event of such termination, Vendor shall be entitled to recover just and equitable compensation for satisfactory work performed under this Agreement, but in no case shall said compensation exceed the total Agreement price.

If the Vendor believes that any particular work is not within the scope of the project, is a material change, or will otherwise require more compensation to the Vendor, the Vendor must immediately notify the STATE OF MISSISSIPPI in writing of this belief. If the STATE OF MISSISSIPPI believes that the particular work is within the scope of the Agreement as written, the Vendor will be ordered to and shall continue with the work as changed and at the cost stated for the work within the Agreement.