

SOLE SOURCE DETERMINATION

The Purchasing Division has been requested to approve a sole source purchase for the commodity or service described below. Pursuant to West Virginia Code 5A-3-10c, the Purchasing Division is attempting to determine whether the commodity or service is a sole source procurement. If you believe your company meets the required experience and qualification criteria stated below, please e-mail the Purchasing Division Buyer at Shelly.L.Murray@wv.gov with a copy to Ron.N.Price@wv.gov to express your interest in the project. Please forward any and all information that will support your company's compliance with required qualification and eligibility criteria along with any other pertinent information relative to this project to the Purchasing Division no later than 08/14/2009.

Requisition Number: EDD317503 **Department/Agency:** Education

Detailed Description of Project:

This project is to subscribe through a unique consortium of SREB states to NROC, a repository of SCORM compliant digital content for K12 education that can be self-hosted in the WVDE online learning platform to support both face-to-face and online learning. The digital content is editorially rigorous, curricularly complete, and the technology is compatible with the WVDE content management system. Additionally, content is aligned to WVDE content standards. The content utilizes various combinations of video, animation, still graphics, simulations, text and audio to provide a resource beyond the development capacity of the WVDE. The courses focus on student activities, interaction and collaboration that takes advantage of online communication tools. Subscription to the NROC digital repository includes:

- Unlimited access to online content with distribution rights to enroll students and staff within the WVDE learning community, including the right to host the content locally.
- Priority status as reviewers and subject matter experts in course development and online course evaluation projects.
- Access to downloadable iPod and MP3 files of multimedia for select courses.
- Options/rights to commission private course evaluations for internal use.
- Access to professional development and training opportunities available through the collaborative subscription.

Proposed Sole Source Vendor:

Monterey Institute for Technology and Education (MITE) providing the National Repository of Online Courses (NROC) project.

Specific Eligibility Criteria:

Monterey Institute for Technology (MITE) is the sole provider for the National Repository of Online Courses (NROC) which is a growing repository of high-quality online course content for students and faculty in high school and Advanced Placement.

Courses in the NROC repository are contributed by developers from leading academic institutions across the United States. All courses/content are assessed to ensure they meet high standards of scholarship, instructional value, global learning and online project-based learning. All courses/content are also compliant with metadata tagging systems and alignment to SREB SCORE partners. NROC works with scholars who contribute resources to improve course quality and to provide ongoing maintenance. NROC courses are designed to cover the breadth and depth of topics based on national and West Virginia curricula and can be customized within a course management system.

Specific Qualification Criteria:

In addition to the above information, West Virginia participates in the Southern Regional Education Board's (SREB) Educational Technology Cooperative. Because of the educational and consortium work of SREB, West Virginia will benefit by the work from other states who also subscribe to NROC. The education course materials include text, streaming audio and video correlated to each state's approved curricular framework and textbooks.

The MITE's NROC subscription gives all SREB member states access to NROC's library of 33 high-quality online courses. NROC content helps states achieve the goals of providing consistent online content to all the high schools in the SREB region and maintaining a single online repository where content can be kept up to date with minimal effort. Both of these factors provide huge cost savings to the states.