

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

General Educational Development (GED) Scoring Services Contract Renewal

Request: The State Board is asked to approve the third year of a five-year contract renewal with Oklahoma Scoring Service, Inc. for \$106,641 to score the entire battery of the English, Spanish, and French test editions, as well as the multiple-choice ESL test components for the community college system.

Rationale for Contract: The North Carolina State Board of Community College awards a High School Diploma Equivalency to individuals attaining passing scores on the GED tests. The GED Testing Program is jointly sponsored by the GED Testing Service of the American Council on Education and the North Carolina Community College System for the State of North Carolina. The North Carolina Community College System has the state-level responsibility for the administration of the GED tests through the local colleges. Local colleges administer the tests as part of their Basic Skills Programs to meet the needs of students enrolled in the GED program.

The North Carolina Community College System does not have the capability to provide scoring services for the entire battery of the English, Spanish, and French test editions, as well as the multiple-choice ESL test. The offeror will provide the services needed to score the multiple choice items for the five tests and the essay components of the English, Spanish, and French test editions, as well as the multiple-choice ESL test of the GED tests when submitted by the fifty-eight local colleges of the North Carolina Community College System. Local colleges may submit items for scoring daily.

Method of Procurement: In accordance with the procurement practice of the State of North Carolina, approval was sought by outside purchasing authorities. The Division of Purchase and Contract has approved the contract.

Contract Amount and Time Period: The contract amount is \$106,641 for the period beginning January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010.

Fund Availability: For the fiscal year 2009-2010, the \$7.50 GED testing fee will be used to cover the cost of scoring all five GED tests. The Office of State Budget and Management approved the use of receipts for supporting the cost of the GED scoring.

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