STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

High School Equivalency Assessment

Request
The State Board is asked to approve, contingent upon State Purchasing and Contracts approval, the High School Equivalency RFP Committee recommendations for High School Equivalency Assessments (vendors confidential until awarded) for the first year of a three-year contract (year one with up to two annual renewals). This will allow the awarding of the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges High School Equivalency Diploma as sanctioned by the State Board of Community Colleges.

Background
Since the inception of the high school equivalency program, North Carolina has used an assessment from the same sole source vendor for awarding the high school equivalency diploma. In 2013 two other vendors developed a high school equivalency assessment; therefore, the North Carolina Community College System was required to release a Request for Proposals for high school equivalency assessments. Requests for proposals were issued July 11, 2014. The deadline date for vendors to submit proposals was August 20, 2014. An evaluation committee composed of three System Office staff and three local community college representatives met on September 3, 2014, to begin the evaluation process. The evaluation process was completed on October 1, 2014, and results were sent to State Purchasing and Contracts for final approval.

Rationale
Each community college chooses the high school equivalency assessment(s) that best suits the needs of that college and the learning community it serves. The System Office provides the contracts for the assessments and support services for the colleges. Colleges will be able to select one or multiple assessments.

Method of Procurement
In accordance with the procurement practice of the State of North Carolina, approval is being sought by outside purchasing authorities. Approval of the contract by the State Board is contingent upon approval by State Purchasing and Contracts. Vendors were selected through a competitive bid process, RFP Number 50-NCCCSON71114.

Contact Person
Randy Whitfield
Associate Vice President
College and Career Readiness
919-807-7132