

**STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES**  
**Contract for Information Security Program Colleague College Information System (CIS)**  
**- Cloud Security Assessment**  
**FY 2019-20**

**Request:** The State Board of Community Colleges is requested to approve up to \$450,000 for an Information Technology Security Assessment contract under the Department of Information Technology (DIT) State Term Contract 918A for the System Office. This request supports the validation and configuration of the cloud-based ERP solution and complies with the Department of Information Technology policy requiring State agencies to have a third-party independent assessment every three years.

**Strategic Plan Reference:**

Theme: System Effectiveness

Goal: Advance organizational effectiveness, operations, and decision making to support a cohesive system of nimble, empowered, and community driven colleges.

- Objective 4.1: Ensure colleges and the System have access to technology and related infrastructure to meet student and institutional needs.
  - Strategy 4.1.1. Implement a sustainable, system-wide enterprise resources planning (ERP) solution that enables more consistent and efficient operations.
  - Strategy 4.1.2. Sustain the current ERP infrastructure to prepare for transition to a modernized ERP.

**Background:** Presently the System Office has migrated two (2) colleges, Mayland CC and Richmond CC, to modern cloud-based ERP solutions. Current industry best practices following a major infrastructure change/migration is to perform a holistic IT security assessment of the modernized environment to validate security posture, compliance with identify federal, State and local policies and current industry best practices. In addition, DIT policy requires State agencies have a third-party independent assessment to assess the ability of each agency and each agency's contracted vendors to comply with the current enterprise-wide set of security standards

**Rationale for Contract:** The System Office, per DIT policy, will perform a NIST 800-53v3 compliant IT security assessment in accordance with the Statewide Information Security Manual, the State Continuous Monitoring and Improvement program and leveraging the State Term Contract 918A – Security Assessment Services. In addition, Mayland CC and Richmond CC are each separately receiving third party IT security assessments.

This security assessment will be utilized to measure the effectiveness of the current configuration and to identify required changes to harden and improves the CIS in the Cloud configuration model for the benefit of subsequently migrated colleges. This assessment will

also be used to develop a cost model to support the implementation of a Continuous Monitoring and Improvement program for the North Carolina Community College System.

**Method of Procurement:** Approval of the contract by the State Board of Community Colleges is contingent upon the final approval of the contract utilizing the Statewide Term Contract 918A – Security Assessment Services.

**Contract Amount and Time Period:** The proposed contract period is from date of award through June 30, 2020, for a total cost not to exceed \$450,000

**Fund Source & Availability:** Funding is available from FY 2019-20 State General Fund Appropriations through June 30, 2020.

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