

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Contract for Integrated Library System

Request: The State Board is requested to approve \$472,378.74 for the third year of a three-year contract to continue the current SaaS (Software-as-a-Service) system and the annual integrated library system services agreement with Sirsi-Dynix, Inc., for the Unicorn Symphony Library System used by 50 of our colleges and the System Office.

Background: In 1998, the N.C. Division of Purchase and Contract mandated that the North Carolina Community College System survey the marketplace to determine if a more cost-effective library automation option was available at that time. The Contract Team developed comprehensive system specifications that were reviewed by all 58 of the community college libraries. A Request for Proposals was issued for the purchase of permanent software licenses and computer hardware. The resulting contract was awarded to Sirsi, Inc. and has continued since December 1999.

On April 19, 2013, the State Board approved a request to continue the integrated library system with an upgrade to a SaaS environment in FY 2013-14. Moving to a SaaS environment reduced hardware costs, as the servers are hosted and maintained by Sirsi-Dynix instead of the System Office. Moving to the SaaS environment automatically increased the library title limit from 1 to 1.5 million titles. In a SaaS environment, upgrades and maintenance are performed at night during non-business hours at Sirsi-Dynix by Sirsi-Dynix personnel, providing a service level of 99.9% up time. IT Procurement approval for the SaaS upgrade was received June 26, 2014, and the migration occurred in Fall 2014.

Rationale for Contract: Sirsi-Dynix, Inc. provides the software licensing and maintenance support for the Unicorn Symphony Library system. Unicorn is a proprietary software product that is only available from Sirsi-Dynix. This is a central library system that is shared by a consortium of 50 of our colleges known as the Community College Libraries in North Carolina (CCLINC).

Method of Procurement: In accordance with the procurement practice of the State of North Carolina, approval has been received from the State Department of Information Technology Contracts and Strategic Sourcing.

Contract Amount and Time Period: The contract period is July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2017 for a total cost of \$472,378.74.

Fund Source & Availability: Funding is contingent on FY 2016-17 State General Fund appropriations.

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