

**STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES**  
**Service Agreement for Resources for Career and Technical Education Faculty**

**Request:** The State Board is requested to approve an amount not to exceed \$200,000 for a one year contract with the Center for Occupational Research and Development (CORD) of Waco, Texas, for the purposes of maintaining and refining the North Carolina Network for Excellence in Teaching (NC-NET), delivering six NC-NET academies, providing support for pathway projects, providing support for career counselors, and establishing a BLOG on technology applications developed by CORD and additional resources around career pathways to enhance the online delivery of professional development to career and technical education faculty and staff.

**Background:** Established in 2004, the NC-NET website serves as a clearinghouse of professional development resources, acquiring, and developing content suitable for career and technical education faculty. Housing the project on its server, CORD catalogs, warehouses and disseminates quality programming shared by institutions in all parts of North Carolina.

**Rationale for Contract:** In 2007 and 2013, the U. S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, monitoring team commended NCCCS for providing a “high-quality, comprehensive, and readily available” method for career and technical education faculty to obtain professional development through the NC-NET initiative.

By continuing the partnership with CORD, NCCCS receives access to resources on occupational research around career pathways, employability skills, stackable credentials and industry certifications, as well as expertise in career and technical education that would not be readily available to NCCCS without purchasing expensive memberships, confronting complex copyright issues, and purchasing expensive hardware and software.

For 2015-2016, tasks are proposed for development, delivery, and support by CORD in the areas of professional development delivery, content development, technical assistance, marketing/dissemination, and technology support.

**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 total contract for the period November 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 shall not exceed \$200,000.

**Fund Availability:** Federal funding is through Title I of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006.

**Contact Persons:**

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