

**STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES**  
Service Agreement with CORD for NC-NET website

**Request:** The State Board is requested to approve an amount not to exceed \$125,000 for a one year Service Agreement with the Center for Occupational Research and Development (CORD) of Waco, Texas, for the purpose of maintaining and refining the North Carolina Network for Excellence in Teaching (NC-NET) in order to enhance the online delivery of professional development to career and technical education faculty.

**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, the U. S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education monitoring team highly 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, we are receiving access to resources on occupational research around career clusters and expertise in career and technical education that would not be readily available to us without purchasing expensive memberships, confronting complex copyright issues, and purchasing expensive hardware and software.

For 2013-2014, tasks are proposed for development, delivery, and/or administration 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 final approval of this service agreement is pending.

**Contract Amount and Time Period:** The total Service Agreement for the period October 17, 2013 through June 30, 2014 shall not exceed \$125,000.

**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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