

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Contract for North Carolina Learning Object Repository (NCLOR)

Request: The State Board is requested to approve the second year of a three-year contract with Pearson-Equella for maintenance and support, not to exceed \$120,000 for the North Carolina Community College System Learning Object Repository (NCLOR).

Background: In July 2007, the State Board of Community Colleges approved a contract with The Learning Edge to establish the NCLOR. In 2010, Pearson, Inc., bought The Learning Edge, now Pearson-Equella, and continues to partner with the NCCCS. Over the last five years, NCLOR has evolved into full production in accordance with the NCLOR implementation plan. We now have over 15,500 learning objects available to all faculty and instructional programs via Blackboard or Moodle learning management systems (LMS) across NCCCS.

The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) through Race to the Top funding partnered with NCCCS in 2012 to support the NCLOR. In August 2010, North Carolina was named as one of the winners of the U.S. Department of Education's Race to the Top grant. The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) formed the NC Education Cloud Initiative. The NC Education Cloud is a \$34.6 million shared services initiative designed to more efficiently and effectively deliver technology services to school districts in North Carolina. In March, 2011 the Education Cloud approached the NCCCS with a proposed partnership to expand the NCLOR to the local educational agencies of North Carolina, servicing 1.5 million K-12 students across NC.

As a result of this partnership, NCCCS and DPI were able to procure Pearson-Equella perpetual licensing for Equella application software. Each agency is solely responsible for their share of the cost. For FY 2012-13, NCCCS provided \$189,000 towards the \$1,189,000 first year cost for license, annual maintenance and support. Costs for year two and three will support application maintenance and support.

Rationale for Contract:

This NCLOR contract with Pearson-Equella provides the following Equella application software maintenance and support and professional services and training:

1. The cost of Pearson Equella maintenance and support for year two of the agreement for NCCCS will be:
 - \$100,000 (includes maintenance and support only)
2. Pearson-Equella professional/technical services, training, and travel will not exceed \$20,000. This includes:
 - Training sessions for administrators as required.
 - Designing, testing, and implementing any updates to NCLOR as approved by the NCLOR staff. Some updates may be incorporated into the standard Equella software product (at no charge). Other changes deemed necessary by the operations committee and specific to NCLOR, will be managed as "custom software."

- Travel for Pearson-Equilla staff not to exceed \$2,500, based on the NCCCS out-of-state per diem rates.

Method of Procurement: In accordance with the procurement practice of the State of North Carolina, approval is being sought by outside purchasing authorities through a Request for Quote process. Approval of the contract by the State Board is contingent upon approval by the State IT Procurement Office.

Contract Time & Amount: Total cost of Pearson-Equilla contract will not exceed \$120,000, for the period of July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014, which includes \$100,000 for maintenance and support and \$20,000 for professional/technical services.

Funding Availability: Funding is contingent upon the FY 13-14 State General Fund appropriation.

Contact Persons:

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Technology Supporting SuccessNC Framework

Learning Technologies

- Virtual Learning Community
- Learning Management Systems
- Blackboard Help Desk
- Virtual Computing Lab
- ***Learning Object Repository FC 6 \$120,000**
- Library Resources
- Integrated Teaching & Learning Gateway

Information Technology

- College Information Systems (CIS)
 - Ellucian Colleague Operational Maintenance & Services
 - Ellucian Student Planning Software
 - Ellucian Portal
 - Ellucian SQL Database
- Connectivity
 - Broadband

Data Initiative

- SAS
- Data Warehouse
- Statewide Longitudinal Data System (P-20W)

***Renewal**