

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Contract Amendment with Ellucian for SQL Migration Analysis Study – Services Only

Request: The State Board is asked to approve an amendment to the contract with Ellucian for consulting services required to support the Structured Query Language (SQL) Migration Analysis Study, which will analyze the effort required to migrate each of the 58 Colleges and the System Office from the current Colleague Unidata database platform to a SQL database at a cost not to exceed \$931,100.

Background: The North Carolina Community College System, which is based on Ellucian's Colleague System, has been in ongoing maintenance and operations since implementation of the system in March 2008. During Release 18 of Colleague, a decision was made not to migrate from IBM's Unidata environment to Microsoft's SQL environment because it didn't meet our business requirements at the time. Since then, the maintenance cost of the Unidata environment has increased, the skill resource availability to support the environment is limited and 43% of Ellucian's customers have migrated to a SQL database environment. Although Ellucian has not set forth an end of life for the support of the Unidata environment for its Colleague software, the System Office must prepare for the imminent transition for all 58 colleges and the System Office. For these reasons, it is important that the System Office acquire Ellucian services to access the hardware and resource considerations required to advance to the SQL environment. System Office does not have sufficient skills and resources to perform a study of all 58 colleges for moving to an SQL based Colleague environment statewide. Ellucian has the expertise and experience required to perform the analysis study that will result in System Office staff using the information to determine the best SQL migration approach for the 58 community colleges and the System Office. In addition, Ellucian is the sole developer of the CIS Release System based on proprietary software required to support the 58 community college that will have to be rewritten when the North Carolina Community College System migrates to SQL.

Rationale for Contract Amendment: It is the goal of the System Office to secure Ellucian services to develop a comprehensive analysis to successfully upgrade the Colleague database platform from Unidata to SQL without negatively impacting Colleague. Ellucian's study will provide the following benefits to the 58 Colleges and System Office:

- Provide services to supplement the management resources of the System Office
- Develop a list of options and solutions that will assist System Office staff to develop an approach for the migration per college
- Provide a timeline for the SQL Migration Analysis Study project
- Create a profile of each of the individual Colleges and System Office, including the data center environment
- Detail the roles and responsibilities of resources needed to support the study
- Recommend Colleague application license acquisition and distribution
- Determine the requirements for the rewrite of the custom release system
- Suggest reporting strategies

The SQL Migration Analysis Study will be broken down into the following phases

1. Project Launch
2. Phase 0: Pilot- Engage 5 colleges for the development of the college profiles
3. Phase I: Creation of College Profiles / Release System and NCCCS Template Analysis
4. Phase II: Development and Presentation of SQL Migration Decision Points
5. Phase III: Recommended SQL Approach

After the analysis completes and migration decisions are made, additional Ellucian services will be required for the actual SQL Migration Implementation to the 58 Colleges and System Office. System Office will return to SBCC at that time when with an implementation request.

Method of Procurement: In accordance with the procurement practice of the State of North Carolina, approval of the contract amendment by the State Board is contingent upon approval by the State IT Procurement Office, which is the outside purchasing authority.

Contract Amount and Time Period: This amendment will encompass the period from January 28, 2013 through March 28, 2014, for a cost not to exceed \$931,100.

Fund Availability: Funding is available from FY2012-13 State General Fund appropriations.

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