

SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

A waiver from the competitive solicitation process may be granted when based upon operational compatibility with existing equipment, strong technological grounds, a unique and cost-effective feature requirement, or when it is clearly in the State's best interest.

1.) Contract Amount:\$ 30000.00/over three (3) years

2.) Requested Supplier: IData Inc.

3.) Description of Item/Service:

IData has developed a suite of packaged connectors for an automated, bi-directional integration between Slate Admissions and Ellucian Banner. The Connectors are a set of configurable plugins that run on the IDataHub integration platform. This integration is for one year with two additional one year renewals.

4.) Establish the reasons The Citadel absolutely requires this specific Item/Service and the unique benefits that will be realized:

Reasons
1) An integration platform facilitates seamless communication between Slate and Banner, which is crucial for maintaining data consistency and accuracy. Without an integration platform, we risk data silos where information is trapped in one system and unavailable to others, leading to potential errors and a lack of real-time data sharing.
2) By automating the data transfer process, we ensure all systems are updated simultaneously with the most current information, leading to more informed decision-making and a better student experience.

Benefits
1) An integration platform enhances operational efficiency by automating data transfer processes, which reduces the need for manual data entry and minimizes the risk of human error. This streamlined data flow allows for real-time data synchronization between systems, ensuring that all departments have access to the most current information, which is crucial for making informed admission decisions.
2) By providing a unified view of interactions across different systems, we can offer more personalized and consistent service. This integration also enables the tracking of student preferences, leading to more targeted and effective marketing strategies.

5.) Explanation as to why no other supplier can offer a comparable Item/Service:

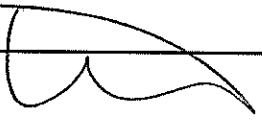
IData Slate-Banner Connectors are the only software as a service (SaaS) data management application providing the following features to higher education institutions:

- 1) Packaged integration Connectors, developed, designed and configured specifically for Banner and Slate.
- 2) Licensed, maintained and supported Packaged Integration Connectors.
- 3) Core Integration architecture, which enables institutions to change their integration end points as part of their Packaged Connector License (includes any potential future migration to Banner SaaS).
- 4) The IDataHub, the platform which delivers the Slate-Banner Connectors, is the only applicable integration vehicle for the Data Cookbook product.
- 5) IData is the only vendor with an integrator specifically designed and developed for a Slate - Banner integration.

Right to Protest: If you are aggrieved in connection with the intended award of this project you may be entitled to protest, but only as provided in Section 11-35-420 (1) South Carolina Code of Laws. Any intent to protest or actual protest must be submitted in writing to the Chief Procurement Officer, Materials Management Office
(a) via email to protest-mmo@mmo.sc.gov or
(b) vis USPS or any other carrier to 1201 Main St., Suite 600, Columbia, SC 29201

I hereby certify that the above information is accurate and request that a waiver from the State mandated bidding process be approved for the procurement of the above stated equipment, commodity, or service.

Based on the determination above, the proposed procurement action described is being procured pursuant to the authority of Section 11-35-1560 of the South Carolina Procurement Code and 19-445.2105 of the Rules and Regulations, 1976 South Carolina Code of Laws.


[Signature box]

SIGNATURE

4/18/24
[Date box]

DATE

Ley Nicks
[Print name box]

PRINT NAME OF DEPARTMENT HEAD

ITS
[Department box]

DEPARTMENT

FOR PROCUREMENT SERVICES USE ONLY

APPROVED BY: _____ **DATE:** _____
Director of Procurement Services

APPROVED BY: _____ **DATE:** _____
VP Finance & Business

*VPFB signature only required for requests over \$100,000

GUIDANCE:

Section 3; Provide a description of the item or service being requested with sufficient detail so that it is clear to the reviewer of this form what is being sought and the purpose it serves.

Section 4; Detail the specifics about the item or service and explain how it is uniquely positioned to meet the need at The Citadel. This section should address the role that will be played by the item/service and how it is positioned to be the only option that will work in this scenario. Factual evidence must be presented to substantiate why this is the sole item/service that will work.

Section 5; Cite the reasons why alternatives would not be acceptable and how comparable products or services from other suppliers could not meet the need. Also, include details about the market research that was performed to substantiate the sole source request. Detail the specific, quantifiable facts as to why this type of item/service cannot be purchased from any other supplier.

The Drug-free Work Place certification must be obtained for sole source procurements greater than \$50,000.