

**DETERMINATION AND FINDINGS
FOR A
SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT**

CONTRACT NO: RQ755775

CAPTION: DC STEM Strategic Plan Creation

PROPOSED CONTRACTOR: Battelle Institute

PROGRAM AGENCY: OSSE/Race to the Top

FINDINGS

1. AUTHORIZATION:

D.C. Official Code §2-354.04, 27 DCMR 1304 and 1700

2. MINIMUM NEED:

The Office of Contracting and Procurement (OCP) has a need to secure services from a partner that can assist in the development of a DC STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) Learning Network and coordinating council made up of representatives from the State, Local Education Associations, and higher education and industry partners. This partner must be able to engage in an innovative design collaboration for developing STEM programs, map current programs, provide professional development opportunities, and partnerships prior to developing a verically-aligned pathway for students pursuing STEM educational opportunities so that the State can better understand where the gaps exist and how to fill them. The project shall be complete no later than May 30, 2012.

3. ESTIMATED REASONABLE PRICE:

The estimated fair and reasonable price is \$125,000. This price was determined to be fair and reasonable based on the necessary staff support/capacity for the DC STEM Learning Network. This in comparable to the funding for the Ohio STEM Learning Network (see Battelle/Ohio information website: <http://www.battelle.org/community/Education/stem/osln.aspx>) in which similar work was provided.

4. FACTS WHICH JUSTIFY SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT:

- A. The Race to the Top application addresses a Competitive Preference Priority – Emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) on page 184. The application states that DC will create a Learning Network that leverages existing resources and programs, distributes new insight and knowledge across LEAs, and facilitates collaboration for continuous improvement. On page 189, the application reads “in the coming months, DC plans to partner with the Battelle Institute to develop a DC

Stem Learning Network and coordinating council made up of representatives from the State, LEAs, and higher education and industry partners.”

- B. Battelle is specifically addressed in the Grant application as the qualified Contractor to provide these services, thus. OSSE Race to the Top team is tasked with fulfilling the commitments made in the application.
- C. Battelle is widely respected as one of the only entities in the country engaged in this work as evidenced by its work with the state of Ohio in the development of the Ohio STEM Learning Network (<http://www.osln.org/>). The State of Ohio is also a Race To The Top grant recipient.
- D. Battelle was also a contributor to the application for the Race to the Top Grant and potentially a factor in winning the grant because of its reputation and leadership in the field.

5. CERTIFICATION BY AGENCY HEAD:

I hereby certify that the above findings are true, correct and complete.

Date

Hosanna Mahaley
State Superintendent for Education
Office of the State Superintendent of Education

6. CERTIFICATION BY CONTRACTING OFFICER:

I have reviewed the above findings and certify that they are sufficient to justify the use of the sole source method of procurement under the cited authority. I certify that the notice of intent to award a sole source contract was published in accordance with 27 DCMR 1304 and that [no response was received] [the response received was rejected because _____]. I recommend that the Chief Procurement Officer approve the use of the sole source procurement method for this proposed contract.

Date

Contracting Officer

DETERMINATION

Based on the above findings and in accordance with the cited authority, I hereby determine that it is not feasible or practical to invoke the competitive solicitation process under either Section 402 or 403 of the District of Columbia Procurement Practices Reform Act of 2010 (D.C. Law 18-371; D.C. Official Code § 2-354.02 or 2-354.03). Accordingly, I determine that the District is justified in using the sole source method of procurement.

Date

James D. Staton, Jr.
Chief Procurement Officer