

OFFICE OF INSTRUCTIONAL ENHANCEMENT AND INTERNAL OPERATIONS
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
June 20-21, 2013

OFFICE OF STUDENT ASSESSMENT

12. Approval to contract with NCS Pearson, Inc., for the operation of the Mississippi Science Test, Second Edition (MST2), Grades 5 and 8

Awarded Vendor: NCS Pearson, Inc.
Iowa City, Iowa

Scope of Project: This MST2 contract includes services for Fiscal Year 2014. The contractor will provide training, technical services and products for the MST2 for the first year of a ten year procurement including, but not limited to the following:

- Develop 400 items for Grade 5 and for Grade 8;
- Develop operational Science Tests in grades 5 and 8 using the specifications contained in the latest Mississippi Science Curriculum Framework, test blueprint, and based upon the work of the Mississippi Science Test Teacher Committee;
- Secure item banks to develop 12 forms to be administered online in spring 2014. Six (6) test forms will be constructed for grade 5 and six (6) forms for grade 8 using the available item bank and shall be aligned to the blueprint;
- Prepare for, facilitate, and conduct two Item Review and Bias Review meetings for 2013-2014;
- Plan and facilitate two Planning Meetings during the contract year;
- Attend two (2) Technical Advisory Meetings (TAC) in Jackson, Mississippi;
- Provide online testing for the Mississippi Science Test in grades 5 and 8 using Pearson's TestNav Computer Based Testing Platform;
- Provide accurate scoring and psychometric activities related to the 2014 test administration;
- Prepare and deliver machine readable data to MDE; and
- Deliver score reports to school districts.

Renewal of contract for years two through ten will be determined annually and shall be contingent upon the successful completion of the preceding year's contract and the availability of funds.

Personnel associated with this contract are not former Department employees or related to any Department employees.

Scope of Contract:

- Term of Contract: July 16, 2013 - June 30, 2014
- Total Amount to be Awarded: \$2,254,492
- Method of Award: Request for Proposals

Funding Source: State and Federal funds

Summary of Selection Process:

A competitive selection process was utilized to award this contract.

Scoring Criteria:

- A. Technical Plan
- B. Project Management Plan
- C. Costs

Recommendation: Approval