

OFFICE OF CHIEF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Item
April 21, 2016

OFFICE OF STUDENT ASSESSMENT

16. Action: Renew the contract with Questar Assessment, Inc., for the Mississippi Assessment Program – Alternate (MAP-A) [Goal 1 – MBE Strategic Plan]

Awarded Vendor: Questar Assessment, Inc.
Apple Valley, Minnesota

Scope of Project: This contractor will provide programmatic, technical, and psychometric activities for an assessment being developed to measure the extended, Mississippi College- and Career-Ready Standards (MSCCR). This assessment is administered to students with the most significant cognitive disabilities in a manner that provides information about: (a) an individual student's understanding of the MSCCR, (b) supports needed to improve learning outcomes, and (c) effective instructional practices.

Renewal of contract for years three (3) through ten (10) 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.

Term of Current Contract Renewal: September 16, 2015 – June 30, 2017

- Cost of Current Contract: \$1,798,128
- Renewal Increase: \$3,300,000
- Total Cost of Contract Renewal: \$5,098,128
- Method of Award: Request for Proposals

Funding Source: Federal funds

This item references Goal 1 of the *Mississippi Board of Education 2016-2020 Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Student Assessment
Questar Assessment, Inc. (MAP-A)**

Negotiated Pricing

	FY 16	FY 17
Contract Cost	\$1,798,128	\$1,798,128
Proposed Cost Increase	NA	\$1,501,872
Grand Total	\$1,798,128	\$3,300,000

Questar will custom create an alternate assessment (MAP-A) that measures the alternate academic achievement standards. This custom assessment will have newly created items appropriate for this most vulnerable population, as well as, a robust training package to ensure teachers are properly trained on the newly created custom assessments. This alternate assessment (MAP-A) will be consistent with both quality and direction of the Mississippi Assessment Program (MAP).