

**OFFICE OF CHIEF OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Item**  
**Consent Agenda**  
**April 20, 2017**

**OFFICE OF STUDENT ASSESSMENT**

- O. Renew the Fiscal Year 2018 contract with NCS Pearson, Inc. for the Mississippi Science Test, Second Edition (MST2) and the Subject Area Testing Program, Second Edition (SATP2)

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

Scope of Project: This contractor will provide programmatic, technical, and psychometric activities for services for Fiscal Year 2018. The contractor will provide services and products related to printing, scoring, and reporting of these assessments for the final year including, but not limited to, the following:

Renewal of contract for years six 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. This contract will not be considered renewable where legislative changes impact the implementation of said contract.

Term of Current Contract Renewal:	July 16, 2013 – June 30, 2018
• Cost of Current Contract:	\$12,064,442
• Renewal Increase:	\$2,375,957
• Total Cost of Contract Renewal:	\$14,440,399
• Method of Award:	Request for Proposals

Funding Source: Federal funds

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Office of Student Assessment  
NCS Pearson, Inc. (MST2 and SATP2)**

**Negotiated Pricing**

	<b>Contract FY 17</b>	<b>Contract FY 18</b>
<b>Contract Cost</b>	\$2,142,963	\$2,142,963
<b>Proposed Cost Increase</b>	NA	\$232,994
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$2,142,963</b>	<b>\$2,375,957</b>

Technical Note: The proposed cost increase includes the following: New science standards are being introduced in FY18; therefore, Pearson will include new item types for the 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade science assessment, as well as, the Biology I end-of-course assessment. Also, included is an electronic item sampler consisting of 20 items per grade for student exposure to new item types. In addition, new test forms will be created in the areas of Biology I and U.S. History for the December test administration. Pearson will also work with the MDE to provide local school districts an early pass/fail status of Grade 12 testers on the U.S. History and Biology I end-of-course assessment. Districts will know if seniors have met all graduation requirements prior to participation in graduation exercises.