

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

AGENCY: District of Columbia Public Schools, Office of Specialized Education Programs
CAPTION: Services for DCPS students with Visual Impairment
PROPOSED CONTRACTOR: Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind
REQUISITION NO.: RQ893906

FINDINGS

1. AUTHORIZATION:

D.C. Code 2-354.04.5 and 27 DCMR, Section 1304 and 1700

2. MINIMUM NEED:

The District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS), Office of Special Education Programs has an immediate need to provide direct, individualized services to the DCPS' students who are visually impaired participants in the Extended School Year (ESY) Program to ensure the students do not regress during the summer months.

3. ESTIMATED COST:

The estimated cost is \$20,000.00.

4. FACTS WHICH JUSTIFY A SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT:

The DCPS Office of Specialized Education Programs has recommended the services of Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind to provide the required services based on the following:

- The ESY goals are to improve the skills of the DCPS children who are blind or visually impaired through Individualized Educational Program (IEP), designed by qualified and certified professionals with customized curricular, in order to build on the students' skills.
- The Program of the DCPS' Extended School Year (ESY) Program was designed and aligned with the Program directives of the Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind in developing the philosophy and standards of the Program, which makes the Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind the unique and sole provider of the DCPS' requirements.
- The Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind is an organization that has been serving the blind and visually impaired in the District of Columbia for over 115 years, staffed with certified Teachers of the Visually Impaired, Orientation and Mobility Specialists and has a vast experience working in collaboration with DCPS over the years.

- The Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind has led the ESY Program for over three years.
- The Contractor has provided satisfactorily to meet the DCPS' requirements for Individualized Educational Program designed to equip the students for school in the following fall semester.

In light of the above findings a sole source award is in the best interest of DCPS and would be the most efficient and cost-effective procurement method to fulfill these DCPS requirements. Therefore, to maintain and sustain the desired continuity of services being provided in the past by the Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind, it is recommended that purchase order be awarded to the vendor on a sole source basis.

CERTIFICATION BY THE DCPS PROGRAM:

I hereby certify that the above findings are correct and the anticipated cost to DCPS is fair and reasonable.

Date

Office of Specialized Education Programs

CERTIFICATION AND DETERMINATION

Based on the above certified findings in accordance cited authority, I hereby determine that it is not feasible or practical to invoke the competitive bidding process under Section 402 or 403 of the District of Columbia Procurement Practices Reform Act of 2010 (D.C. Law 18-371; DC Code 2-354 and 27 DCMR 1304 and 1700.

Date

Contracting Officer