

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

AGENCY: District of Columbia Public Schools
Office of Teaching and Learning
CAPTION: Mathematics Tutoring Services
PROPOSED CONTRACTOR: Saga Education
CONTRACT NO.

FINDINGS

1. AUTHORIZATION:

D.C. Code 2-354 and 27 DCMR, Section 1304 and 1702

2. MINIMUM NEED:

The District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS), Office of Teaching and Learning, has an immediate need to procure the services of Saga Education to implement mathematics tutoring services in a subset of DCPS high schools serving our students furthest from opportunity. The Chief, Office of Teaching and Learning believes it is necessary to utilize the services of Saga Education to provide high-impact tutoring during the 2022-2023 school year.

3. ESTIMATED COST:

The estimated cost is \$105,400 for the proposed base year contract from 10/1/22 through 9/30/23.

3. FACTS WHICH JUSTIFY A SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT:

The District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS), Office of Teaching and Learning recommend the Saga Education services for school year 2022-2023.

Background and history of this vendor with DCPS

Saga Education has support high-impact tutoring in DCPS high schools since SY19-20, recruiting and training Saga fellows to teach intervention periods in high schools throughout the district. The intervention periods are taught primarily by Saga fellows and supervised by a Saga Site Director, though they often work in cooperation with a mathematics teacher or administrator at each school. The Saga tutoring curriculum provides intervention support to key foundational skills aligned to DCPS curricular scope & sequence documents.

Footprint of Saga Education in SY21-22

- Saga tutoring available in four DCPS high schools (Anacostia, Cardozo, Eastern & Ron Brown)
- Over 300 students received Saga services and additional math time in the 2021-22 School Year
- 15 Saga fellows provided regular high-impact tutoring to DCPS students
- 3 Saga Site Directors to manage the program's curriculum, professional development, and support of the fellows

The value of Saga Education to high school students is that the students have additional time and support to complete their area of study in mathematics. Additionally, students have an opportunity to build relationships and their mathematical identities while working closely with their Saga fellows. Students can increase their affect in mathematics and ability to persevere with challenging academic content.

The Proposed Vendor's Unique Qualifications:

While DCPS contracts with Saga Education to support the high-impact tutoring, philanthropic contributions and Americorps provides the largest share of funding and support for the program which allows it to operate at subsidized costs in select DCPS high schools.

The program provides the following unique benefits:

- Saga Education aligns with the DCPS tiered instructional approach to provide high-impact tutoring consistently outside the general education contact hours. Saga Education provides this through a dedicated intervention block often coded as Extended Algebra I or Extended Geometry.
- Saga Site Directors can serve as the teacher of record providing additional capacity for schools to redirect and reimagine their school scheduling structure.
- Saga Education has a proven track record of successfully impacting student outcomes through virtual and in-person high-impact tutoring based on their knowledge skills assessment data and promotion rates.
- Because the project has funding from AmeriCorps and philanthropic contributions, DCPS is able to receive more Saga fellows and subsequently impact more schools.

Given the history and ability of the program to provide ongoing, high-impact tutoring during a dedicated intervention block and in its alignment to DCPS standards, curriculum, and professional development, there are no other organizations which could fulfill this role.

Considering 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.

CERTIFICATION BY THE DCPS PROGRAM DIRECTOR:

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

Date

Chief, Office of Teaching and Learning

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 1702.

Date

Chief Procurement Officer