

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
July 21, 2022

OFFICE OF STUDENT ASSESSMENT

03.A. Action: Approval of an emergency contract with Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) for the Fiscal Year 2023 to administer the LAS Links, English Language Proficiency Test (ELPT) [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]

Awarded Vendor: Data Recognition Corporation
 Maple Grove, Minnesota

Scope of Project: After going through the Request for Proposals (RFP) process in March and April 2022, and the MDE selecting a vendor, the OPSCR rejected the MDE's proposed contract packet prior to being approved by the PPRB due to a technicality. The timeline associated with the non-approval does not allow the MDE to release another RFP for the administration of the ELPT during the spring 2023 testing window, as required by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) for English learner (EL) students.

This contractor will provide products for the ELPT via the LAS Links Assessment System to test students in English language proficiency in the domains of Reading, Speaking, Listening, and Writing; LAS Links Placement Test for new/incoming students for initial placement/identification; dedicated program management; professional development (training) for test administration; and teacher resources for Fiscal Year 2023. The contractor will provide services and products related to customer support, scoring and reporting of the English learner assessments for the 2022 – 2023 school year. This contract will allow testing for up to 15,000 EL students on a cost per pupil system.

This is a one year contract. Personnel associated with this contract are not former Department employees or related to any Department employee.

Scope of Contract:

- Term of Contract: August 1, 2022 – July 31, 2023
- Amount to be Awarded: \$ 556,079
- Method of Award: Emergency Procurement

Funding Source: Federal funds

This item references Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 of the *Mississippi Board of Education 2018 – 2022 Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material: None