

**Sole Source
Written Determination**

Agency Identification: South Carolina Department of Social Services (SCDSS)

Description of the agency need that this procurement fulfills:

SCDSS is currently in the process of implementing and refining the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) 2.0 assessment, as well as the Family Advocacy and Support Tool (FAST). These tools are integrated into the SCDSS Child Welfare system to support care planning, level-of-care decision-making, and overall quality improvement initiatives. Additionally, SCDSS has now implemented the Adult Needs and Strengths Assessment (ANSA) for the Adult Protective Services Division to ensure same continuity of informed decision making.

Describe the Market Based on Research Performed:

The CANS, FAST, and ANSA tools are proprietary solutions. The John Praed Foundation holds the copyrights for all three tools and has authorized the University of Chicago to serve as the sole provider. This includes all tools, training, initial setup, ongoing training, and any other services or products associated with their use.

Sole Source Vendor Name: University of Chicago

Based upon the following determination, Agency proposes to acquire the supplies, construction, information technology, and/or services described herein from the vendor named above per SC Code Ann § 11-35-1560 and SC Regulation 19-445.2105, Sole Source Procurement.

Description of supplies, construction, information technology, and/or services vendor will provide under the contract:

This purchase supports ongoing training, coaching, and subject-matter expertise to assist the agency with continued refinement of the tools, as well as implementation, support, and training for the ANSA tool. Together, these tools comprise the Transformational Collaborative Outcomes Management (TCOM) framework that SCDSS is implementing to improve client outcomes.

Explain why the described solution is the only solution that meets the agency's need and how no other identified solutions were sufficient.

The CANS, FAST, and ANSA tools are proprietary solutions. The John Praed Foundation holds the copyrights for all three tools and has granted the University of Chicago exclusive authorization to provide the tools, training, initial setup, ongoing training, and all related services and products. As a research institution, the John Praed Foundation does not directly supply the CANS, FAST, or ANSA tools to clients, nor does it deliver training. SCDSS has been utilizing CANS and FAST since July 2021, and these tools are already fully integrated into our system. Transitioning to a different solution would be cost-prohibitive and would require significant time and resources for re-training and implementation, efforts that have already been completed. The cost of such a transition would exceed the cost of renewing existing support from the University of Chicago.

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Written Determination**

Note: Determination is not complete without required signatures and dates

Required Signatures:

Prepared by: _____ **Date:** ___/___/_____

Printed Name: Enter Name of Preparer **Title:** Enter Title of Preparer

Approved by: _____ **Approval Date:** ___/___/_____

Printed Name: Enter Authorized Approver Name **Title:** Enter Authorized Approver Title

The last page contains instructions and is not required to be retained.

APPROVED
By Shaneka Oliver at 3:22 pm, Feb 26, 2026

**Sole Source
Written Determination - Instructions**

Agency Identification: *(Provide Agency and Number)*

Description of the agency need that this procurement fulfills:

(Do not describe the vendor solution that meets the agency's need. This is often accomplished best by describing the problem the agency is trying to solve.)

Describe the Market Based on Research Performed: *(Enter a description of the market based on research you performed for this procurement including such things as commercially available off the shelf products, vendors providing solutions in the market space, barriers to entry to the market space, benefits and types of customized solutions and how and by whom those solutions are provided.*

- *How were the specifications or scope of work developed?*
- *Will the product be obtained from a third-party vendor or reseller, or the manufacturer?*
- *Will the reseller assist or consult in the implementation?*
- *Length of time and place of delivery?*
- *What types of warranties or other performance guarantees are available in the market?*
- *How and by whom will training be provided?*

Document and retain market research in the procurement workpaper file.)

Sole Source Vendor Name: *(Provide Vendor Legal and dba Name)*

Based upon the following determination, Agency proposes to acquire the supplies, construction, information technology, and/or services described herein from the vendor named above per SC Code Ann § 11-35-1560 and SC Regulation 19-445.2105, Sole Source Procurement.

Description of supplies, construction, information technology, and/or services vendor will provide under the contract: *(Provide a description of the product(s) and/or service(s) identified that will meet the agency's need.)*

Explain why the described solution is the only solution that meets the agency's need and how no other identified solutions were sufficient. *(Provide an informed, objective explanation for the sole source procurement method, including the agency's factual grounds and reasoning as supported by the agency's market research. The agency's explanation should be based on its own conclusions supported by its description of the market space.*

- *Vendor assertions of product differentiation or availability may be obtained as part of market research and are valuable information in the agency's assessment of available solutions, but are not, by themselves, sufficient justification for a sole source determination.*
- *Please do not cut and paste vendor claims, content, or literature in this space.*

Recommend this section be pasted into the required public notice of intent to award without competition.)

Notes:

Authorized Approver signature is the agency head unless the agency head has delegated that authority in writing to someone above the level of procurement officer and provided written notification the MMO.

Approval Date: Sole Source Determinations are required to be approved **prior to contract execution**. The approver should hand write the date at the time of approval.

Drug Free Workplace Act: The agency must obtain a DFWA certification from the vendor if the sole source procurement is \$50,000 or greater.

Cost or Pricing Data must be addressed and documented in the file for any sole source procurement exceeding \$500,000