

Mississippi State University
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
245-73

Mississippi State University anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

1. Commodity or commodities to be purchased (make, model, description):

Maple Software

100 User License

Maple Network Floating for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026

Payable annually over 3-year term annual at \$7,980.00

2. Explanation of the need to be fulfilled by this item(s) and why it is the only one that can meet the specific needs of the department:

Information Technology Services (ITS) currently provides Maple software that is targeted for faculty and student use in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) departments for their teaching and research. The faculty have chosen to use Maple because they judge it meets their classroom and research needs by providing a math interface which makes it easy to analyze, explore, visualize and solve mathematical problems.

ITS makes available 100 concurrent Maple licenses for use and while Maple is primarily used by STEM faculty and students, all MSU employees are eligible to use Maple on University and personal computers. In addition, students are authorized to use Maple on computers in ITS Open Computer labs.

To obtain the latest upgrades and technical support for Maple, ITS must purchase annually.

3. Name of company/individual selling the item and why that source is the only possible source that can provide the required item(s):

MapleSoft is the only sales channel for license maintenance purchases.

4. Estimated cost of item(s) and an explanation why the amount to be expended is considered reasonable:

ITS received a FY 2026 quote from MapleSoft and cost is \$7,980.00. Should ITS choose not to purchase maintenance for our 100 concurrent licenses from MapleSoft for the next fiscal year, ITS wouldn't be able to receive technical support and software upgrades. The cost to upgrade to the newest version, at a later date, would be far more expensive.

5. Explanation of the efforts taken by the department to determine this is the only source and the efforts used to obtain the best possible price:

I have spoken with Maplesoft and have confirmed in writing that our current Maple maintenance software can only be purchased through their head office Due to this fact, I declare MapleSoft to be the sole-source provider for this purchase

Any person or entity that objects and proposes that the commodity listed is not sole source and can be provided by another person or entity shall submit a written notice to:

Jennifer Mayfield, CPPO
Director of Procurement & Contracts
jmayfield@procurement.msstate.edu
Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection"

The notice shall contain a detailed explanation of why the commodity is not a sole source procurement. Appropriate documentation shall also be submitted if applicable.

If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, MSU determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then MSU will withdraw the sole source request publication from the procurement portal website and submit the procurement of the commodity to an advertised competitive bid or selection process.

If MSU determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then MSU will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. MSU will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.

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