

**Mississippi State University**  
**Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase**  
**245-90**

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):**

JobsEQ, a data subscription service through Chmura. This subscription includes data and analysis on demographics, employment, wages, job listings, occupations, and more at the state, MSA, county, ZIP Code, and even down to the block level, along with reporting and mapping capabilities.

**2. Explanation of the need to be fulfilled by this item(s), how is it unique from all other options, and why it is the only one that can meet the specific needs of the department:**

This data subscription includes a mix of traditional labor market information (LMI), imputed with Chmura analyses and forecasts as well as nonstructured data, including job postings and resume forensics. The analyses and forecasts, as well as the nonstructured data, are not available through other subscription service providers.

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

The JobsEQ® suite was created and is distributed solely by Chmura. The formulas behind the following analytics contained in the software are protected by U.S. Patent 7,480,659 and patents pending: Willing & Able, Real Time Intelligence (RTI), Career Ladder Maps, Supply & Demand (Gaps), and What-If. These patented products make JobsEQ® unique and non-obvious.

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

The subscription cost is \$20,000, which reflects a negotiated discount. This amount is reasonable due to the comprehensive nature of the data and analyses provided, including nationwide data and analysis, forecasting, and mapping capabilities.

**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:**

The JobsEQ® suite was created and is distributed solely by Chmura; the data and analyses are patent protected and therefore unavailable elsewhere. Efforts were taken to obtain the best possible price, including negotiating a discount with the sales representative.

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](mailto: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.