



Suspension of Competition Acquisition Request

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1. Fully describe the product(s) and/or service(s) being requested.

The Probation Department would like to continue to use doctoral candidate interns to provide behavioral health and treatment services to youth detained at the Juvenile Justice Campus. The services requested under this agreement would include coordination and supervision to doctoral candidate interns who are evaluating comprehensive mental health assessments of youth and their families, providing individual psychotherapy sessions, life skills group sessions, and face-to-face contacts to see how youth are doing. The goal of the service is to reduce recidivism by targeting behaviors that lead to or continue criminal behavior. The services will be developed around the identified and assessed needs of the juvenile.

2. Identify the selected vendor and contact person; include the address, phone number and e-mail address for each.

Dr. Jana Price-Sharps, Sierra Education & Research Institute (SERI), 5730 N. First Street, Suite 105-503, Fresno, CA 93710, 559-977-1564, jprice-sharps@serinstitute.org

3. What is the total cost of the acquisition? If an agreement, state the total cost of the initial term and the amounts for potential renewal terms.

The cost of the services is \$59.25 per hour for actual services rendered by the clinical psychologist(s) who provide supervision to the interns. The doctoral student interns provide services at no cost. The annual contract maximum is \$125,000. The Agreement will be for a three year term with an option to renew (contingent upon satisfactory performance) for two additional one year periods. The cost of the initial three year term is \$375,000. The total five year maximum will be \$625,000.

4. Identify the unique qualities and/or capabilities of the service(s) and/or product(s) that qualify this as a Suspension of Competition acquisition.

This program utilizes doctoral candidate interns to provide the services described in "Attachment A - Services" of the Agreement. SERI is the only accredited clinical psychology doctoral program in the Fresno area that provides clinical supervision of PhD or doctoral candidate interns. The interns are required to complete mandatory clinical hours in order to be certified as psychologists. Since there is no charge to the County for the services provided by the doctoral interns, it allows the juveniles to receive the necessary services at comparatively little cost to the County.

5. Identify from Administrative Policy #34 what circumstances constitute a Suspension of Competition.

- ☐ In an emergency when goods or services are immediately necessary for the preservation of the public health, welfare, or safety, or for the protection of County property.
- ☐ When the contract is with a federal, state, or local governmental agency.
- ☐ When the department head, with the concurrence of the Purchasing Agent, finds that the cost of preparing and administering a competitive bidding process in a particular case will equal or exceed the estimated contract amount or \$2,500 whichever is more.
- ☐ When a contract provides only for payment of per diem and travel expenses and there is to be no payment for services rendered.
- ☐ When obtaining the services of expert witnesses for litigation or special counsel to assist the County.
- ☒ When in unusual or extraordinary circumstances, the Board of Supervisors or the Purchasing Agent/Purchasing Manager determines that the best interests of the County would be served by not securing competitive bids or issuing a request for proposal.

6. Explain why the unique qualities and/or capabilities described above are essential to your department.

Since October of 2009, SERI has successfully provided interpretation of mental health screening profiles (MAYSI/PACT) and individual psychotherapy sessions, life skills and other group services, and grand rounds contacts (face-to-face contact to see how youth are doing). Since there is no charge to the County for the doctoral interns services, it allows the juvenile offenders to receive services at a significantly reduced costs. Counseling and cognitive behavior therapy have been identified as evidence-based practices known to reduce recidivism in offending populations.

7. Provide a comprehensive explanation of the research done to verify that the recommended vendor is the only vendor with the unique qualities and/or capabilities stated above. Include a list of all other vendors contacted, what they were asked, and their responses.

The Probation Department has completed searches for clinical psychology programs that supervise doctoral interns in the Fresno area, including proprietary and public college and university systems. In addition, private universities were contacted and a web-based search completed. SERI is the only agency providing a doctoral program that provides clinical supervision of PhD or doctoral candidate interns in the Fresno Area.

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Probation Admin
Director

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Requested By:

Title

I approve this request to suspend competition for the service(s) and/or product(s) identified herein.

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Department Head Signature

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Purchasing Manager Signature

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