THE CHANCELLOR RECOMMENDS:
that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Chair, upon final approval of the General Counsel as to the legal form of such agreements, to authorize the execution of an agreement with Blackboard, Inc. to provide Blackboard Ally (Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant Software licensing), for the period commencing no sooner than January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, at a total cost not to exceed $70,000.

VENDOR: Blackboard, Inc.
11720 Plaza America Drive, 11th Floor
Reston, VA 20190

USER: District Wide

TERM:
The term of this agreement shall commence no sooner than January 1, 2021 and will end on December 31, 2021 with an option to renew for one (1) additional one-year period.

SCOPE OF SERVICES:
Blackboard, Inc. will collaboratively work with City Colleges IT staff to integrate the software with Brightspace, the District Learning Management System. The vendor will also provide remote training for all Technology Integration Specialists (TIS) and other selected staff and administrators across the seven colleges over a period of one year.

BENEFIT TO CITY COLLEGES OF CHICAGO:
The software, Blackboard Ally, addresses needs of accessibility for students with disabilities and special needs while using the online learning platform. It focuses on ensuring that course materials available in Brightspace, the District Learning Management System, are converted to accessible formats and making them ADA compliant. The software changes course materials into various accessible formats such as electronic braille, audio, ePub, and semantic HTML. These multiple accessible formats address all the challenges that students with disabilities encounter when taking online courses. Using this product will ensure that all course content formats meet federal ADA guidelines.
VENDOR SELECTION CRITERIA:
In accordance with sole source policy procedures, this service is exempt from the District’s competitive bidding process.

MBE/WBE COMPLIANCE:
The Office of Procurement Services has reviewed the proposed agreement and recommends a waiver of the Board Approved Participation Plan due to the nature of the service (“software addressing accessibility for students with disabilities and special needs”).

GENERAL CONDITIONS:
Inspector General- It shall be the duty of each party to the agreement to cooperate with the Inspector General for City Colleges of Chicago in any investigation conducted pursuant to the Inspector General’s authority under Article 2, Section 2.7.4(b) of the Board Bylaws.

Ethics – It shall be the duty of each party to the agreement to comply with the applicable provisions of the Board’s Ethics Policy adopted January 7, 1993, and as amended by the Board.

Contingent Liability – Pursuant to Section 7-14 of the Illinois Public Community College Act, all agreements authorized herein shall contain a clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year.

FINANCIAL
Total: $70,000
Charge to: Office of Academic and Student Affairs
Sources of Funds: Capital Fund, Education Fund
FY21: 540000-00003-0022060-80000

Respectfully submitted,

Juan Salgado
Chancellor

December 10, 2020 – Office of Academic and Student Affairs