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ADOPTED-BOARD OF TRUSTEES
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 508
DECEMBER 7, 2023

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 508
COUNTY OF COOK AND STATE OF ILLINOIS

ADA COMPLIANT SOFTWARE LICENSING BLACKBOARD, INC.
THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
DISTRICT WIDE

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, an ADA compliant software licensing firm, for the period commencing no sooner than January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 at a total cost not to exceed \$73,542 for the contract term.

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, 2024, and will end on December 31, 2024, with the option for a 1-year renewal.

SCOPE OF SERVICES:

Blackboard, Inc. will continue to provide digital technology support that addresses the needs of accessibility to promote an inclusive online learning environment, while integrated into the Learning Management System (LMS).

BENEFIT TO CITY COLLEGES OF CHICAGO:

The software, Blackboard Ally, owned by Blackboard, Inc., 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 our LMS 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, semantic HTML, etc. These multiple accessible formats address all the challenges that students with disabilities encounter when taking online courses. Therefore, using this product will ensure that all course content formats meet the federal ADA guidelines.

VENDOR SELECTION CRITERIA:

In accordance with the sole source policy procedures, this service (software services) is exempt from the district's competitive bidding process.

MBE/WBE COMPLIANCE:

The Office of Procurement Services has reviewed the proposed compliance plan and recommends a

full waiver of the Board Approved MBE/WBE Contract Participation Plan due to the nature of the agreement (“software addressing accessibility for students with disabilities and special needs”) and the absence of subcontracting opportunities.

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: \$73,542

Charge to: The Office of Academic Affairs

Sources of Funds: Education Fund

FY24: 53/540000-00003-0022060-80000

Respectfully submitted,

**Juan Salgado
Chancellor**

December 7, 2023 – The Office of Academic Affairs