

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

**CAREER SERVICES MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE
STRYDER CORP. (D/B/A HANDSHAKE)
THE OFFICE OF STUDENT EXPERIENCE
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 agreement, to authorize the execution of an agreement with Stryder Corp. (d/b/a Handshake) for Career Services Management Software for the period beginning January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2027, at a total cost not to exceed \$25,680 for the contract term.

VENDOR: Stryder Corp. (d/b/a Handshake)
225 Bush St, Floor 12
San Francisco, CA 94101

USER: District Wide

TERM:

The term of the purchase shall begin on January 1, 2027, and shall end on December 31, 2027.

SCOPE OF SERVICES:

Handshake is the leading career management, network and recruiting platform for college students and young alumni. Founded with the mission to democratize opportunity for all students, Handshake is the largest network for early talent, connecting over 1,500 colleges and universities, 10 million active students, and 650,000+ companies (including 100% of the Fortune 2000).

Handshake's premium subscription, premier level, and implementation includes: help center access, unlimited career services email ticket support, 60-min live or scheduled phone support per month, unlimited employer email ticket support, unlimited student email ticket support, exclusive access to Handshake user community, dedicated institution relationship manager, unlimited meetings with relationship manager, training for all staff in Handshake academy and ongoing support with platform updates and content.

Handshake does not impose any per-seat or per-module costs. The subscription price is a single, annual subscription fee that comes with unlimited access to all features and unlimited access for as many career services, student, and alumni accounts as needed. As new features and tools are developed, these will also be included in the Handshake platform at no additional cost.

BENEFIT TO CITY COLLEGES OF CHICAGO:

This robust solution will provide students and alumni a more user-friendly platform to search for CCC's federal work study, part-time and full-time jobs, internships, and apprenticeships. From managing student applications to employer requests, Handshake makes day-to-day 2 career center operations easier for staff, students, alumni, and employer users. Handshake has demonstrated to increase student engagement by 25% with its intuitive and easy-to-use application, expand colleges' employer network, and transform career development and placement offices through data, employment outcome (first destination survey), efficiency, and increased relevance across college systems.

Additionally, Handshake works closely to facilitate and learn from thought leaders across the United States. Handshake hosts the annual Future of College Recruiting Forums to bring together thought leaders and influencers from higher education and industry to discuss, brainstorm, and imagine what the future of the college career services holds. These events provide invaluable insights for member colleges to ensure a broad understanding of the trends unfolding in the career services space.

VENDOR SELECTION CRITERIA:

The contract being utilized as part of the joint purchasing agreement has been advertised and awarded in accordance with the procurement procedures of Kentucky Community & Technical College System (KCTCS), a like agency to City Colleges of Chicago. KCTCS issued Request for Proposal RFP-0253 and was awarded January 11, 2022, for the term of January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2026, with options to extend the contract period for additional one-year periods. Pursuant to State law, contracts for goods and services procured from another government entity are exempt from the District's competitive bidding requirements.

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 (career services management software) 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: \$25,680.00

Charge to: Office of Information Technology

Sources of Funds: Education Fund

Budget Line: 540000-00003-0023003-80000

Respectfully submitted,

**Juan Salgado
Chancellor**

October 1, 2026 – Office of Student Experience