



## **JUSTIFICATION FOR OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION**

### **ACHIEVEMENT LEVELS SETTING ON THE NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS (NAEP) TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING LITERACY (TEL) ASSESSMENT AT GRADE 8**

#### ***Purpose:***

The National Assessment Governing Board intends to negotiate and award a sole source contract to P20 Strategies LLC to provide technical services on setting achievement levels for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Technology and Engineering Literacy assessment at grade 8. This work is in relation to the Governing Board's authority to set achievement levels for NAEP. This requirement is pursuant to the authority of 41 U.S.C. 253 (c) (1) and FAR 6.302-1 (b) (1) (i) as only one responsible source will satisfy the Governing Board's requirements.

#### ***Background:***

The National Assessment Governing Board, an independent, bipartisan organization, sets policy for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), commonly known as The Nation's Report Card. NAEP makes objective information on student performance available to policy makers and the public at the national, state, and local levels. The legislative authority for this work is Public Law 107-279, Sec. 302, 5(1) 2; the Governing Board is authorized to set achievement levels for each grade and subject tested by NAEP. More information on the Governing Board and its work is at [www.nagb.gov](http://www.nagb.gov).

#### ***Scope of Work:***

The contractor shall attend all four to five two-day meetings of the Technical Advisory Committee on Standard Setting (TACSS) for the TEL achievement levels setting. These meetings are scheduled to take place in Washington, DC and are tentatively scheduled for August 18-19, 2014; December 18-19, 2014; February 12-13, 2015; and April 9-10, 2015. In addition, the contractor shall provide input to the Governing Board on several major milestones of the TEL ALS project.

#### ***Justification for Only One Responsible Source:***

The Governing Board is engaging the expert services of P20 Strategies LLC, specifically Senior Technical Advisor Andrew Kolstad. This project is a highly technical activity and requires extensive knowledge of NAEP, achievement levels setting activities, and the NAEP Technology and Engineering Literacy Assessment. Given Mr. Kolstad's former position at the National Center For Education Statistics and participation in several previous achievement levels setting activities with the Governing Board, in addition to his familiarity with the NAEP TEL

assessment, Andrew Kolstad is uniquely qualified to serve in this role. Engaging services from P20 LLC will also minimize costs to the government based on the fact that the services required are highly technical and time sensitive, and would require additional training costs to engage an expert not familiar with this specialized work to serve in this role.

***Contract Type and Period of Performance:***

The contract will be awarded as a Firm Fixed Price (FFP) contract, in accordance with the requirements of FAR Subpart 16.202, and simplified acquisition procedures of FAR Part 13. The contract duration is 24 months.

***Opportunity for Comment:***

All interested parties may submit capability statements or questions for consideration to [Munira.Mwalimu@ed.gov](mailto:Munira.Mwalimu@ed.gov), no later than August 31, 2014.



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Munira Mwalimu, Contracting Officer

August 20, 2014  
Date