

Francis Marion University

Sole Source Statement of Award

Posting Date: **06/01/2023**

This is a statement of award of a contract effective **June 1, 2023** unless otherwise suspended or cancelled.

Contractor should not perform work or incur any costs associated with the contract prior to the effective date of the contract. Contractor should not perform work prior to the receipt of a purchase order from Francis Marion University. The University assumes no liability for any expenses incurred prior to the effective date of the contract and issuance of a purchase order.

Sole Source:

Francis Marion University utilizes the Ellucian Colleague Enterprise Requirements Planning Software, including use of Payment Client Software through Ellucian. The expectation for the term of use of the Ellucian Colleague ERP system is indefinite; there is no anticipated time in the foreseeable future in which we would be moving from this ERP system to another system.

eDeposits, Marketplace uStores, & Marketplace uPay - The University seeks to continue to utilize Ellucian for as much of its needs as possible including accepting payments from students. TouchNet provides a "student marketplace," which allows students to conduct eCommerce with the University 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Touchnet's Application Subscription Services Program will allow for an electronic student marketplace and provides for encryption to current and new hardware devices for the security of the student and the University. The PCI requirements and certification practices for TouchNet provide the only viable compatible option for a payment system to work in tandem with our ERP software.

Admissions Pros - Francis Marion University utilizes the Touchnet payment system for students campus wide and was purchased via State Contract from Heartland Campus Solutions. This system works for many forms of payment, including but not limited to individual payments unrelated to student fees. The University handles several services for which payments from students or other entities is required, one of which is Admissions Pro (a customer-relationship management software). Francis Marion University completed RFP 2333 – Provide CRM for Office of Admissions in 2020 with Admissions Pro as the winning/awarded vendor. Updated software support and assurance is a priority for the University to continue to utilize the automated photo submission system without having issues related to out of date software. Furthermore, purchasing various service-oriented payment systems would not be productive or conducive for the University, its faculty/staff, and students alike as it would require maintenance and training on several different payment systems.

Handshake - The University handles several services for which payments from students or other entities is required, one of which is Handshake (career services software). Updated software support and assurance is a priority for the University to continue to utilize the automated photo submission system without having issues related to out of date software, and further, purchasing various service oriented payment systems would not be productive for the University as it would have to maintain several different payment systems. As the TouchNet system already exists at the University and is both compatible and integrated with the University's ERP system, TouchNet is the sole source for the University's Payment Center needs through the various subscriptions detailed above.

Sole Source Advertisement Date in South Carolina Business Opportunities: **May 24, 2023**

Award Date: **June 1, 2023**

Awarded To: **TouchNet**
15520 College Boulevard
Lenexa KS 66219

Estimated Value: **\$161,227.80**

If you are aggrieved in connection with the solicitation or award of the contract, you may be entitled to protest, but only as provided in Section 11-35-4210. To protest a solicitation, you must submit a protest within fifteen days of the date the applicable solicitation document is issued. To protest an award, you must (i) submit notice of your intent to protest within seven business days of the date the award notice is posted, and (ii) submit your actual protest within fifteen days of the date the award notice is posted. Days are calculated as provided in Section 11-35-310(13). Both protests and notices of intent to protest must be in writing and must be received by the appropriate Chief Procurement Officer within the time provided. See clause entitled "Protest-CPO". The grounds of the protest and the relief requested must be set forth with enough particularity to give notice of the issues to be decided.

PROTEST – CPO ADDRESS – MMO: Any protest must be addressed to the Chief Procurement Officer, Materials Management Office, and submitted in writing

(a) by email to protest-mmo@mmo.sc.gov,

(b) by facsimile at 803-737-0639, or

(c) by post or delivery to:

CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER
MATERIALS MANAGEMENT OFFICE
1201 MAIN STREET, SUITE 600
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29201

Jennifer D Hester
Director of Purchasing