



UNIVERSITY OF  
**South Carolina**

Posting Date: December 13, 2019

**INTENT TO AWARD**

This is a statement of intent to award a contract and becomes the official statement of award effective 8:00 AM December 30, 2019, unless otherwise suspended or canceled. Vendors are encouraged not to begin work on the contract or incur any costs associated with the contract prior to the effective date of the contract. The University of South Carolina assumes no liability for any expenses incurred by vendors prior to the effective date of the contract.

If you are aggrieved in connection with the award of the contract, you may be entitled to protest, but only as provided in Section 11-35-4210. To protest an award, you must (i) submit notice of you 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.

Bidder's right to protest as listed in section 11-35-4210 in the South Carolina Consolidated Procurement Code applies to this award. Protest to be filed with:

Chief Procurement Officer  
Information Technology Management Office  
1201 Main Street Suit 601  
Columbia, SC 29201  
Email: [protest-itmo@itmo.sc.gov](mailto:protest-itmo@itmo.sc.gov)  
Fax: (803) 737-0639

**Solicitation Number:** USC-IFB-3557-LD

**Solicitation Issue Date:** November 19, 2019

**Bid Opening Date:** December 3, 2019

**Description:** Provide 24/7/365 Artificially Intelligent Chatbot for the Office of Student Financial Aid & Scholarships

**Awarded To:** Career America, LLC dba Ocelot  
Attn: Christian Lawrence  
1909 Broadway  
Boulder, CO 80302

**Evaluated Amount:** \$28,500.00 (Annual)

**Estimated Maximum Potential Value of Contract:** \$ 114,000.00

**Initial Contract Term:** 01/01/2020 through 12/31/2020

**Maximum Contract Term:** 01/01/2020 through 12/31/2023

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Leann DeLoach**  
**Procurement Manager**