



University of South Carolina
 Purchasing Department
 1600 Hampton Street
 Columbia, SC 29208
 Telephone: (803) 777-4115

Request for Quotation

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THIS IS NOT AN ORDER

Quotation must be received No Later Than:	Send quotation to above address Attention of:	Quotation Number:	Date
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Print company name and address:

Please quote your lowest delivered price of the items(s) listed below. The Purchasing Department reserves the right to reject any or all quotes and to waive any or all technicalities.

1. If an item cannot be furnished, indicate by **NO QUOTE**.
2. All quotes must be signed by the vendor's representative and terms noted, failure to comply with this instruction may result in disqualification of the quote.
3. **FAXED QUOTES ACCEPTABLE.** FAX # (803) 777-2032

If the product preference is applicable follow these instructions:

Check (X) on the appropriate line: SC End Product _____ US End Product _____ **and** indicate by asterick (*) next to the item number on the bid schedule which preference applies.

NON-RESIDENT VENDORS ONLY: Yes _____ No _____ We have read and applied for (or already have) a non-resident taxpayer affidavit (I-312).

RESIDENT VENDOR PREFERENCE: Yes _____ No _____ SC Resident Vendor Preference as defined in Section 11-35-1524 of the SC Consolidated Procurement Code.

Federal I.D. or Social Security No. _____ SC Minority Certification Number (If Applicable) _____

Submitted By (Print Name) _____ Signature _____ Telephone _____

Item No.	Quantity and Unit	Description of Commodity or Services	Unit Price	Total Price

BID SCHEDULE

USC-RFQ-1529-DH Blackboard Course Management System

A: Course Archival = \$ _____

B: Merger of Course Sections = \$ _____

C: Statistical Analysis = \$ _____

Total = \$ _____

Sales tax will be adjusted accordingly do not add sales tax.

Company Name: _____ **Signature:** _____

- AWARD BY LOT (JAN 2006): Award will be made by complete lot(s)

Request for Quote – Technical Details

INTRODUCTION

The University of South Carolina has an extensive Blackboard implementation that has been in place for nine years. USC supports an average enrollment of approximately 40,000 students. All course sections are automatically loaded into the Blackboard system.

The University recently upgraded to Blackboard 8. Unfortunately, with each upgrade, the functionality that is implemented via Blackboard 'Building Blocks' tends to break due to the upgrade. The primary building blocks that USC would like to implement for Blackboard 8 are broken down:

- A. Course Archival
- B. Merger of Course Sections
- C. Statistical Analysis

Developing the building blocks requires Java programming skills, a strong understanding of the Blackboard system, and a strong working knowledge of the building block software developers' kit (SDK). USC is seeking consulting assistance to:

- Develop the 3 building blocks
- Test in the USC test Blackboard environment
- Deploy in the USC production environment
- Train USC staff how to maintain and upgrade the building blocks.
 - Provide a code review of the building block code.
 - Review the API set and SDK with the USC team.

USC will provide developers to work with the consultant to co-develop some modules and to assist with testing. Development can be done partially off-site, but training activities should occur on-site in Columbia. At least 50% of the code development should be done by the consultant organization.

REQUIREMENTS

A. Course Archival

The following are the requirements that the batch course archival building block shall meet:

- Allow selection of courses and organizations based on
 - Course-ID semester and year
 - Course-ID Department, semester and year
 - Course Creation date
- Create a viewable list of courses/organizations selected for archive and deletion
- Allow for the list of courses/organizations to be archived and then deleted upon approval of the list

B. Merger of Course Sections

The following are the requirements that the merger of course section building block shall meet:

Using an interface in the control panel, the instructor shall be able to:

- Merge multiple sections into a new section that does not exist
- Merge multiple sections into a section that already exists
- Un-merge any sections that have been merged

The program should:

- Add appropriate information to the grade center of the merged course
- Keep the enrollments current as students drop and add

C. Statistical Analysis

The following are the requirements that the statistical analysis building block shall meet:

- Provide statistics on numbers of students, instructors, courses and organizations
- Provide statistics on usage of features and tools
- Provide statistics on content types and usage
- Allow the creation of statistical reports based on portions of the course ID (dept, semester and year, prefix or suffix, etc.)
- Provide a variety of graphs to illustrate frequencies and other statistics

DELIVERABLES

Deliverables from this engagement are:

- Production-Ready Building blocks for
 - Course Archival
 - Merger of Course Sections
 - Statistical Analysis
- On-site training for USC developers that covers
 - Blackboard Building Block Framework
 - Building Block SDK and APIs
- Complete administrative documentation for each building block

QUALIFICATIONS

- Experience with large deployments of Blackboard (schools with enrollments > 30,000)
- Detailed knowledge of the Blackboard architecture and API set
- Strong Java programming skills
- Oracle database proficiency
- Strong communication and mentoring skills
- Strong testing and quality management skills
- Excellent documentation skills

QUOTE

Quote should include all work required to provide the deliverables as specified and should be inclusive of travel and expenses necessary to perform the work.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

DEFAULT: In case or default by the Contractor, the University of South Carolina reserves the right to purchase any or all items in default in the open market, charging the Contractor with any additional costs. The defaulting Contractor shall not be considered a responsible bidder until the assessed charge has been satisfied.

All amendments to and interpretation of this RFQ shall be in writing. The procurement officer shall not be legally bound by any amendment or interpretation that is not in writing.

SC/US PREFERENCE: In order to receive the South Carolina/United States made, manufactured or grown end-product preference, you must check the appropriate space (s) provided on the face of the quotation form. This preference does not apply to services.

Any contract entered into by the University of South Carolina or its agencies resulting from this quotation shall be subject to cancellation at the end of any fiscal or appropriated year unless otherwise provided by law.

Payment will be made in accordance with Section 11-35-45 of the South Carolina Consolidated Procurement Code and Disbursement Regulations. Delay in receiving invoices, as well as errors and omissions on the invoices, will be considered just cause for withholding payment without losing discount privileges. The University reserves the right to withhold payment or make such deductions as may be necessary to protect the University from loss or damage because of defective work, claims, damages or to pay for repair of correction of materials furnished hereunder.

Quoted prices must remain firm for a period of thirty days beyond the Request for Quotation deadline. Unit prices will govern over extended prices unless otherwise stated.

The University of South Carolina shall consider payment discounts in the award of this contract when such discounts are for thirty days or more after final inspection and acceptance of contract requirements. Payment discounts for less than thirty days are encouraged but shall not be a factor in award determination. Please state your discount terms using the above referenced information as the University's position on the matter.

All materials and products offered must be guaranteed to meet and comply with the requirements all the specifications, terms and conditions indicated or referred to.

The award will be made in accordance with Section 11-35-1520 of the South Carolina Consolidated Procurement Code.

The University reserves the right to reject any and all quotations and to cancel the solicitation; waive any and all technicalities; the University reserves the right to reject any quotation in which the delivery time indicated to be of substantial length to cause disruption and/or delay in operation for which the item(s) is/are intended; ambiguous quotations which are uncertain as to terms, delivery, quantity or compliance with specifications may be rejected.

The successful contractor assumes sole responsibility and shall hold harmless the University of South Carolina, its directors, officers, employees and agents from and against any and all claims, actions or liabilities of any nature which may be asserted against them by third parties in connection with the performance of the successful bidder, its directors, officers, employees and agents under this agreement. The University of South Carolina agrees to accept responsibility for claims, actions or liabilities resulting from negligent acts of its employees occurring within the scope of their employment which may be asserted against them by third parties in connection with the performance of the University of South Carolina, its members, directors, officers, employees and agents under this agreement.

Contractor agrees not to refer to award of this contract in commercial advertising in such a manner to state or imply that the products or service provided are endorsed or preferred by the user.

Upon award of a contract under this quotation, the person, partnership, association or corporation to whom the award is made must comply with the laws of South Carolina that require such person or entity to be authorized and/or licensed to do business in this State. Notwithstanding the fact that applicable statutes may be exempt or exclude the successful quoter from requirements that it be authorized and/or licensed to do business in this State, by submission of this signed quote, the quoter agrees to subject itself to the jurisdiction and process of the courts of the State of South Carolina as to all matters and disputes arising or to arise under the contract and the performance thereof, including any questions as to the liability for taxes, licenses or fees levied by the State.

Termination: Subject to the provisions below, the contractor may be terminated for any reason by the University providing a thirty-day advance notice in writing is given to the contractor.

Termination for Convenience: In the event that this contract is terminated or cancelled upon request and for the convenience of the University may negotiate reasonable termination costs, if applicable.

Termination for Cause: Termination by the University for cause, default, or negligence on the part of the Contractor shall be excluded from the foregoing provisions; termination costs, if any, shall not apply. The thirty day advance notice requirement is waived and the default provision in this bid shall apply.

HIPAA Law: The Contractor agrees that to the extent that some or all of the activities within the scope of this Contract are subject to the Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act of 1996, P.L. 104-91, as amended (“HIPAA”), or its implementing regulations, it will comply with the HIPAA requirements and will execute such agreements and practices as the University of South Carolina may require to ensure compliance. Additional information may be viewed at: <http://www.sc.edu/hipaa/>

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

LICENSES, PERMITS, INSURANCE: All costs for required licenses, permits and insurance shall be borne by the Bidder.

The University of South Carolina requires all contractual activities to be performed in a manner that is consistent with all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations, rules, rulings and ordinances. These include, but are not limited to: the Occupational safety and Health Act, The Environmental Protection Act, The South Carolina Hazardous Waste Management Act.

IMPORTANT – Please Note

Vendors, we **MUST** have your Federal ID # (company) or Social Security # (individual) before processing any invoices for payment. Failure to provide this information will result in delay of payments until this information is received. Please include this information with your quote.