



Assistive Technology Products and Services
Executive Summary

Lead Agency: Region 4 Education Service Center **Solicitation:** 18-06
RFP Issued: March 29, 2018 **Pre-Proposal Date:** N/A
Response Due Date: May 17, 2018 **Proposals Received:** 9
Awarded to: HumanWare USA Inc.

Region 4 Education Service Center issued RFP 18-06 on March 29, 2018, to establish a national cooperative contract for Assistive Technology Products and Services.

The solicitation included cooperative purchasing language in Section A. Introduction, I. Background and Region 4 Education Service Center. It states:

“Region 4 Education Service Center (“Region 4 ESC” herein “Lead Public Agency”) on behalf of itself and all state, local governments, school districts, and higher education institutions in the United States of America, and other governmental agencies and non-profit organizations (herein “Participating Agencies”) solicits proposal from qualified Offerors to enter into a Vendor Contract (“Contract”) for the goods or services solicited in this proposal.”

“Contracts are approved and awarded by a single governmental entity, Region 4 ESC, and are only available for use and benefit of all entities complying with state procurement laws and regulations (public and private schools, colleges and universities, cities, counties, non-profits, and all governmental entities). These types of contracts are commonly referred to as being “piggybackable.”

“Region 4 ESC’s purchasing cooperative was established in 1997 to increase their economic and operational efficiency. The purchasing cooperative has since evolved into a National Cooperative used to assist other government and public entities increase their economical and operational efficiency when procuring goods and services.”

Notice of the solicitation was sent to potential offerors, as well as advertised in the following:

- Region 4 website
- National IPA website
- USA Today, nationwide
- Arizona Business Gazette, AZ
- San Bernardino Sun, CA
- Honolulu Star-Advertiser, HI
- The Advocate – New Orleans, LA
- New Jersey Herald, NJ
- Times Union, NY
- Daily Journal of Commerce, OR
- The State, SC
- Houston Community Newspapers, Cy Creek Mirror, TX
- Deseret News, UT
- Richmond Times, VA
- Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce, WA
- Helena Independent Record, MT

On May 17, 2018 proposals were received from the following offerors:

- Active Internet Technologies; dba FinalSite
- Attainment Company, Inc.
- Boundless Assistive Technology
- HumanWare USA Inc.
- Lightspeed Technologies, Inc.
- School Health Corporation
- Tobii Dynavox LLC
- US Computers Inc.
- Viggi Corp.

The proposals were evaluated by an evaluation committee. Using the evaluation criteria established in the RFP, the committee elected to enter into negotiations with HumanWare USA Inc. and proceeding with contract award upon successful completion of negotiations.

Region 4 ESC, National IPA and HumanWare USA Inc. successfully negotiated a contract and the Region 4 Board of Directors executed the agreement with a contract effective date of November 1, 2018.

Contract only available in Texas

Contract Highlights:

A pioneer in mastering rapid advancements in digital technology to create and deliver humanized solutions to assist people who are visually impaired and with learning disabilities.

Contract includes:

- Product line includes the BrailleNote Touch, braille note taker, the Brailliant family of refreshable braille displays, the Victor Reader Stream and Stratus, digital book readers, as well as new GPS product the VR Trek which combines all the great features of the Stream digital book reader and with the add-on of the GPS features.
- Enabling Technologies Embossers
- Prodigy line of video magnifiers such as Prodigy Duo, Prodigy Desktop, the Prodigy Connect 12 and Explore 5 and 8 hand-held video magnifiers.
- Offers skilled training and technical support on all products
- Online ordering available through orders@humanware.com or directly on website. However, orders placed on website will require credit card payment
- 7-10 business day delivery ARO
- Free technical support service by phone, free hand-on workshops and free loaner for BrailleNote Touch and Connect 12 Packages.

Term:

Initial three-year agreement from November 1, 2018 through October 31, 2021 with the option to renew for two (2) additional one-year periods through October 31, 2023.

Pricing/Discount:

Discount of 2% and free shipping on all products

National IPA Web Landing Page:

<http://www.nationalipa.org/Vendors/Pages/HumanWare.aspx#tabs-contract>