

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**

Issue Date: September 25, 2012

RFP# DOE-SGA-2012-15

Title: Student Growth Assessments

Commodity Code: 92420

Issuing Agency: Commonwealth of Virginia
Virginia Department of Education
101 North 14th Street, 21st Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Using Agencies: Local Education Agencies including
Virginia Public School Divisions and
Virginia Public Schools

Work to be Performed: Offsite

Initial Period Of Contract: From Date of Award Through November 15, 2014; (Renewable).

Sealed Proposals Will Be Received Until 2:00 PM October 29, 2012, For Furnishing The Goods/Services Described Herein.

All Inquiries For Information Should Be Directed To: Marie Williams, Contract Officer, at (804) 225-2040.

PROPOSALS MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE JAMES MONROE BUILDING, 101 N. 14TH STREET, RICHMOND, VA, 23219, 21ST FLOOR, PROCUREMENT OFFICE, TO THE ATTENTION OF MONIQUE ROBINSON (See Section VIII, C. Identification of Proposal Envelope.) This is NOT a mailing address. It is recommended that proposals be hand delivered.

In compliance with this Request For Proposals (RFP) and all conditions imposed in this RFP, the undersigned firm hereby offers and agrees to furnish all goods and services in accordance with the attached signed proposal or as mutually agreed upon by subsequent negotiation, and the undersigned firm hereby certifies that all information provided below and in any schedule attached hereto is true, correct, and complete.

Name And Address Of Firm:

Zip Code: _____

eVA Vendor ID or DUNS #: _____

Fax Number: (____) _____

E-mail Address: _____

Date: _____

By: _____

(Signature In Ink)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Title: _____

Telephone Number: (____) _____

PREPROPOSAL CONFERENCE: An optional proposal conference will be held on Tuesday, October 9, 2012, at 10:00 am at 101 N. 14th Street, 25th Floor, Washington Conference Room (Reference Page 7, Section VII, herein). If special ADA accommodations are needed, please contact Marie Williams at 804 225-2040 by October 5, 2012.

Note: This public body does not discriminate against faith-based organizations in accordance with the *Code of Virginia*, § 2.2-4343.1 or against a bidder or offeror because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, or any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment.

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- I. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to solicit sealed proposals to establish a contract through competitive negotiation for the purchase of assessments that are aligned to the Standards of Learning and that provide measures of student growth for use by Virginia Local Education Agencies (LEAs), including Virginia public school divisions and public schools.

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) intends to make multiple contract awards from which a LEA or group of LEAs can purchase assessments. A contract award may include all or only some of the assessments proposed by the offeror. VDOE will disseminate to LEAs a list of approved student assessments that provide growth measures and the contractor(s) authorized to provide each assessment. LEAs will have the option to select any assessment identified from the list. The LEA will establish the time period for performance of services by the contractor at the contracted price. The potential exists that assessments from multiple providers will be selected by the LEAs. However, there is no guarantee that LEAs will purchase products from contractors selected for award. The contractor may reject its selection by a LEA provided it can demonstrate that its current commitments or lack of resources will not allow for timely and quality performance. In that case the LEA may select another contractor.

The resulting contract from this RFP will not include the direct payment of invoices from VDOE to the contractor(s), as all services provided must be billed directly to the LEA for payment.

- II. **BACKGROUND:** State statute requires that evaluations for teachers, principals and superintendents include student academic progress. The Virginia Board of Education has issued *Guidelines for Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for Teachers*, and *Guidelines for Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for Principals* that require that student academic progress account for 40 percent of the summative evaluation rating. Guidelines for the evaluation of local school division superintendents that include similar requirements are currently under review by the Virginia Board of Education. Student Growth Percentiles (SGP) data are provided for many students who take Standards of Learning assessments in reading and mathematics in grades four through eight and in Algebra I. When SGPs are available, they are to be used as the measure of student academic progress in teachers' evaluations. However, SGPs are not available for other content areas and are not calculated for all students in reading and mathematics. Because SGP information will not be available for many teachers, additional achievement measures are needed to ensure that there are academic progress measures available for teachers who will not have SGPs and to ensure that more than one measure of student academic progress is available for all evaluations. In addition to their use in teacher evaluation, many school divisions are interested in using student growth information to inform instruction and to provide an additional measure for accountability.

- III. **STATEMENT OF NEEDS:** The contractor shall furnish one or more student growth measure assessments that meet the following requirements.

- A. Alignment of test items to the Standards of Learning (SOL).
- B. Acceptable technical characteristics including evidence of validity and reliability as well as appropriateness of the test for use with all students.
- C. Evidence that use of the assessment as a measure of growth is appropriate, including evidence that the assessment has been used as a measure of growth in other states or local education agencies.
- D. Clearly defined and comprehensive test administration procedures.
- E. Appropriate scoring procedures including quality control measures and student, class, school, and school division score reports.

- IV. **PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:**

- A. **GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 1. **RFP Response:** In order to be considered for selection, offerors must submit a complete response to this RFP. One (1) original and six (6) copies of each proposal must be submitted to the issuing agency. In addition, submit one (1) electronic copy on a CD or USB flash drive and one (1)

electronic redacted version, if applicable (see paragraph f. below). No other distribution of the proposal shall be made by the offeror.

2. Proposal Preparation:

- a. Proposals shall be signed by an authorized representative of the offeror. All information requested should be submitted. Failure to submit all information requested may result in the purchasing agency requiring prompt submission of missing information and/or giving a lowered evaluation of the proposal. Proposals which are substantially incomplete or lack key information may be rejected by the purchasing agency. Mandatory requirements are those required by law or regulation or are such that they cannot be waived and are not subject to negotiation.
- b. Proposals should be prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of capabilities to satisfy the requirements of the RFP. Emphasis should be placed on completeness and clarity of content.
- c. Proposals should be organized in the order in which the requirements are presented in the RFP. All pages of the proposal should be numbered. Each paragraph in the proposal should reference the paragraph number of the corresponding section of the RFP. It is also helpful to cite the paragraph number, subletter, and repeat the text of the requirement as it appears in the RFP.

For Example:

If a response covers more than one page, the paragraph number and subletter should be repeated at the top of the next page. The proposal should contain a table of contents which cross-references the RFP requirements. Information which the offeror desires to present that does not fall within any of the requirements of the RFP should be inserted at an appropriate place or be attached at the end of the proposal and designated as additional material. Proposals that are not organized in this manner risk elimination from consideration if the evaluators are unable to find where the RFP requirements are specifically addressed.

- d. As used in this RFP, the terms "must", "shall", "should" and "may" identify the criticality of requirements. "Must" and "shall" identify requirements whose absence will have a major negative impact on the suitability of the proposed solution. Items labeled as "should" or "may" are highly desirable, although their absence will not have a large impact and would be useful, but are not necessary. Depending on the overall response to the RFP, some individual "must" and "shall" items may not be fully satisfied, but it is the intent to satisfy most, if not all, "must" and "shall" requirements. The inability of an Offeror to satisfy a "must" or "shall" requirement does not automatically remove that Offeror from consideration; however, it may seriously affect the overall rating of the Offerors' proposal.
- e. Each copy of the proposal should be bound or contained in a single volume where practical. All documentation submitted with the proposal should be contained in that single volume.
- f. Ownership of all data, materials, and documentation originated and prepared for the State pursuant to the RFP shall belong exclusively to the State and be subject to public inspection in accordance with the *Virginia Freedom of Information Act*. Trade secrets or proprietary information submitted by an offeror shall not be subject to public disclosure under the *Virginia Freedom of Information Act*; however, the offeror must invoke the protections of § 2.2-4342F of the *Code of Virginia*, in writing, either before or at the time the data or other material is submitted. The written notice must specifically identify the data or materials to be protected and state the reasons why protection is necessary. The proprietary or trade secret material submitted must be identified by some distinct method such as highlighting or underlining and must indicate only the specific words, figures, or paragraphs that constitute trade secret or proprietary information. The classification of an entire proposal document, line item prices, and/or total proposal prices as proprietary or trade secrets is not acceptable and will result in rejection of the proposal.

3. Oral Presentation: Offerors who submit a proposal in response to this RFP may be required to give an oral presentation of their proposal to the agency. This provides an opportunity for the offeror to clarify or elaborate on the proposal. This is a fact finding and explanation session only and does not include negotiation. The issuing agency will schedule the time and location of these presentations. Oral presentations are an option of the purchasing agency and may or may not be conducted.

B. SPECIFIC PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Proposals should be as thorough and detailed as possible so that the Virginia Department of Education may properly evaluate the Offeror’s capabilities to provide the required services. Offerors are required to submit the following items as a complete proposal:

1. The completed RFP cover sheet and all addenda acknowledgments, if any, signed and filled out as required.
2. The completed Pricing Schedule (Section XI.) as the second page in the proposal.
3. A written narrative that includes the information requested in a.-f. below and the assessment documentation template completed for each assessment being proposed. Website citations may be used in the document in lieu of text or attachments.
 - a. The organizational structure of Offeror’s staff as it relates to the delivery of services for proposed assessments. Include details regarding help desk availability for tests administered online.
 - b. A comprehensive plan to be implemented by the contractor that establishes necessary safeguards to maintain the confidentiality of all student data and any other materials deemed to be confidential by VDOE or the Offeror.
 - c. A comprehensive training plan for central office staff, school administrators and teachers
 - d. Evidence of experience in providing assessments that include measures of growth for local or state education agencies.
 - e. A list of the local and state education agencies contracted with for similar services within the last three years. Include a brief summary of the services provided.
 - f. Three references (names, titles, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses).
3. Completed Attachment 1 - Small Business Subcontracting Plan. This form must be completed and returned by all offerors. Section B must be completed by offerors who are not a DMBE-certified small business to summarize the planned utilization of DMBE-certified small businesses which include businesses owned by women and minorities, when they have received DMBE small business certification, under the contract to be awarded as a result of this solicitation.
4. Completed Attachment 2 - State Corporation Commission Form: Required of all offerors pursuant to Title 13.1 or Title 50.
5. A completed Assessment Description Template (Attachment 3) for each assessment offered. Offerors must document the specific plans for meeting each of the requirements listed in the “Statement of Needs” section by responding to the questions in the Word version of the Template available on the Procurement Office section of the VDOE Website at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/school_finance/procurement/index.shtml.
The first Template should be included as Attachment 3. If more than one assessment is offered, the template completed for the second assessment should be included as Attachment 4, for the third assessment as Attachment 5, etc.

V. EVALUATION AND AWARD CRITERIA:

- A. EVALUATION CRITERIA: Each assessment proposed by each offeror will be evaluated independently by the VDOE using the following criteria (continued on page 6):

	<u>POINT VALUE</u>
1. Quality of assessment offered and suitability for the intended purpose	30
2. Experience in providing assessments that include measures of growth	20

3.	Specific plan for providing and supporting the proposed assessment	25
4.	Small Business Subcontracting Plan	20
5.	Price	5
	TOTAL	<u>100</u>

B. **AWARD TO MULTIPLE OFFERORS:** Selection shall be made of two or more offerors deemed to be fully qualified and best suited among those submitting proposals on the basis of the evaluation factors included in the Request for Proposals, including price, if so stated in the Request for Proposals. Negotiations shall be conducted with the offerors so selected. Price shall be considered, but need not be the sole determining factor. After negotiations have been conducted with each offeror so selected, the agency shall select the offeror which, in its opinion, has made the best proposal, and shall award the contract to that offeror. The Commonwealth reserves the right to make multiple awards as a result of this solicitation. The Commonwealth may cancel this Request for Proposals or reject proposals at any time prior to an award, and is not required to furnish a statement of the reasons why a particular proposal was not deemed to be the most advantageous (*Code of Virginia*, § 2.2-4359D). Should the Commonwealth determine in writing and in its sole discretion that only one offeror is fully qualified, or that one offeror is clearly more highly qualified than the others under consideration, a contract may be negotiated and awarded to that offeror. The award document will be a contract incorporating by reference all the requirements, terms and conditions of the solicitation and the contractor’s proposal as negotiated.

VI. **REPORTING AND DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS:** Each prime contractor who wins an award based on a proposal that included plans for utilization of DMBE-certified small businesses in Section B of the Small Business Subcontracting Plan (Attachment 1), must deliver to the VDOE Contract Officer on a monthly basis, evidence of compliance (subject only to insubstantial shortfalls and to shortfalls arising from subcontractor default) with the small business subcontracting plan. When such business has been subcontracted to these firms and upon completion of the contract, the contractor agrees to furnish the contract officer at a minimum the following information: name of firm with the DMBE certification number, phone number, total dollar amount subcontracted, category type (small, women-owned, or minority-owned), and type of product or service provided. Payment(s) may be withheld until compliance with the plan is received and confirmed by the agency or institution. The agency reserves the right to pursue other appropriate remedies to include, but not be limited to, termination for default.

VII. **OPTIONAL PREPROPOSAL CONFERENCE:** An optional preproposal conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on October 9, 2012, at 101 N. 14th Street, Richmond, VA 23219, in the Washington Conference Room on the 25th floor. The purpose of this conference is to allow potential offerors an opportunity to present questions and obtain clarification relative to any facet of this solicitation.

While attendance at this conference will not be a prerequisite to submitting a proposal, offerors who intend to submit a proposal are encouraged to attend. Bring a copy of the solicitation with you. Any changes resulting from this conference will be issued in a written addendum to the solicitation.

VIII. **GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

A. **VENDORS MANUAL:** This solicitation is subject to the provisions of the Commonwealth of Virginia *Vendors Manual* and any changes or revisions thereto, which are hereby incorporated into this contract in their entirety. The procedure for filing contractual claims is in section 7.19 of the *Vendors Manual*. A copy of the manual is normally available for review at the purchasing office and is accessible on the Internet at www.eva.virginia.gov under “Vendors Manual” on the vendors tab.

B. **APPLICABLE LAWS AND COURTS:** This solicitation and any resulting contract shall be governed in all respects by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and any litigation with respect thereto shall be brought in the courts of the Commonwealth. The agency and the contractor are encouraged to resolve any issues in controversy arising from the award of the contract or any contractual dispute using Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) procedures (*Code of Virginia*, § 2.2-4366). ADR procedures are described in Chapter 9 of the *Vendors Manual*. The contractor shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations.

- C. **ANTI-DISCRIMINATION:** By submitting their proposals, offerors certify to the Commonwealth that they will conform to the provisions of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, as well as the Virginia Fair Employment Contracting Act of 1975, as amended, where applicable, the Virginians With Disabilities Act, the Americans With Disabilities Act and § 2.2-4311 of the *Virginia Public Procurement Act (VPPA)*. If the award is made to a faith-based organization, the organization shall not discriminate against any recipient of goods, services, or disbursements made pursuant to the contract on the basis of the recipient's religion, religious belief, refusal to participate in a religious practice, or on the basis of race, age, color, gender or national origin and shall be subject to the same rules as other organizations that contract with public bodies to account for the use of the funds provided; however, if the faith-based organization segregates public funds into separate accounts, only the accounts and programs funded with public funds shall be subject to audit by the public body. (*Code of Virginia*, § 2.2-4343.1E).

In every contract over \$10,000 the provisions in 1. and 2. below apply:

1. During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows:
 - a. The contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, or any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment, except where there is a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary to the normal operation of the contractor. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.
 - b. The contractor, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, will state that such contractor is an equal opportunity employer.
 - c. Notices, advertisements and solicitations placed in accordance with federal law, rule or regulation shall be deemed sufficient for the purpose of meeting these requirements.
 2. The contractor will include the provisions of 1. above in every subcontract or purchase order over \$10,000, so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.
- D. **ETHICS IN PUBLIC CONTRACTING:** By submitting their proposals, offerors certify that their proposals are made without collusion or fraud and that they have not offered or received any kickbacks or inducements from any other offeror, supplier, manufacturer or subcontractor in connection with their proposal, and that they have not conferred on any public employee having official responsibility for this procurement transaction any payment, loan, subscription, advance, deposit of money, services or anything of more than nominal value, present or promised, unless consideration of substantially equal or greater value was exchanged.
- E. **IMMIGRATION REFORM AND CONTROL ACT OF 1986:** By entering into a written contract with the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Contractor certifies that the Contractor does not, and shall not during the performance of the contract for goods and services in the Commonwealth, knowingly employ an unauthorized alien as defined in the federal Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.
- F. **DEBARMENT STATUS:** By submitting their proposals, offerors certify that they are not currently debarred by the Commonwealth of Virginia from submitting bids or proposals on contracts for the type of goods and/or services covered by this solicitation, nor are they an agent of any person or entity that is currently so debarred.
- G. **ANTITRUST:** By entering into a contract, the contractor conveys, sells, assigns, and transfers to the Commonwealth of Virginia all rights, title and interest in and to all causes of action it may now have or hereafter acquire under the antitrust laws of the United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia, relating to the particular goods or services purchased or acquired by the Commonwealth of Virginia under said contract.
- H. **MANDATORY USE OF STATE FORM AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR IFBs AND RFPs:** Failure to submit a proposal on the official state form provided for that purpose may be a cause for rejection of the proposal. Modification of or additions to the General Terms and Conditions of the

solicitation may be cause for rejection of the proposal; however, the Commonwealth reserves the right to decide, on a case by case basis, in its sole discretion, whether to reject such a proposal.

I. **CLARIFICATION OF TERMS:** If any prospective offeror has questions about the specifications or other solicitation documents, the prospective offeror should contact the buyer whose name appears on the face of the solicitation no later than five working days before the due date. Any revisions to the solicitation will be made only by addendum issued by the buyer.

J. **PAYMENT:**

1. **To Prime Contractor:**

- a. Invoices for items ordered, delivered and accepted shall be submitted by the contractor directly to the payment address shown on the purchase order/contract. All invoices shall show the state contract number and/or purchase order number; social security number (for individual contractors) or the federal employer identification number (for proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations).
- b. Any payment terms requiring payment in less than 30 days will be regarded as requiring payment 30 days after invoice or delivery, whichever occurs last. This shall not affect offers of discounts for payment in less than 30 days, however.
- c. All goods or services provided under this contract or purchase order, that are to be paid for with public funds, shall be billed by the contractor at the contract price, regardless of which public agency is being billed.
- d. The following shall be deemed to be the date of payment: the date of postmark in all cases where payment is made by mail, or the date of offset when offset proceedings have been instituted as authorized under the Virginia Debt Collection Act.
- e. **Unreasonable Charges.** Under certain emergency procurements and for most time and material purchases, final job costs cannot be accurately determined at the time orders are placed. In such cases, contractors should be put on notice that final payment in full is contingent on a determination of reasonableness with respect to all invoiced charges. Charges which appear to be unreasonable will be researched and challenged, and that portion of the invoice held in abeyance until a settlement can be reached. Upon determining that invoiced charges are not reasonable, the Commonwealth shall promptly notify the contractor, in writing, as to those charges which it considers unreasonable and the basis for the determination. A contractor may not institute legal action unless a settlement cannot be reached within thirty (30) days of notification. The provisions of this section do not relieve an agency of its prompt payment obligations with respect to those charges which are not in dispute (*Code of Virginia*, § 2.2-4363).

2. **To Subcontractors:**

- a. A contractor awarded a contract under this solicitation is hereby obligated:
 - (1) To pay the subcontractor(s) within seven (7) days of the contractor's receipt of payment from the Commonwealth for the proportionate share of the payment received for work performed by the subcontractor(s) under the contract; or
 - (2) To notify the agency and the subcontractor(s), in writing, of the contractor's intention to withhold payment and the reason.
- b. The contractor is obligated to pay the subcontractor(s) interest at the rate of one percent per month (unless otherwise provided under the terms of the contract) on all amounts owed by the contractor that remain unpaid seven (7) days following receipt of payment from the Commonwealth, except for amounts withheld as stated in (2) above. The date of mailing of any payment by U. S. Mail is deemed to be payment to the addressee. These provisions apply

to each sub-tier contractor performing under the primary contract. A contractor's obligation to pay an interest charge to a subcontractor may not be construed to be an obligation of the Commonwealth.

3. Each prime contractor who wins an award in which provision of a SWAM procurement plan is a condition to the award, shall deliver to the contracting agency or institution, on or before request for final payment, evidence and certification of compliance (subject only to insubstantial shortfalls and to shortfalls arising from subcontractor default) with the SWAM procurement plan. Final payment under the contract in question may be withheld until such certification is delivered and, if necessary, confirmed by the agency or institution, or other appropriate penalties may be assessed in lieu of withholding such payment.
 4. The Commonwealth of Virginia encourages contractors and subcontractors to accept electronic and credit card payments.
- K. **PRECEDENCE OF TERMS:** The following General Terms and Conditions *VENDORS MANUAL, APPLICABLE LAWS AND COURTS, ANTI-DISCRIMINATION, ETHICS IN PUBLIC CONTRACTING, IMMIGRATION REFORM AND CONTROL ACT OF 1986, DEBARMENT STATUS, ANTITRUST, MANDATORY USE OF STATE FORM AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS, CLARIFICATION OF TERMS, PAYMENT* shall apply in all instances. In the event there is a conflict between any of the other General Terms and Conditions and any Special Terms and Conditions in this solicitation, the Special Terms and Conditions shall apply.
- L. **QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFERORS:** The Commonwealth may make such reasonable investigations as deemed proper and necessary to determine the ability of the offeror to perform the services/furnish the goods and the offeror shall furnish to the Commonwealth all such information and data for this purpose as may be requested. The Commonwealth reserves the right to inspect the offeror's physical facilities prior to award to satisfy questions regarding the offeror's capabilities. The Commonwealth further reserves the right to reject any proposal if the evidence submitted by, or investigations of, such offeror fails to satisfy the Commonwealth that such offeror is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract and to provide the services and/or furnish the goods contemplated therein.
- M. **TESTING AND INSPECTION:** The Commonwealth reserves the right to conduct any test/inspection it may deem advisable to assure goods and services conform to the specifications.
- N. **ASSIGNMENT OF CONTRACT:** A contract shall not be assignable by the contractor in whole or in part without the written consent of the Commonwealth.
- O. **CHANGES TO THE CONTRACT:** Changes can be made to the contract in any of the following ways:
1. The parties may agree in writing to modify the scope of the contract. An increase or decrease in the price of the contract resulting from such modification shall be agreed to by the parties as a part of their written agreement to modify the scope of the contract.
 2. The Purchasing Agency may order changes within the general scope of the contract at any time by written notice to the contractor. Changes within the scope of the contract include, but are not limited to, things such as services to be performed, the method of packing or shipment, and the place of delivery or installation. The contractor shall comply with the notice upon receipt. The contractor shall be compensated for any additional costs incurred as the result of such order and shall give the Purchasing Agency a credit for any savings. Said compensation shall be determined by one of the following methods:
 - a. By mutual agreement between the parties in writing; or
 - b. By agreeing upon a unit price or using a unit price set forth in the contract, if the work to be done can be expressed in units, and the contractor accounts for the number of units of work performed, subject to the Purchasing Agency's right to audit the contractor's records and/or to determine the correct number of units independently; or

- c. By ordering the contractor to proceed with the work and keep a record of all costs incurred and savings realized. A markup for overhead and profit may be allowed if provided by the contract. The same markup shall be used for determining a decrease in price as the result of savings realized. The contractor shall present the Purchasing Agency with all vouchers and records of expenses incurred and savings realized. The Purchasing Agency shall have the right to audit the records of the contractor as it deems necessary to determine costs or savings. Any claim for an adjustment in price under this provision must be asserted by written notice to the Purchasing Agency within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the written order from the Purchasing Agency. If the parties fail to agree on an amount of adjustment, the question of an increase or decrease in the contract price or time for performance shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures for resolving disputes provided by the Disputes Clause of this contract or, if there is none, in accordance with the disputes provisions of the Commonwealth of Virginia *Vendors Manual*. Neither the existence of a claim nor a dispute resolution process, litigation or any other provision of this contract shall excuse the contractor from promptly complying with the changes ordered by the Purchasing Agency or with the performance of the contract generally.

- P. **DEFAULT:** In case of failure to deliver goods or services in accordance with the contract terms and conditions, the Commonwealth, after due oral or written notice, may procure them from other sources and hold the contractor responsible for any resulting additional purchase and administrative costs. This remedy shall be in addition to any other remedies which the Commonwealth may have.

- Q. **INSURANCE:** By signing and submitting a bid or proposal under this solicitation, the bidder or offeror certifies that if awarded the contract, it will have the following insurance coverage at the time the contract is awarded. For construction contracts, if any subcontractors are involved, the subcontractor will have workers' compensation insurance in accordance with §§ 2.2-4332 and 65.2-800 et seq. of the *Code of Virginia*. The bidder or offeror further certifies that the contractor and any subcontractors will maintain these insurance coverage during the entire term of the contract and that all insurance coverage will be provided by insurance companies authorized to sell insurance in Virginia by the Virginia State Corporation Commission.

MINIMUM INSURANCE COVERAGES AND LIMITS REQUIRED FOR MOST CONTRACTS:

1. Workers' Compensation - Statutory requirements and benefits. Coverage is compulsory for employers of three or more employees, to include the employer. Contractors who fail to notify the Commonwealth of increases in the number of employees that change their workers' compensation requirements under the *Code of Virginia* during the course of the contract shall be in noncompliance with the contract.
 2. Employer's Liability - \$100,000.
 3. Commercial General Liability - \$1,000,000 per occurrence. Commercial General Liability is to include bodily injury and property damage, personal injury and advertising injury, products and completed operations coverage. The Commonwealth of Virginia must be named as an additional insured and so endorsed on the policy.
 4. Automobile Liability - \$1,000,000 per occurrence. (Only used if motor vehicle is to be used in the contract.)
- R. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARD:** Upon the award or the announcement of the decision to award a contract as a result of this solicitation, the purchasing agency will publicly post such notice on the DGS/DPS eVA VBO (www.eva.virginia.gov) for a minimum of 10 days.

 - S. **DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE:** During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees to (i) provide a drug-free workplace for the contractor's employees; (ii) post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance or marijuana is prohibited in the contractor's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees

for violations of such prohibition; (iii) state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor that the contractor maintains a drug-free workplace; and (iv) include the provisions of the foregoing clauses in every subcontract or purchase order of over \$10,000, so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.

For the purposes of this section, “*drug-free workplace*” means a site for the performance of work done in connection with a specific contract awarded to a contractor, the employees of whom are prohibited from engaging in the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of any controlled substance or marijuana during the performance of the contract.

- T. **NONDISCRIMINATION OF CONTRACTORS:** An offeror, or contractor shall not be discriminated against in the solicitation or award of this contract because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, faith-based organizational status, any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment or because the offeror employs ex-offenders unless the state agency, department or institution has made a written determination that employing ex-offenders on the specific contract is not in its best interest. If the award of this contract is made to a faith-based organization and an individual, who applies for or receives goods, services, or disbursements provided pursuant to this contract objects to the religious character of the faith-based organization from which the individual receives or would receive the goods, services, or disbursements, the public body shall offer the individual, within a reasonable period of time after the date of his objection, access to equivalent goods, services, or disbursements from an alternative provider.
- U. **eVA BUSINESS-TO-GOVERNMENT VENDOR REGISTRATION:** The eVA Internet electronic procurement solution, website portal www.eVA.virginia.gov, streamlines and automates government purchasing activities in the Commonwealth. The eVA portal is the gateway for vendors to conduct business with state agencies and public bodies. All vendors desiring to provide goods and/or services to the Commonwealth shall participate in the eVA Internet procurement solution either through the eVA Basic Vendor Registration Service or eVA Premium Vendor Registration Service. All offerors must register in eVA and pay the Vendor Transaction Fees specified below; failure to register will result in the proposal being rejected.

Effective July 1, 2011, vendor registration and registration-renewal fees have been discontinued. Registration options are as follows:

- a. eVA Basic Vendor Registration Service: eVA Basic Vendor Registration Service includes electronic order receipt, vendor catalog posting, on-line registration, electronic bidding, and the ability to research historical procurement data available in the eVA purchase transaction data warehouse.
- b. eVA Premium Vendor Registration Service: eVA Premium Vendor Registration Service includes all benefits of the eVA Basic Vendor Registration Service plus automatic email or fax notification of solicitations and amendments.

Vendor transaction fees are determined by the date the original purchase order is issued and are as follows:

- a. For orders issued prior to August 16, 2006, the Vendor Transaction Fee is 1%, capped at a maximum of \$500 per order.
- b. For orders issued August 16, 2006 thru June 30, 2011, the Vendor Transaction Fee is:
 - (i) DMBE-certified Small Businesses: 1%, capped at \$500 per order.
 - (ii) Businesses that are not DMBE-certified Small Businesses: 1%, capped at \$1,500 per order.
- c. For orders issued July 1, 2011 thru June 30, 2013, the Vendor Transaction Fee is:
 - (i) DMBE-certified Small Businesses: 0.75%, capped at \$500 per order.
 - (ii) Businesses that are not DMBE-certified Small Businesses: 0.75%, capped at \$1,500 per order.
- d. For orders issued July 1, 2013 and after, the Vendor Transaction Fee is:
 - (i) DMBE-certified Small Businesses: 1%, capped at \$500 per order.
 - (ii) Businesses that are not DMBE-certified Small Businesses: 1%, capped at \$1,500 per order.

The specified vendor transaction fee will be invoiced, by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of General Services, approximately 30 days after the corresponding purchase order is issued and payable 30 days after the invoice date. Any adjustments (increases/decreases) will be handled through purchase order changes.

- V. **AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS:** It is understood and agreed between the parties herein that the agency shall be bound hereunder only to the extent of the funds available or which may hereafter become available for the purpose of this agreement.
- W. **SET-ASIDES.** This solicitation is set-aside for DMBE-certified small business participation only when designated “SET-ASIDE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES” in the solicitation. DMBE-certified small businesses are those businesses that hold current small business certification from the Virginia Department of Minority Business Enterprise. This shall not exclude DMBE-certified women-owned and minority-owned businesses when they have received the DMBE small business certification. For purposes of award, bidders/offerors shall be deemed small businesses if and only if they are certified as such by DMBE on the due date for receipt of bids/proposals.
- X. **BID PRICE CURRENCY:** Unless stated otherwise in the solicitation, offerors shall state offer prices in US dollars.
- Y. **AUTHORIZATION TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN THE COMMONWEALTH:** A contractor organized as a stock or nonstock corporation, limited liability company, business trust, or limited partnership or registered as a registered limited liability partnership shall be authorized to transact business in the Commonwealth as a domestic or foreign business entity if so required by Title 13.1 or Title 50 of the *Code of Virginia* or as otherwise required by law. Any business entity described above that enters into a contract with a public body pursuant to the *Virginia Public Procurement Act* shall not allow its existence to lapse or its certificate of authority or registration to transact business in the Commonwealth, if so required under Title 13.1 or Title 50, to be revoked or cancelled at any time during the term of the contract. A public body may void any contract with a business entity if the business entity fails to remain in compliance with the provisions of this section.

IX. **SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

- 1. **ADVERTISING** In the event a contract is awarded for supplies, equipment, or services resulting from this proposal, no indication of such sales or services to the VDOE or LEAs will be used in product literature or advertising. The contractor shall not state in any of its advertising or product literature that VDOE or LEAs have purchased or uses any of its products or services, and the contractor shall not include VDOE or LEAs in any client list in advertising and promotional materials.
- 2. **AUDIT:** The contractor shall retain all books, records, and other documents relative to this contract for five (5) years after final payment, or until audited by the Commonwealth of Virginia, whichever is sooner. The agency, its authorized agents, and/or state auditors shall have full access to and the right to examine any of said materials during said period.
- 3. **ADDITIONAL USERS:** This procurement is being conducted on behalf of Virginia Local Education Agencies, including public schools and public school divisions and other public bodies who may be added or deleted at anytime during the period of the contract. The addition or deletion of other authorized users shall be made only by written contract modification issued by this agency and upon mutual agreement of the contractor. Such modification shall name the specific public body added or deleted and the effective date. The contractor shall not honor an order citing the resulting contract unless the ordering entity has been added by written contract modification.
- 4. **CANCELLATION OF CONTRACT:** The purchasing agency reserves the right to cancel and terminate any resulting contract, in part or in whole, without penalty, upon 60 days written notice to the contractor. In the event the initial contract period is for more than 12 months, the resulting contract may be terminated by either party, without penalty, after the initial 12 months of the contract period upon 60 days written notice to the other party. Any contract cancellation notice shall not relieve the contractor of

the obligation to deliver and/or perform on all outstanding orders issued prior to the effective date of cancellation.

5. **IDENTIFICATION OF PROPOSAL ENVELOPE:** The signed proposal should be returned in a separate envelope or package, sealed and identified as follows:

From: _____	<u>October 29, 2012</u>	<u>2:00 pm</u>
Name of Bidder/Offeror	Due Date	Time
_____	<u>DOE-SGA-2012-15</u>	
Street or Box Number	RFP No.	
_____	<u>Student Growth Assessments</u>	
City, State, Zip Code	RFP Title	

Name of Buyer Monique Robinson

The envelope should be addressed as directed on Page 1 of the solicitation.

If a proposal not contained in the special envelope is mailed, the offeror takes the risk that the envelope, even if marked as described above, may be inadvertently opened and the information compromised which may cause the proposal to be disqualified. Proposals should be hand delivered to the designated location in the office issuing the solicitation. No other correspondence or other proposals should be placed in the envelope.

6. **RENEWAL OF CONTRACT:** This contract may be renewed by the Commonwealth upon written agreement of both parties for three successive one year periods, under the terms of the current contract, and at a reasonable time (approximately 90 days) prior to the expiration.

7. **SMALL BUSINESS SUBCONTRACTING AND EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:**

- A. It is the goal of the Commonwealth that 40% of its purchases be made from small businesses. This includes discretionary spending in prime contracts and subcontracts. All potential offerors are required to submit a Small Business Subcontracting Plan. Unless the offeror is registered as a DMBE-certified small business and where it is practicable for any portion of the awarded contract to be subcontracted to other suppliers, the contractor is encouraged to offer such subcontracting opportunities to DMBE-certified small businesses. This shall not exclude DMBE-certified women-owned and minority-owned businesses when they have received DMBE small business certification. No offeror or subcontractor shall be considered a Small Business, a Women-Owned Business or a Minority-Owned Business unless certified as such by the Department of Minority Business Enterprise (DMBE) by the due date for receipt of bids or proposals. If small business subcontractors are used, the prime contractor agrees to report the use of small business subcontractors by providing the purchasing office at a minimum the following information: name of small business with the DMBE certification number, phone number, total dollar amount subcontracted, category type (small, women-owned, or minority-owned), and type of product/service provided.
- B. Each prime contractor who wins an award in which provision of a small business subcontracting plan is a condition of the award, shall deliver to the contracting agency or institution on a monthly basis, evidence of compliance (subject only to insubstantial shortfalls and to shortfalls arising from subcontractor default) with the small business subcontracting plan. When such business has been subcontracted to these firms and upon completion of the contract, the contractor agrees to furnish the purchasing office at a minimum the following information: name of firm with the DMBE certification number, phone number, total dollar amount subcontracted, category type (small, women-owned, or minority-owned), and type of product or service provided. Payment(s) may be withheld until compliance with the plan is received and confirmed by the agency or institution. The agency or institution reserves the right to pursue other appropriate remedies to include, but not be limited to, termination for default.

- C. Each prime contractor who wins an award valued over \$200,000 shall deliver to the contracting agency or institution on an annual basis, information on use of subcontractors that are not DMBE-certified small businesses. When such business has been subcontracted to these firms and upon completion of the contract, the contractor agrees to furnish the purchasing office at a minimum the following information: name of firm, phone number, total dollar amount subcontracted, and type of product or service provided.
8. **eVA BUSINESS-TO-GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS AND ORDERS:** The solicitation will result in an undetermined number of purchase order(s) with the eVA transaction fee specified below assessed for each order.
- a. For orders issued prior to August 16, 2006, the Vendor Transaction Fee is 1%, capped at a maximum of \$500 per order.
 - b. For orders issued August 16, 2006 thru June 30, 2011, the Vendor Transaction Fee is:
 - (i) DMBE-certified Small Businesses: 1%, Capped at \$500 per order.
 - (ii) Businesses that are not DMBE-certified Small Businesses: 1%, Capped at \$1,500 per order.
 - c. For orders issued July 1, 2011 thru June 30, 2013, the Vendor Transaction Fee is:
 - (i) DMBE-certified Small Businesses: 0.75%, Capped at \$500 per order.
 - (ii) Businesses that are not DMBE-certified Small Businesses: 0.75%, Capped at \$1,500 per order.
 - d. For orders issued July 1, 2013, and after, the Vendor Transaction Fee is:
 - (i) DMBE-certified Small Businesses: 1%, Capped at \$500 per order.
 - (ii) Businesses that are not DMBE-certified Small Businesses: 1%, Capped at \$1,500 per order.

The specified vendor transaction fee will be invoiced, by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of General Services, approximately 30 days after the corresponding purchase order is issued and payable 30 days after the invoice date. Any adjustments (increases/decreases) will be handled through purchase order changes.

The eVA Internet electronic procurement solution, website portal www.eva.virginia.gov, streamlines and automates government purchasing activities in the Commonwealth. The portal is the gateway for vendors to conduct business with state agencies and public bodies.

Vendors desiring to provide goods and/or services to the Commonwealth shall participate in the eVA Internet e-procurement solution and agree to comply with the following:

If this solicitation is for a term contract, failure to provide an electronic catalog (price list) or index page catalog for items awarded will be just cause for the Commonwealth to reject your bid/offer or terminate this contract for default. The format of this electronic catalog shall conform to the eVA Catalog Interchange Format (CIF) Specification that can be accessed and downloaded from www.eVA.virginia.gov. Contractors should email Catalog or Index Page information to eVA-catalog-manager@dgs.virginia.gov.

9. **CONFIDENTIALITY OF PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION:** The contractor assures that information and data obtained as to personal facts and circumstances related to patients or clients will be collected and held confidential, during and following the term of this agreement, and will not be divulged without the individual's and the agency's written consent and only in accordance with federal law or the Code of Virginia. Contractors who utilize, access, or store personally identifiable information as part of the performance of a contract are required to safeguard this information and immediately notify the agency of any breach or suspected breach in the security of such information. Contractors shall allow the agency to both participate in the investigation of incidents and exercise control over decisions regarding external reporting. Contractors and their employees working on this project may be required to sign a confidentiality statement.
10. **STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:** Pursuant to Code of Virginia, §2.2-4311.2 subsection B, a bidder or offeror organized or authorized to transact business in the Commonwealth pursuant to Title 13.1 or Title 50 is required to include in its bid or proposal the

identification number issued to it by the State Corporation Commission (SCC). Any bidder or offeror that is not required to be authorized to transact business in the Commonwealth as a foreign business entity under Title 13.1 or Title 50 or as otherwise required by law is required to include in its bid or proposal a statement describing why the bidder or offeror is not required to be so authorized. Indicate the above information on the SCC Form provided. Contractor agrees that the process by which compliance with Titles 13.1 and 50 is checked during the solicitation stage (including without limitation the SCC Form provided) is streamlined and not definitive, and the Commonwealth's use and acceptance of such form, or its acceptance of Contractor's statement describing why the bidder or offeror was not legally required to be authorized to transact business in the Commonwealth, shall not be conclusive of the issue and shall not be relied upon by the Contractor as demonstrating compliance.

11. **CONTINUITY OF SERVICES:**

- a) The Contractor recognizes that the services under this contract are vital to the Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and must be continued without interruption and that, upon contract expiration, a successor, either the LEAs, the Agency, or another contractor, may continue them. The Contractor agrees:
 - (i) To exercise its best efforts and cooperation to effect an orderly and efficient transition to a successor;
 - (ii) To make all LEA data available to any successor at an appropriate time prior to the expiration of the contract to facilitate transition to successor; and
 - (iii) That the Agency Contracting Officer shall have final authority to resolve disputes related to the transition of the contract from the Contractor to its successor.
- b) The Contractor shall, upon written notice from the Contract Officer, furnish phase-in/phase-out services for up to ninety (90) days after this contract expires and shall negotiate in good faith a plan with the successor to execute the phase-in/phase-out services. This plan shall be subject to the Contract Officer's approval.
- c) The Contractor shall be reimbursed for all reasonable, pre-approved phase-in/phase-out costs (i.e., costs incurred within the agreed period after contract expiration that result from phase-in, phase-out operations) and a fee (profit) not to exceed a pro rata portion of the fee (profit) under this contract. All phase-in/phase-out work fees must be approved by the Contract Officer in writing prior to commencement of said work.

- X. **METHOD OF PAYMENT:** Payment will be made by LEAs within 45 days of the receipt of a valid invoice. Invoices are to be submitted monthly, or as mutually agreed by the LEA and the contractor.

