

**JUSTIFICATION FOR
EMERGENCY PROCUREMENT**

Agency: SC Department of Education

Emergency Vendor: Sandlapper Cleaning and Services, LLC. (7000205161)

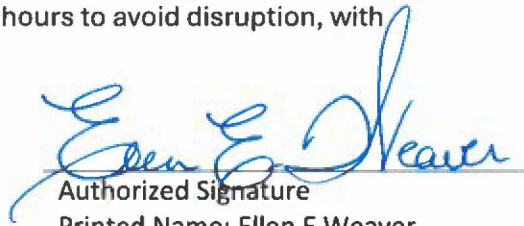
Agency has contracted with or plans to contract with Emergency Vendor for the supplies, services, information technology, or construction described below per S.C. Code Ann. §11-35-1570 and S.C. Regulation 19-445.2110, Emergency Procurement.

Describe the nature of the emergency condition and the resulting immediate threat to public health, welfare, critical economy and efficiency, or safety that this procurement responded to: : The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) has an urgent need to secure daily janitorial services to ensure the regular cleaning of restrooms and office areas, removal of waste, and sanitization of all required areas within the facility. This requirement has become critical due to the current vendor's documented non-performance under the existing contract, which has resulted in unacceptable sanitation conditions and increased health and safety risks for building occupants including public visitors, employees, and district personnel. Immediate replacement of the current vendor is necessary to mitigate the spread of harmful bacteria, maintain compliance with health and safety obligations, and ensure the continued operational readiness of the facility. Prompt procurement action is therefore required to reestablish consistent and reliable janitorial services.

Description of the facts and circumstances giving rise to the above describe emergency condition and threat: Since October 2025, the current vendor has failed to meet their contractual obligations. The current vendor has been served two separate cure letters within a 60-day period for non-performance items including staffing shortages (78% of working days since contract start date have not been fully staffed), daily/weekly/monthly cleaning tasks not completed (at least 105 instances since contract start date), and deceptive responses from upper management regarding resolutions and mitigation efforts. This has become an urgent issue due to health and safety concerns as a result of the previously mentioned non-performance issues that SCDE has repeatedly attempted to address with the current vendor. Additionally, SCDE needs time to perform a solicitation for janitorial services due to human capital constraints in the Procurement office.

Basis for Selection of the Vendor – include a description of competition Agency conducted or will conduct, if any, and explain why more extensive competition was/is not practical under the circumstances: In June 2025, SCDE completed a thorough Request for Proposal (RFP) for janitorial services at SCDE HQ located at 849 Learning Lane, West Columbia, SC 29172. 13 bids were received, reviewed, and analyzed by a scoring panel comprised of multiple SCDE employees in conjunction with SCDE Procurement office. American Facility Services was awarded the contract as they were the highest scored candidate as determined by the scoring panel. Due to the urgent need for a clean, safe, and sanitary work environment, Sandlapper Cleaning Services will be contracted for this emergency procurement as they were the 2nd highest scored candidate from the aforementioned RFP and are immediately capable of providing janitorial services.

Description of supplies, services, information technology, or construction: : Janitorial services for the SCDE Headquarters at 849 Learning Lane will include routine daily, weekly, and monthly cleaning. All work will be performed using environmentally responsible products and high-efficiency equipment. Services will occur during and after business hours to avoid disruption, with emergency cleaning available when required.



Authorized Signature

Printed Name: Ellen E Weaver

Title: *State Superintendent of Education*

Date: 3/5/2026

Notes:

Authorized signature is the agency head unless the agency head has delegated that authority. Delegation of authority must be submitted to the Materials Management Officer in writing.