

**Sole Source
Written Determination**

Agency Identification: South Carolina Department of Education

Description of the agency need that this procurement fulfills: *(See instructions on last page for guidance)*

The agency has previously solicited the custom creation of an Educator Evaluation data system that serves all schools, districts, and Educator Preparation Programs. It seeks to host this custom-built Educator Evaluation data system, SCLead.org.

The need for an Educator Evaluation data system arises from Sections 59-26-10, 59-24-30, and 59-24-40 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina. Additionally, an evaluation system is outlined in State Board Regulations 43-205.1, 43-165.1, and the Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Professional Teaching (ADEPT) and Expanded Program for Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Principal Performance (PADEPP) Guidelines. The Educator Evaluation Data Management System also provides data for Educator Preparation programs and the Educator Preparation Report card required by Section 59-26-35 and Section 59-26-120.

Given these legal mandates, a centralized, online solution is vital for managing and tracking teacher evaluation data effectively and integrating with connected systems including SCEducator finance and certification, the ADEPT Certification Portal, the Professional Learning Library, and the Instruction Hub (LOR). The Educator Evaluation Data Management System serves as a comprehensive platform for required reporting. It integrates required custom rubrics for teacher, principal, counselor, librarian, and speech-language professional evaluations and mirrors South Carolina's specific statewide evaluation processes, allowing educators to concentrate on their professional growth rather than administrative burdens of a paper system.

Describe the Market Based on Research Performed: *(See instructions on last page for guidance)*

Market research included phone calls with districts, networking with other states and national organizations, web-based research of contracts for similar needs from other states and districts, and conversations with multiple other offices within the agency. Results indicated that the contract for maintenance and construction of the custom-built educator evaluation data system was competed with state contract 4400017021. There are no other companies that could license and host a product that was custom built for South Carolina's education evaluation systems by RANDA solutions. The cost to custom build and host a new system and the timeframe needed to implement responsibly with districts is not cost effective or feasible. Please reference additional market research performed prior to this written determination.

Sole Source Vendor Name: Level Data, DBA RANDA Solutions

Based upon the following determination, Agency proposes to acquire the supplies, construction, information technology, and/or services described herein from the vendor named above per SC Code Ann § 11-35-1560 and SC Regulation 19-445.2105, Sole Source Procurement.

Description of supplies, construction, information technology, and/or services vendor will provide under the contract: *(See instructions on last page for guidance.)*

Level Data DBA RANDA Solutions is the contracted company that designed, maintains, and licenses the SCLead.org Educator Effectiveness data management application. The SC Department of Education and districts conduct all required reporting for educator evaluations through the

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application and over 75% of districts choose to use the additional reports and forms embedded to further support the evaluation process in their districts. Level Data DBA RANDA will provide hosting for the online application.

Explain why the described solution is the only solution that meets the agency's need and how no other identified solutions were sufficient. *(See instructions on last page for guidance)*

Level Data DBA RANDA Solutions is uniquely qualified to provide this service because they are the only company with administrative access to host and license the software. The SCLead data management system also shares data necessary for certification with the SCEducator certification system.

Note: Determination is not complete without required signatures and dates


Required Signatures:

Prepared by: 

Date: 9 / 1 / 2025

Printed Name: Lilla Toal Mandsager

Title: Executive Director

Approved by: 

Approval Date: 9 / 29 / 25

Printed Name: Ellen E. Weaver

Title: State Superintendent of Education

The last page contains instructions and is not required to be retained.