

University of Central Arkansas

INVITATION FOR COMPETATIVE BIDS

The University of Central Arkansas (UCA) invites you to bid on a Course Sharing Platform for the campus of the University of Central Arkansas, 201 Donaghey Avenue, Conway, AR.

Project Coordinator is Dr. Jonathan Glenn, Associate Provost (501-450-5113).
Email: jona@uca.edu

Bid issued by: Cassandra McCuien-Smith, Procurement Director (501-450-5014). Email: cmccuien@uca.edu

Scope of Work:

To provide a course-sharing platform to improve student access, retention, expand our catalogs and recover revenue.

Date Issued: **November 3, 2022**

Bid Number: **UCA-23-029**

Bid Opening: November 15, 2022

Bid Opening Time: 9:00 a.m. cst

Bid submittals **must** be properly marked with the **Bid Number**, bidders return address, phone and fax numbers and submitted prior to the Opening Date and Time listed above. **Bids less than \$75,000 can be faxed to 501-450-5020 or emailed to: purchasing@uca.edu on or before November 15, 2022 by 9:00 a.m. cst.**

Company Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone No: _____ Email: _____

Signature: _____

Platform specifications:

Vendor must respond with able to provide or unable to provide in the blanks below:

- Ability to choose the course(s) which UCA wants to share as a supplier ("Teaching Institution"). _____
- Ability to set capacity in the course(s) being shared _____
- Ability to set pricing for courses (including the ability to set variable pricing) we teach. _____
- Student portal for reviewing and requesting seats from approved partner institutions. _____
- A large network of signed partners / colleges / universities to serve as consumers of UCA seats (including community colleges, public universities, and private universities), in which we may choose the partners we work with. _____
- Ability to bring demand for UCA courses and programs, should we choose to do so, from non-higher education partners, such as employee benefits companies, high schools seeking dual enrollment options for students, and other industry partners. _____

Provide a copy of your Master Services and License Agreement with your bid.

Pricing Sheet

You must fill out this pricing sheet in order for your bid to be considered. Pricing submitted on any other document will not be considered.

<u>Benefit:</u>	<u>Description:</u>	<u>Fee:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Platform Access (for all Academic Partners) 	Enables Academic Partner and its Authorized Users to access and utilize the Platform	\$_____ per year
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course Hosting (for Teaching Institutions only) 	Enables Academic Partner to post an inventory of Course Sections with available seats to prospective Students; and then accept Enrollment Requests to these Course Sections.	\$_____ per year
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enrollment Management (for Teaching Institutions only) 	Records enrollments of Students in Course Sections; enables Teaching Institution to submit grades and/or final completion status; and provides Teaching Institution with seamless, electronic transfer of applicable Registration Fees	_____% of the Registration Fee Charged by the Teaching Institution

Option 1:

Annual total contract cost: \$_____ plus _____% Registration Fee

Option 2:

3 year total contract cost: \$_____ plus _____% Registration Fee

UCA STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. **GENERAL:** Any Special Terms and Conditions included in the Invitation for Bids override these Standard Terms and Conditions. The Standard Terms and Conditions and any Special Terms and Conditions become a part of any contract entered into if any or all parts of the bid are accepted by the University of Central Arkansas, hereafter called University or UCA.

2. **ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION:** The University of Central Arkansas reserves the right to accept or reject all or any part of a bid or any and all bids, to waive any informalities and minor technicalities and to award the bid to best serve the interest of the University and State of Arkansas. This Invitation for Bid does not in any way commit UCA to contract for the commodities/services listed herein.

3. **BID SUBMISSION:** Bids must be submitted to the Purchasing Department on this form with attachments, when appropriate, on or before the date and time specified for the bid opening. If this form is not used, the bid may be rejected. Each bid submitted must be properly identified with a minimum of Bid Number, Time and Date of Opening. The bid should be typed or printed in ink. Late bids will not be considered under any circumstances.

4. **SIGNATURE:** Failure to sign a bid will disqualify it. The person signing the bid should show title or authority to bind the firm in a contract. Signature means a manual or an electronic or digital method executed or adopted by a party with the intent to be bound by or to authenticate a record which is (a) unique to the person using it; (b) capable of verification; (c) under the sole control of the person using it; (d) linked to data in a manner that if the data are changed, the electronic signature is invalidated.

5. **NO BID:** If not submitting a bid, the bidder should respond by returning the front page of this form, making it a No Bid, and explaining the reason. Individual bidders may be removed from the University's Bidders List by failure to respond three times in succession.

6. **PRICES:** Bid pricing on the unit price to include FOB destination to UCA. In cases of errors in extension, unit prices shall govern. Prices are firm and not subject to escalation unless otherwise specified in the Invitation for Bid. Unless otherwise specified, the bid must be firm for acceptance for thirty (30) days from the bid opening dates. "Discount from List" bids are not acceptable unless requested in the Invitation for Bid. Time or cash discounts will not be considered. Quantity discounts should be included in the price of the item.

7. **QUANTITIES:** Quantities stated on "firm" contracts are actual requirements of the University. The quantities stated in "term" contracts are estimates only and are not guaranteed. Bid unit price on the estimated quantity

and unit of measure specified. The University may order more or less than the estimated quantity on any "term" contract.

8. **BRAND NAME REFERENCES:** Unless specified "No Substitutes", any catalog brand name or manufacturer's reference used in the bid invitation is descriptive only, not restrictive, and used to indicate the type and quality desired. Bids on brands of like nature and quality will be considered. If bidding on other than the referenced specifications the bid must show the manufacturer, brand or trade name, and other descriptions, and should include the manufacturer's illustration and complete description of the product(s) offered. If the bidder fails to submit such the bid can be rejected. The University reserves the right to determine whether a substitute offered is equivalent to and meets the standards of the item specified. The University may require the bidder to supply additional descriptive material. The bidder guarantees that the product offered will meet or exceed specifications identified in the bid invitation. If the bidder takes no exception to the specifications or referenced data in the bid, he/she will be required to furnish the product according to the brand, names, numbers, etc., as specified in the invitation for bid document.

9. **GUARANTY:** All items shall be newly manufactured, in first class condition, latest model and design, including, where applicable, containers suitable for shipment and storage, unless otherwise indicated in the bid invitation. The bidders hereby guarantee that everything furnished hereunder will be free from defects in design, workmanship and material, that if sold by drawing, sample or specifications, it will conform thereto and will serve the function for which it was furnished. The bidder further guarantees that if the items furnished hereunder are to be installed by the bidder, such items will function for which it was intended. The bidder also guarantees that all applicable laws have been complied with relating to construction, packaging, labeling, and registration. The bidder's obligations, under this paragraph, shall survive for a minimum of one year from the date of delivery, unless otherwise specified herein.

10. **SAMPLES:** Samples, or demonstrators, when requested, must be furnished free of expense to the University. If samples are not destroyed during the reasonable examination they will be returned to the bidder, if requested, within ten days following the complete examination of the item(s), at bidder's expense. Each sample should be marked with the bidder's name, address, bid number and item number.

11. **TESTING PROCEDURES FOR SPECIFICATIONS COMPLIANCE:** Tests may be performed on samples, or demonstrators, submitted with the bid, or on samples taken from regular shipments. In the event products tested fail to meet or exceed all conditions and requirements of the original specifications, the cost of the sample used and the reasonable cost of the testing shall be borne by the bidder.

12. **AMENDMENTS:** The bid documents cannot be altered or amended after the bid opening except as permitted by regulation.

13. TAXES AND TRADE DISCOUNTS: List all taxes as a separate line item on the bid for commodities. However, for construction projects all taxes must be included in the total bid price. Trade discounts should be deducted from the unit price and the net price should be shown on the bid.

14. AWARD: Any contract, as the results of this Invitation for Bid, shall be awarded with reasonable promptness by written notice to the lowest responsible bidder whose bid meets the requirements and criteria set forth in the Invitation for Bid. The University reserves the right to award the item(s) listed on this Invitation for Bid "individually", by "groups", "all or none", or by any other method as deemed in the best interest of the University, as deemed by the UCA Procurement Official. In the event all bids exceed available funds, as certified by the appropriate fiscal officer, the Agency Procurement Official is authorized in situations where time or economic considerations preclude re-solicitation of work of a reduced scope to negotiate an adjustment of the bid price, including changes in the bid requirements, with the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, in order to bring the bid within the amount of available funds. NOTE: Firm Contract: A written University Purchase Order mailed, or otherwise furnished, to the successful bidder within the time of acceptance specified in the Invitation for Bid results in a binding contract that requires the contractor to furnish the commodities or services as stated on the purchase order which will reference the original Invitation for Bid documents and number. Vendor is to immediately initiate action to comply with the requirements of the purchase order, which by reference will incorporate all the requirements contained in the original Invitation for Bid. Term Contracts: A Contract Award will be issued to the successful bidder. It results in a binding obligation of the item(s) or service(s) for specific pricing and time frame without further action, at that time, by either party. The Contract Award does not authorize any shipment(s) or service(s) to be provided. Shipment of commodities or the providing of service, related to a "term contract" is only authorized by the receipt of a University Purchase Order, by the Contractor, that will list the actual requirement, pricing, and delivery location and contract number.

15. TERM OF CONTRACT: The Invitation for Bid, Contract Award or Purchase Order will clearly state the period of time the contract will be in effect for each individual contract.

16. DELIVERY ON CONTRACTS: The Invitation for Bid, Contract Award and/or Purchase Order will state the number of days to place a commodity, equipment and/or service in the designated location under normal conditions. If the Contractor cannot meet the stated delivery, alternate delivery schedules may become a factor in an award. The UCA Purchasing Department has the right to extend delivery if reasons appear valid. If the Contractor cannot meet the delivery date, the University reserves the right to procure the items elsewhere and any additional cost will be borne by the Contractor.

17. DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS: No substitutions or cancellations are permitted without prior written approval of the UCA Purchasing Department.

Delivery shall be made during the normal University work hours of 8:00 am to 4:30 pm CT, unless prior approval for other delivery time(s) has been obtained for the UCA Purchasing Department. Packing memoranda shall be enclosed with each shipment.

18. **DEFAULT:** All commodities furnished will be subject to inspection and acceptance of the University after delivery. Backorders, default in promised delivery, or failure to meet the original specifications of the order will authorize the UCA Purchasing Department to cancel the contract, or any portion(s) of it, and procure the commodities, equipment and/or services elsewhere and charge the full increase in expense, if any, to the defaulting contractor. Consistent failure to meet delivery dates/requirements may cause removal from the vendor listing or suspension of eligibility for any award.

19. **VARIATION IN QUANTITY:** The University assumes no liability for commodities produced, processed or shipped in excess of the amount specified on University contracts.

20. **UNIVERSITY/STATE PROPERTY:** Any specifications, drawings, technical information, dies, cuts, negatives, positives, data or any other items furnished to the contractor in contemplation hereunder shall remain the property of the University/State, be kept confidential to the extent allowed by Arkansas law, be used only as expressly authorized, and returned at the contractor's expense to the FOB point, properly identifying what is being returned.

21. **PATENTS OR COPYRIGHTS:** The contractor agrees to indemnify and hold the University harmless from all claims, damages and costs, including legal fees, arising from infringements of any patents or copyrights.

22. **INVOICING:** The contractor shall be paid upon the completion of all of the following: (1) delivery and acceptance of the commodities or services, (2) submission of a properly itemized invoice, with the specified number of copies that reflect the contract/purchase order number(s), item(s), quantity and pricing; (3) and the proper and legal processing of the invoice by the University. Invoices must be sent to the University, Attn: Accounts Payable Department, as shown on the original contract or purchase order.

23. **ASSIGNMENT:** Any contract entered into pursuant to any contract issued by the University is not assignable nor the duties there under delegable by either party without the written consent of both parties of the original agreed upon contract.

24. **LACK OF FUNDS:** The University may cancel any contract to the extent funds are no longer legally available for expenditures under the contract. The University will return any delivered but unpaid for commodities in normal conditions to the contractor. If the University is unable to return the commodities in a normal condition, and there are no funds legally available to pay for the

commodities, the contractor may file a claim with the Arkansas Claims Commission for the actual expense.

25. **DISCRIMINATION:** In order to comply with the provisions of Act 54 of 1977, as amended, relating to unfair employ practices, the bidder/contractor agrees as follows: (a) the bidder/contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, sex, color, age, religion, disability, or national origin; (b) in all solicitations or advertisements for employees, the bidder/contractor will state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, sex, age, religion, disability, or national origin; (c) the bidder/contractor will furnish such relevant information and reports as requested by the Human Resources Commission for the purpose of determining compliance with the statute; (d) failure of the bidder/contractor to comply with the statute, rules and regulations promulgated there under and this nondiscrimination clause shall be deemed a breach of contract and it may be cancelled, terminated or suspended in whole or part; (e) The bidder/contractor will include the provision of items (a) through (d) in every subcontract so that such provisions will be binding upon such subcontractors or vendor.

26. **ETHICS:** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for a person to be retained, or to retain a person, to solicit or secure a University/State of Arkansas contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies maintained by the contractor for the purpose of securing business. Any violation of this ethics statement can result in the cancellation of any contract with the University.

27. **CONTRACT AND GRANT DISCLOSURE AND CERTIFICATION:** Any contract or amendment to any contract, executed by the University of Central Arkansas which exceeds \$25,000 shall require the contractor to disclose information as required under the terms of Executive Order 98-04 and the regulations pursuant thereto. Failure of any person or entity to disclose or the violation of any rule, regulation or policy promulgated by the Department of Finance and Administration pursuant to this order shall be considered a material breach of the terms of the contract. The material breach of the terms shall subject the party failing to disclose, or in violation, to all legal remedies available to the University under the provisions of existing law. The attached Contract and Grant Disclosure and Certification Form (F-1 and F-2) shall be used for the disclosure purpose. No contract or amendment to any existing contract will be approved until the contractor completes and returns the disclosure form.

28. **ANTITRUST:** As part of the consideration for entering into any contract pursuant to an Invitation for Bid, the bidder named on the Invitation for Bid, acting herein by the authorized individual, its duly authorized agent, hereby assigns, sells and transfers to the University/State of Arkansas all rights, title and interest in and to all causes of action it may have under the antitrust laws of the United States or the State of Arkansas for price fixing, which causes of action have accrued prior to the date of the assignment and which relates solely to the

particular goods or services purchased or produced by this State pursuant to any resulting contract with this University.

29. **TECHNOLOGY ACCESS:** When procuring a technology product or when soliciting the development of such a product, the State of Arkansas is required to comply with the provisions of Arkansas Code Annotated § 25-26-201 et seq., as amended by Act 308 of 2013, which expresses the policy of the State to provide individuals who are blind or visually impaired with access to information technology purchased in whole or in part with state funds. The Vendor expressly acknowledges and agrees that state funds may not be expended in connection with the purchase of information technology unless that system meets the statutory requirements found in 36 C.F.R. § 1194.21, as it existed on January 1, 2013 (software applications and operating systems) and 36 C.F.R. § 1194.22, as it existed on January 1, 2013 (web-based intranet and internet information and applications), in accordance with the State of Arkansas technology policy standards relating to accessibility by persons with visual impairments.

ACCORDINGLY, THE VENDOR EXPRESSLY REPRESENTS AND WARRANTS to the State of Arkansas through the procurement process by submission of a Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) or similar documentation to demonstrate compliance with 36 C.F.R. § 1194.21, as it existed on January 1, 2013 (software applications and operating systems) and 36 C.F.R. § 1194.22, as it existed on January 1, 2013 (web-based intranet and internet information and applications) that the technology provided to the State for purchase is capable, either by virtue of features included within the technology, or because it is readily adaptable by use with other technology, of:

- Providing, to the extent required by Arkansas Code Annotated § 25-26-201 et seq., as amended by Act 308 of 2013, equivalent access for effective use by both visual and non-visual means;
- Presenting information, including prompts used for interactive communications, in formats intended for non-visual use;
- After being made accessible, integrating into networks for obtaining, retrieving, and disseminating information used by individuals who are not blind or visually impaired;
- Providing effective, interactive control and use of the technology, including without limitation the operating system, software applications, and format of the data presented is readily achievable by nonvisual means;
- Being compatible with information technology used by other individuals with whom the blind or visually impaired individuals interact;
- Integrating into networks used to share communications among employees, program participants, and the public; and
- Providing the capability of equivalent access by nonvisual means to telecommunications or other interconnected network services used by persons who are not blind or visually impaired. If the information technology product or system being offered by the Vendor does not completely meet these standards, the Vendor must provide an explanation within the Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) detailing the deviation from these standards. State

agencies cannot claim a product as a whole is not commercially available because no product in the marketplace meets all the standards. If products are commercially available that meets some but not all of the standards, the agency must procure the product that best meets the standards or provide written documentation supporting selection of a different product.

For purposes of this section, the phrase "equivalent access" means a substantially similar ability to communicate with, or make use of, the technology, either directly, by features incorporated within the technology, or by other reasonable means such as assistive devices or services which would constitute reasonable accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or similar state and federal laws. Examples of methods by which equivalent access may be provided include, but are not limited to,

keyboard alternatives to mouse commands or other means of navigating graphical displays, and customizable display appearance. As provided in Act 308 of 2013, if equivalent access is not reasonably available, then individuals who are blind or visually impaired shall be provided a reasonable accommodation as defined in 42 U.S.C. § 12111(9), as it existed on January 1, 2013. As provided in Act 308 of 2013, if the information manipulated or presented by the product is inherently visual in nature, so that its meaning cannot be conveyed non-visually, these specifications do not prohibit the purchase or use of an information technology product that does not meet these standards.

30. **CANCELLATION FOR CAUSE:** Either party may cancel any contract or item award, for cause, by giving a thirty (30) day notice of intent to cancel. Cause for the University to cancel will include, but is not limited to, cost exceeding current market prices for comparable purchases, request for increase in prices during the period of the contract, or failure to perform to contract conditions. The contractor will be required to honor all purchase orders that were prepared and dated prior to the date of expiration, or cancellation. Cancellation by the University does not relieve the contractor of any liability arising out of a default or nonperformance. If a contract is cancelled due to a request for increases in pricing, or failure to perform, that contractor will be removed from the bidders/vendors list for a period up to twenty-four (24) months. Cause for the vendor to cancel a contract will include, but is not limited to, the item(s) being discontinued and unavailable from the manufacturer or non-payment of vendor invoices by the University.

31. **CANCELLATION FOR CONVENIENCE:** The University may terminate the Contract for any reason by giving the Contractor written notice of such termination no less than sixty (60) days prior to the date of termination.

32. **ALTERATION OF ORIGINAL IFB/RFP DOCUMENT:** The original written or electronic language of the IFB/RFP shall not be changed or altered, except by approved written addendum issued by the UCA Purchasing Department. This does not eliminate a vendor/contractor from taking exception(s) to these documents, but does clarify that he/she cannot change the original document's written or electronic language. If a vendor/contractor wishes to make exception(s), to any of the original language, they must be submitted by the

vendor/contractor in separate written or electronic, language in a manner that clearly explains the exception(s). If a vendor's/contractor's submittal is discovered to contain alterations/changes to the original written or electronic documents, the vendor's/contractor's response may be declared as "non-responsible" and the response will not be considered.

33. SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY: Nothing in this agreement shall be construed to waive the sovereign immunity of the State of Arkansas or any entity thereof, including the University of Central Arkansas.

34. EMPLOYMENT OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS-CERTIFICATION BY BIDDER: Pursuant to Act 157 of 2007, all bidders must certify prior to award of the contract that they do not employ or contract with any illegal immigrants(s) in its contract with the state. Bidders shall certify online at www.arkansas.gov/dfa/procurement. The Act is printed in full on the website and contains all information regarding any penalties and the procedures for certification by subcontractors.

35. WORK FOR HIRE: All goods, products, software or other items (collectively the "deliverables") under this agreement shall be and remain the exclusive property of UCA. All right, title and interest in such deliverables shall vest in, and be the property of, UCA. The parties agree that all deliverables shall, to the fullest extent permitted by law constitute "work for hire" under the U.S. copyright law, or any other law. Company shall retain its rights in its know-how, concepts, materials and information developed independently of this agreement. However, with regard to the deliverables paid for by UCA and produced under this agreement, UCA is hereby granted an exclusive, perpetual license (royalty-free) to use such deliverables in UCA's business. Company agrees to execute and deliver to UCA any and all instruments, documents or assignments to reflect the matters set forth in this paragraph.

RIDER

Any contract or agreement to which the University of Central Arkansas ("UCA") is a party shall be deemed to have the following provisions incorporated by reference:

(1) “Notwithstanding any other provision of this agreement or contract, the University of Central Arkansas shall not be responsible or liable for any type of special or consequential damage to the other party, specifically including, but not limited to, lost profits or commissions, loss of goodwill, or any other damages of such nature.”

(2) “Notwithstanding any other provision of this agreement or contract, the University of Central Arkansas shall never indemnify or hold another party harmless from any damages, liability, claims, demands, causes of action or expenses. However, with respect to any loss, expense, damage, liability, claim or cause of action, either at law or in equity, for actual or alleged injuries to persons or property, arising out of any negligent act or omission by UCA, or its employees or agents, in the performance of this agreement, UCA agrees that:

(a) it will cooperate with the other party to this agreement in the defense of any action or claim brought against the other party seeking damages or relief; (b) it will, in good faith, cooperate with the other party to this agreement should such other party present any claims or causes of action of the foregoing nature against UCA to the Arkansas State Claims Commission;

(c) it will not take any action to frustrate or delay the prompt hearing on claims of the foregoing nature by the Arkansas State Claims Commission, and will make reasonable efforts to expedite any hearing thereon.

UCA reserves the right, however, to assert in good faith any and all defenses available to it in any proceedings before the Arkansas State Claims Commission or any other forum.

Nothing herein shall be interpreted or construed to waive the sovereign immunity of UCA.”

(3) “The University of Central Arkansas does not have any form of general liability insurance. It does have liability insurance coverage on vehicles, as well as certain professional liability coverage for clinical programs (and students assigned through those programs). Please contact the university department with responsibility for the program involved or the Office of General Counsel, if you have questions concerning insurance coverage.