

## JUSTIFICATION FOR AWARD WITHOUT COMPETITION

(To be completed and submitted by the Office of Procurement)

Based upon the following determination, the proposed procurement action described below is being procured pursuant to the authority of Section 11-35-1560 of the SC Procurement Code and 19-445.2105 of the Rules and Regulations, 1976 SC Code of Laws.

**Why does the governmental body need this item or service:** (description of the agency need that this procurement meets):

LinkedIn Learning allows staff, faculty, and students to enhance their professional and personal development. The College of Charleston has utilized LinkedIn Learning for several years, making it an essential employee and student resource. LinkedIn Learning remains the most effective and strategic choice for supporting our educational goals.

In the past 90 days, our college community has had 3,410 LinkedIn Learning course views, 964 learning course completions, 25,137 learning videos viewed, and 22,283 video completions. The platform's extensive library of industry-recognized courses taught by subject matter experts ensures learners can access the most relevant and up-to-date content.

**As a sole source procurement for \$** 226005 (Estimated 3 year total ~~cost~~ (name of sole source contractor): LinkedIn Corp.

**Description of market research Agency has performed to determine the availability of products or services that would meet the Agency's needs:**

The IT department has conducted market research and found that although there are other products that provide eLearning, LinkedIn Learning offers more courses than any other product on the market today. Additionally, implementing another solution would be cause prohibited and require several months of implementation and training, leading to disruption in learning. Further, market research via Procurement IQ, GovSpend, and Google has confirmed that LinkedIn Corp. is the sole provider of their solution.

**Description of supplies, construction, information technology, and/or services Vendor will provide under the contract:**

LinkedIn Learning is an online learning platform. It provides video courses taught by industry experts in software, creative, and business skills, providing online learning to faculty, students, and staff members of the College of Charleston. All the courses on LinkedIn fall into four categories: Business, Creative, Technology, and Certifications.

LinkedIn Learning is integrated with Absorb and OAKS applications. Users can sign on from college-issued computers or personal computers through MyPortal using single sign-on (SSO).

**Detailed explanation why no other vendor's supplies, construction, information technology, and/or services will meet the needs of the Agency:**

Changing to a new eLearning application would be time-consuming, and a new solution would not easily integrate with the College of Charleston's Absorb, OAKS, and SSO tools. There would be a disruption for eLearning to all staff, students and faculty. Implementation of a new solution would take at least six months. This would cause the students, faculty, and staff of the College of Charleston to lose this invaluable service. Further, choosing another application would result in the loss of LinkedIn's larger portfolio selection of courses that they uniquely offer, diminishing the overall learning experience and reducing the value provided to our college community.

In accordance with the South Carolina Consolidated Procurement section 11-35-1560 - Sole Source, the College of Charleston announced the intent to award without Competition. No protests were received.

Solicitation# 25-57-SDM-SS-T5

Contract Expiration Date: 03/24/2028

DocuSigned by:

Wendy Williams

1/22/2025

Wendy E. Williams, CPPO, C.P.M., Director of Procurement

Date

DocuSigned by:

John F. Loonan

1/23/2025

John F. Loonan, Executive Vice President for Business Affairs

Date

If this procurement is \$50,000 or greater, the Drug Free Workplace Act (§ 44-107-10, et Seq. Code of Laws of SC) applies, the acceptance of a Purchase Order signifies the Vendor certification that they are in compliance with the Drug Free Workplace Act.

6-Digit Index Number: 110037

6-Digit Account Code: 710414

NIGP 3-Digit Commodity Code: 209

Buyer's Initials SDM