



INTENT TO SOLE SOURCE NOTIFICATION  
2016 SD-03

Clover Park Technical College contemplates awarding a sole source contract to EMSI from December 2016 for 12 to 20 weeks to complete an Economic Impact Study.

In 2015-16, the Presidents of Washington State's Community & Technical Colleges identified the need for an updated socioeconomic impact study for Washington State's community and technical colleges. The intent of the study was to guide these institutions on how to best use the scarce financial resources available. Three previous economic impact analyses were conducted for Washington State's colleges in 2003, 2005, and 2010. In 2010, a major change to these studies included the addition of analyses measuring the economic consequences likely to be felt by Washington State's economy if the statewide funding of colleges were continually cut. Results from the published studies are presently out-of-date and must be revised to reflect Washington State's current economic situation and college demographics. Whereas the existing study commissioned by the Washington State Board of Community & Technical Colleges (SBCTC) covers the system as a whole, our campus (Clover Park Community and Technical College) requires a study reflective of our community and local economy. This local study, in turn, must integrate with and align to the system-wide study.

EMSI is uniquely qualified to serve as the sole source contractor. Having conducted over 1700 economic impact studies in higher education, this contractor has a long history of studying and forecasting the distinctive economic contributions that community and technical colleges contribute to the State of Washington, along with the ability to assess the economic impact specific to Clover Park Technical College on Pierce County. This advantage, combined with its exclusive proprietary software, blends a variety of labor market indicators to assess financial impacts and identify skill gaps in employment.

The contractor (EMSI) makes use of its proprietary software to maximize the predictive power of labor market analytics. This has given it the capacity to become the industry leader in the field of economic modeling, specific to the application of impact studies in higher education. Since 2003, EMSI has conducted comprehensive studies of community and technical colleges in Washington State and their impact on local economies. It is precisely these studies that Clover Park Technical College (CPTC) must use to build on with our current study to compare and contrast the data. EMSI has conducted all of our prior studies and is uniquely positioned to prepare a comprehensive report covering trends and comparing the results over time. Therefore, to maximize the effectiveness of our study, it is of utmost importance to be consistent in applying our research methodology.

SBCTC, State Board for Community & Technical Colleges, has presently contracted with EMSI and the work for the system is under way. Additionally, EMSI has further begun work with several colleges on their studies. For these studies to coalesce and function together seamlessly, the work must be done by EMSI.

Use of EMSI lessens the processing time significantly, thereby reducing costs, as they have conducted research in our state and college in the past. They have a history of working with our data, so risks are mitigated. Archived information from economic impact studies conducted previously will save time and costs. Their research methodology and economic estimates are laid out, so there is no learning curve or cost in “getting to know the system and its dependencies”. Additionally, their experience in creating the data reports will streamline follow up and lower the production hours costs needed. The underlying rate for services is consistent with what SBCTC is paying currently for services.

The methodology used for this study must align with the methodology used by ongoing Washington State studies. Only EMSI has that capability. If the sole source contract is not approved, the economic impact analysis created for the state will be complete, but the analysis for our specific local economy will not be done. Our college will be left without the information necessary to answer to our stakeholders; a gap will exist in this report, which is vital to informing budget decisions related to our college. EMSI has already engaged in studies with some of the individual colleges in our system, so the result will produce a disjointed, incomplete picture.

The contract will be issued on or about December 30, 2016.

Consultants contemplating the above requirements are required to submit capability statements detailing their ability to meet the college’s requirements no later than December 29, 2016, 10:00am.

In the absence of other qualified sources, it is the college’s intent to make a sole source award of the contract.

To submit capability statements, contact:

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