

DETERMINATION AND FINDINGS
FOR A SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT

AGENCY: District of Columbia Public School
Office of School Improvement and Supports (OSIS)
CAPTION: Value Added Measures (VAM) Research and Analysis SY20/21
PROPOSED CONTRACTOR: SAS Institute, Inc.
CONTRACT NO.: RK164920

FINDINGS

1. AUTHORIZATION:

D.C. Official Code §2-354.04 and 27 DCMR 304, 170.

2. MINIMUM NEED:

The District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) Office of Resource Strategy, Contracts & Acquisitions Division on behalf of the Office of School Improvement and Supports (OSIS), has an immediate need to procure a contractor to design, create and report on usage of a value added measure (VAM) to assess student achievement and potential learning loss period beginning on January 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

3. ESTIMATED COST

The estimated cost is \$75,000.00 for the proposed period of performance (January 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021) pursuant to RK164920. This contract will be for a period of nine (9) months.

4. BACKGROUND AND HISTORY:

The purpose of this sole source procurement is to create a value added measure to assess student learning loss due to adjustments in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years. Measuring impact on student achievement can be challenging. For example, students start the year at different skill levels, and they all face different factors inside and outside the classroom that affect how they learn. At its core, value added is a way of addressing these challenges. The District of Columbia Public Schools is interested in using this information to determine how the transition to virtual learning from the COVID-19 pandemic has affected student achievement while controlling for outside factors.

Determining the measure of a teacher's impact on a student's learning can be challenging well. VAM addresses these challenges by estimating a teacher's impact on student learning over the course of the school year, as evidenced by a standardized assessment, by taking into account other factors such as a student's incoming test scores, special education status, and eligibility for free or reduced-price meals, to name a few.

RK164920-SAS Institute, Inc.
D&F for Sole Source Award

SAS Inc. has worked with DCPS on the Added Measures (VAM) in SY19/20 and has the technical expertise and understanding of DCPS to fulfill the requirements above. SAS also has access to all the information for what DCPS has done in the previous years. A new contractor would need to run simulations from prior years and would need to complete research that SAS, Inc. has already
