

13 - Department of Education

Proposal Name: Teacher Certification Upgrade

NITC ID: 13-02



PROJECT DETAILS

Project Contact: Dean Folkers

Agency Priority: 2

Agency: 13 - Department of Education

NITC Tier Alignment:

SUMMARY OF REQUEST

The teacher certification (TC) and licensure system operated at the Nebraska Department of Education has undergone periodic maintenance and operational retrofitting over the past 15 years. As part of a department wide focus on evaluating systems status, increasing efficiency and operations, and mitigating security risks the TC system has been identified as needing to go through an update. A portion of the licensing fees provided by users is set aside to support future updates/upgrades to the system and are targeted for the process.

The primary scope of an initial phase is the evaluation and documentation of business process, integration of other existing related legacy systems, and a recommendation for the options to move forward with the system upgrade/development. Based on these recommendations and decision will be made as to the appropriate path, costs, and project plan to complete the work.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	<u>Expenditures</u>		
	<u>Fiscal Year 2018</u>	<u>Fiscal Year 2019</u>	<u>Total</u>
Contractual Services:	\$275,000.00	\$275,000.00	\$550,000.00
Telecommunications:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Training:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Operating Costs:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Capital Expenditures:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Estimated Costs:	\$275,000.00	\$275,000.00	\$550,000.00

Comments:

	<u>Funding</u>		
	<u>Fiscal Year 2018</u>	<u>Fiscal Year 2019</u>	<u>Total</u>
General Fund:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cash Fund:	\$275,000.00	\$275,000.00	\$550,000.00
Federal Fund:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Revolving Fund:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Fund:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Requested Funding:	\$275,000.00	\$275,000.00	\$550,000.00

Comments:

PROPOSAL SCORE

	reviewer1	reviewer2	reviewer3	Average
Average				
Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes (15)	12	15	10	12
Project Justification / Business Case (25)	24	25	15	21
Technical Impact (20)	15	10	10	12
Preliminary Plan for Implementation (10)	7	10	8	8
Risk Assessment (10)	5	5	6	5
Financial Analysis and Budget (20)	15	15	15	15
Total Score	78	80	64	74

REVIEWER COMMENTS

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes

Review Score = 12/15

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Strengths: Existing system is 20-25 years old and needs to be brought up to standards. Review, planning and setting requirements is a sound approach of addressing the problems.

Weaknesses:

Project Justification / Business Case

Review Score = 24/25

Strengths: This project has been anticipated, and use of cash funds that were set aside for this purpose makes sense.

Weaknesses:

Technical Impact

Review Score = 15/20

Strengths:

Weaknesses: Solutions are unknown until recommendations from selected vendor are reviewed.

Preliminary Plan for Implementation

Review Score = 7/10

Strengths:

Weaknesses: Unclear what is being deployed in April through June.

Risk Assessment

Review Score = 5/10

Strengths:

Weaknesses: Proposal states risks cannot be assessed until solutions are proposed.

Financial Analysis and Budget

Review Score = 15/20

Strengths:

Weaknesses: Budget establishes "target" costs. Actuals could vary - how significantly is unknown.

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes

Review Score = 15/15

Strengths: The goals and objectives are quite clear, as are the benefits of the system.

Weaknesses:

Project Justification / Business Case

Review Score = 25/25

Strengths: Project proposal does identify tangible benefits that will accrue based on the implementation of the system. should be noted that this is a starting point for this project and that a solution has not been identified.

Weaknesses:

Technical Impact

Review Score = 10/20

Strengths: Because the solution for this project has not been identified and is very difficult to assess the technical solution.

Weaknesses:

Preliminary Plan for Implementation

Review Score = 10/10

Strengths: It is very positive to see that the NDE project management office will be responsible for overall management of the project. What's provided in the document is very well thought out and clearly identifies roles and responsibilities.

Weaknesses:

Risk Assessment

Review Score = 5/10

Strengths: Somewhat difficult to assign risk when it is still not clear what the solution will be. I think risk can be assigned or reviewed once the requirements have been gathered and the solution identified.

Weaknesses:

Financial Analysis and Budget

Review Score = 15/20

Strengths: While the agency has identified a budget estimate for the project, it is not clear what the total overall cost will be once the solution is identified

Weaknesses:

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes

Review Score = 10/15

Strengths: The need for an update to the existing teacher certification system is clear based on the age of the existing system and desired functionality.

Weaknesses: There is very little detail in available upon which to assess the proposal, however, what is being proposed is to scope a future project.

Project Justification / Business Case

Review Score = 15/25

Strengths: The desired outcomes are desirable and would offer operational efficiencies.

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Weaknesses: There is very little detail in available upon which to assess the proposal, however, what is being proposed is to scope a future project.

Technical Impact

Review Score = 10/20

Strengths: The proposed update is clearly needed to replace a system based on an aged code base.

Weaknesses: At this point in the process it is nearly impossible to assess the technical impact beyond a clear need to remove the risk inherent in operating a mission critical system on such aged technology.

Preliminary Plan for Implementation

Review Score = 8/10

Strengths: The project management infrastructure is consistent with industry best practice and appears capable of addressing the requirements of managing the proposed project.

Weaknesses: There are numerous implementation differences depending upon whether the decision is to build the solution or buy it. It is impossible to make any evaluation of an eventual implementation without greater detail.

Risk Assessment

Review Score = 6/10

Strengths:

Weaknesses: It is impossible to make any reasonable assertions as to the assessment of risk when the project is not scoped.

Financial Analysis and Budget

Review Score = 15/20

Strengths: The proposed is, essentially, budget neutral in that existing funds will be diverted to cover identified costs.

Weaknesses: The proposed budget is fit to available funds rather than clearly delineating required resources.

TECH PANEL COMMENTS

Is the project technically feasible? Yes

Is the proposed technology appropriate for the project? Unknown

Can the technical elements be accomplished within the proposed timeframe and budget? Unknown

Comments: Unknown until further information is available.

ADVISORY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Advisory Council Tier Recommendation:

Comments:

NITC COMMENTS