



## CONTRACT

(fee-for-goods or services contract with an individual, business, non-profit, or governmental entity of another state)

<b>Begin Date</b> January 1, 2021	<b>End Date</b> December 31, 2025	<b>Agency Tracking #</b> 33104-00420	<b>Edison Record ID</b> 68610		
<b>Contractor Legal Entity Name</b> Next Step Innovation			<b>Edison Vendor ID</b> 0000245566		
<b>Goods or Services Caption</b> (one line only) E-Rate Category 2					
<b>Contractor</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contractor		<b>CFDA #</b>			
<b>Funding</b> —					
<b>FY</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Interdepartmental</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>TOTAL Contract Amount</b>
2022	\$47,000.00				\$47,000.00
2023	\$47,000.00				\$47,000.00
2024	\$47,000.00				\$47,000.00
2025	\$47,000.00				\$47,000.00
2026	\$47,000.00				\$47,000.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$235,000.00</b>				<b>\$235,000.00</b>
<b>Contractor Ownership Characteristics:</b>					
<input type="checkbox"/> Minority Business Enterprise (MBE): <input type="checkbox"/> African American <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American <input type="checkbox"/> Native American					
<input type="checkbox"/> Woman Business Enterprise (WBE)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee Service Disabled Veteran Enterprise (SDVBE)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Disabled Owned Business (DSBE)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee Small Business Enterprise (SBE): \$10,000,000.00 averaged over a three (3) year period or employs no more than ninety-nine (99) employees.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Minority/Disadvantaged <input type="checkbox"/> Other:					
<b>Selection Method &amp; Process Summary</b> (mark the correct response to confirm the associated summary)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Competitive Selection		RFQ conducted. RFQ # 33104-00420			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other					
<b>Budget Officer Confirmation:</b> There is a balance in the appropriation from which obligations hereunder are required to be paid that is not already encumbered to pay other obligations.					
<b>Speed Chart</b> (optional)		<b>Account Code</b> (optional)			

**CONTRACT  
BETWEEN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE,  
TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
AND  
NEXT STEP INNOVATION**

This Contract, by and between the State of Tennessee, Tennessee Department of Education ("State") and Next Step Innovation ("Contractor"), is for the provision E-Rate program for Tennessee Local Education Agencies - category two, internal connections, basic maintenance of internal connections, and managed internal broadband services, as further defined in the "SCOPE." State and Contractor may be referred to individually as a "Party" or collectively as the "Parties" to this Contract.

The Contractor is a For-Profit Corporation (S-Corporation)  
Contractor Place of Incorporation or Organization: Mississippi  
Contractor Edison Registration ID # 0000245566

**A. SCOPE:**

- A.1. The Contractor shall provide all goods or services and deliverables as required, described, and detailed below and shall meet all service and delivery timelines as specified by this Contract.
- A.2. Definitions. For purposes of this Contract, definitions shall be as follows and as set forth in the Contract:
- a. Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections ("BMIC"): E-Rate support includes basic maintenance and technical support appropriate to maintain reliable operation for eligible broadband internal connections. The following basic maintenance services are eligible: Repair and upkeep of eligible hardware, wire and cable maintenance, configuration changes, basic technical support including online and telephone-based technical support, and software upgrades and patches including bug fixes and security patches.
  - b. Caching ("Caching"): Caching is defined as a method that stores recently accessed information. Caching stores information locally so that the information is accessible more quickly than if transmitted across a network from a distance.
  - c. Category 2 ("Category 2"): One of two service categories defined in the FCC's Eligible Services List. This category focuses on broadband products/services within a school building or LEA. There are three (3) sub-categories of Category 2: Internal Connections, Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections, and Managed Internal Broadband Services.
  - d. Charter School ("Charter School"): A Charter School is a publicly funded independent school established by teachers, parents, or community groups under the terms of a charter with a local Tennessee LEA.
  - e. Eligible Services List ("ESL"): The Eligible Services List is released by the FCC prior to the opening of the Form 471 application filing window opens. This list contains a description of the products and services that will be eligible for discounts, along with additional helpful information such as eligibility conditions for each category of service for each specified funding year.
  - f. E-Rate ("E-Rate"): E-Rate is the Schools and Libraries Program funded via the Universal Service Fund and administrated by USAC. The E-Rate program is responsible for the discounts funding provided to schools and libraries across the nation for procurement of broadband services to the building and into the school and/or classroom.

- g. Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"): The Federal Communications Commission is an independent agency of the United State government created by statute (47 U.S.C. §151 and 47 U.S.C. § 154) to regulate interstate communications by radio, television, wire, satellite, and cable.
- h. Form 471 ("Form 471"): Form 471 is the Services Ordered and Certification Form and is the form by which E-Rate applicants requested discounts for eligible products and/or services. This form is required to be filed annually during the Form 471 application window.
- i.. Form 472 ("Form 472"): Form 472 is the Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement (BEAR) form which is used by the Billed Entity to request E-Rate discount reimbursement for eligible products/services received on or after the effective date of discounts and already paid for by the applicant.
- j. Form 473 ("Form 473"): E-Rate service providers file an FCC Form 473 (Service Provider Annual Certification {SPAC}) to certify they are compliant with Schools and Libraries (E- Rate) Program rules. Service providers must have a SPAC Form on file for each funding year they participate in the E-Rate Program and for each Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN and/or Form 498 ID). This form is required by the program in order for invoices to be paid to the service provider.
- k. Form 498 ("form 498"): Form 498 is the Service Provider Identification Number and General Contract Information Form and is used to collect contract, remittance, and payment information for service providers that receive support from the federal universal service programs. If an applicant opts to use Form 472 for reimbursement of their approved discounts, they too are required to complete FCC Form 498.
- l. Internal Connections ("IC"): Internal Connections is support limited to the internal connections necessary to bring broadband into, and provide it throughout, schools. These are broadband connections used for educational purposes within, between, or among instructional buildings that comprise a school campus or a LEA (a collection of school campuses).
- m. Local Area Network ("LAN"): Local Area Network is a network that connects computers and other devices in a relatively small area, typically a single building or a group of buildings (such as a District).
- n. Local Education Agency ("LEA"): For the purposes of the Contract, Local Education Agency is the term used to collectively refer to all Tennessee public Local Education Agencies, Charter Schools, State schools, the Achievement School District, the Department of Children's Services, and library systems in the State of Tennessee.
- o. Red Light Status ("Red Light Status"): A Red Light Status indicates a company has one or more delinquent bills that will prevent the company from conducting business with the government. If you have one or more delinquent bills that were paid and are currently being processed, a Red Light Status will display.
- p. Schools and Libraries Division ("SLD"): Schools and Libraries Division is a division of USAC that administers the E-Rate Program.
- q. Scope of Work ("SOW"): A Scope of Work is the area in an agreement where the work to be performed is described. The SOW should contain any milestones, reports, deliverables, and end products that are expected to be provided by the performing party. The SOW should also contain a timeline for all deliverables.
- r. Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC"): An independent, not-for-profit corporation created by the FCC to administer the four (4) universal service programs

(Schools and Libraries, Rural Health Care, Lifeline, High Cost) which help provide communities across the country with access to affordable telecommunications services.

A.3. Internal Connections Products and Services. The Contractor shall reply to Category 2 mini-bid process issued by LEAs as part of their pre-Form 471 application process and provide competitive pricing on one or more of the following component categories for which the Contractor has been qualified by the State to provide. Per the FCC's 2019 ESL, the following components, services, and miscellaneous notes are included for reference as follows:

- a. Antennas, connectors, and related components used for internal broadband connections
- b. Cabling
- c. Caching
- d. Firewall services and firewall components
- e. Racks (housing eligible equipment)
- f. Routers
- g. Switches
- h. Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS)/Battery Backup (basic only and supporting eligible equipment)
- i. Access points used in a Local Area Network or wireless Local Area Network environment (such as wireless access points)
- j. Wireless controller systems
- k. Installation of eligible components at eligible locations
- l. Training of eligible users for eligible components of Internal Connections (must occur coincident with installation of components and cannot be a stand-alone request)
- m. Software supporting the components on this list used to distribute high-speed broadband throughout school buildings and libraries (applicants should request software in the same category as the associated service being obtained or installed)

Functionalities listed above that can be virtualized in the cloud, and equipment that combines eligible functionalities, like routing and switching, are also eligible.

A manufacturer's multi-year warranty for a period up to not more than three (3) years that is provided as an integral part of an eligible component, without a separately identifiable cost, may be included in the cost of the component. Additional warranty periods beyond three (3) years should be a separate item identified in the catalog.

A caching service or equipment that provides caching, including servers necessary for the provision of caching, is eligible for funding.

A.4. Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections. For purposes of this Contract, the Contractor shall provide Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections related to basic technical support including online and telephone-based technical support, software upgrades and patches including bug fixes and security patches for eligible equipment at eligible locations.

A.5. Managed Internal Broad band Products and Services ("MIBS"). The Contractor shall provide solutions for one or both of the MIBS options described below:

a. The Contract shall provide a maximum cost (either per month or a one-time annual cost) for a leased equipment MIBS solution. In this model, the school or library would lease the equipment from the Contractor. The Contractor shall provide all labor and materials, including but not limited to, switching equipment, access points, cabling, and connectors required to facilitate a complete solution that provides connectivity throughout eligible locations. The Contractor will be responsible for installation, management and maintenance of the internal wired or wireless access solution.

b. The Contractor shall provide a maximum cost (either per month or a one-time annual cost) for an LEA-owned equipment MIBS solution. In this model, the school or library shall own or provide the equipment. The Contractor will be responsible for management and maintenance of the internal wired or wireless access solution. The school or library shall be responsible for the procurement and installation of equipment and materials required to provide the service.

- c. Proposed solutions must include all work elements necessary to provide a complete solution that delivers broadband connectivity into the classroom.
  - d. The Contractor shall be responsible for providing all training for facility personnel required to properly use the MIBS solution as a daily service within the facility. This training shall include all information and procedures required to request support from the Contractor in the event of a system failure.
- A.6. FCC Compliance. The Contractor shall maintain compliance with all FCC rules and USAC procedures with regard to participation in the E-Rate program.
- A.7. Mini-Bid Process. The Contractor shall participate in a mini-bid process as described on USAC's website and as described on the State's mini-bid information page (<https://www.tn.gov/education/district-technology/erate.html>) as part of the LEAs FCC Form 471 filing.
- a. Costs submitted during the mini-bid on individual items shall not exceed the costs published in this Contract and included in the accompanying catalog. Published costs will be an upper limit or ceiling. Costs can be submitted during the mini-bid processes that are lower than the published costs.
  - b. Contractors may not submit pricing for items or services that are not explicitly contained within the catalog provided upon award of a qualified contract. Contractors found to be in violation of this provision are subject to removal from the list of qualified contractors.
  - c. In accordance with FCC regulations and USAC guidance, cost of the eligible goods/ services will be the most heavily-weighted factor in the mini-bid evaluation matrix.
  - d. Schools and libraries shall develop an evaluation matrix based various criteria other than price alone. The evaluation matrix may include local requirements with the understanding that if a conflict exists between local procurement regulations and USAC guidance, the most restrictive of the regulations prevail.
- A.8. Scope of Work (SOW). The Contractor shall provide a Scope of Work document outlining the costs and procedures to achieve the service/product solution in response to a mini-bid solicitation for a specific facility or group of facilities within a LEA. LEAs may elect to provide services to part or all of their constituent facilities.
- a. The SOW shall clearly identify the total cost for the proposed solution and demonstrate that the overall solution does not exceed the per unit maximum cost presented by the Contractor in Attachment B.
  - b. The SOW shall clearly identify the model (owned or leased equipment) that will be used for the solution.
  - c. The SOW will clearly describe all labor and equipment costs required to completely deploy the solution as requested by the school or library.
  - d. The SOW will clearly describe the escalation procedures to address service issues after deployment including a list of response times for multiple issue severity tiers.
  - e. The SOW will have signatures from both the Contractor and the authorized personnel accepting the solution description and timeline for deployment.
- A.9. Lowest Corresponding Price. The Contractor shall comply with the FCC's Lowest Corresponding Price rule and not charge a price above the LCP for E-Rate eligible services. See 47 C.F.R. Section 54.511 and 47 CFS Section 54.500(f). Contractor may refer to USAC guidance additional information.

- A.10. Quantity. Service/product demand may be increased or decreased during the period that this Contract is in effect, including voluntary extension periods. While the State anticipates that long term service demands to expand, there may be some situations where buildings close or may need to reduce the quantity of service they receive. The Contractor shall cooperate with the LEA to reduce services in the case of building or school closure.
- A.11. Records Retention. Contractor shall maintain all records of services provided under the resulting contract for a period of no less than 10 years from the last date of service in the fiscal or funding year in which a contract is in place in accordance with FCC rules. This documentation shall be digitally archived and be made available at the request of the State or LEA or other agencies such as auditors, etc.
- A.12. Contractor Standing. The Contractor must be in good standing with the FCC, have no debts outstanding that are owed to the government and must not be on Red-Light Status. The Contractor must immediately notify the State in any event that the Contractor is notified that it has been assigned Red-Light Status and must take immediate measures to cure its Red Light Status. The Contractor's Red-Light Status may constitute a material breach of contract and the State may exercise its rights under Section D.6. Termination for Cause. Red-Light Status can be checked via the Red-Light Display System at <https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do>.
- A.13. Contractor Registration. The Contractor shall annually submit to the SLD, a completed Form 473, Service Provider Annual Certification Form, which is a program requirement. The Contractor shall provide a copy of the completed Form 473 to the State upon request.
- A.14. Audit and Review Support. The Contractor shall cooperate with LEA and SLD/USAC during audit exercises by providing documentation about services provided and related invoicing information including details of calculations used to produce said invoices.
- A.15. On-Premise Security. All Contractor personnel assigned to this Contract shall be required to carry company picture IDs while on-site, and on-premise visits must be authorized by site contact person. These steps must be consistent with current security practices and those practices instituted by the LEA to ensure the safety of its students.
- A.16. Provide Catalog. The Contractor must provide information for the product catalog that contains maximum/ceiling prices for goods/services for which the Contractor is authorized to provide. Updates to the Contractor's catalog may be requested for manufacturer substitutions by emailing [Erate.vendor@tnedu.gov](mailto:Erate.vendor@tnedu.gov) to request the substitution. The Contractor must ensure that any updates to their catalog meet E-Rate eligibility guidelines and verification of eligibility must be included in the request. The state will provide written approval, via email, for all approved substitutions.
- A.17. Quarterly Sales Reporting. The Contractor shall provide the State quarterly sales reports to [Erate.vendor@tnedu.gov](mailto:Erate.vendor@tnedu.gov) and the quarterly reports should align with the State's fiscal year. The reports shall be produced as a csv (or similar) and, at a minimum, include the name and billed entity number of the customer, a detailed list of the service or equipment purchased, and total amount associated with the project.
- A.18. Annual meetings. The Contractor shall attend any program meetings designated by the State as required. The Contractor may attend in-person or virtually. Notification of these meetings will be sent to the Contractor's contact on file with the State's contact as noted in Section D.2.
- A.19. Warranty. Contractor represents and warrants that the term of the warranty ("Warranty Period") shall be the greater of the Catalog item warranty or any other warranty generally offered by Contractor, its suppliers, or manufacturers to customers of its goods or services. The goods or services provided under this Contract shall conform to the terms and conditions of this Contract

throughout the Warranty Period. Any nonconformance of the goods or services to the terms and conditions of this Contract shall constitute a "Defect" and shall be considered "Defective." If Contractor receives notice of a Defect during the Warranty Period, then Contractor shall correct the Defect, at no additional charge.

Contractor represents and warrants that the State is authorized to possess and use all equipment, materials, software, and deliverables provided under this Contract.

Contractor represents and warrants that all goods or services provided under this Contract shall be provided in a timely and professional manner, by qualified and skilled individuals, and in conformity with standards generally accepted in Contractor's industry.

If Contractor fails to provide the goods or services as warranted, then Contractor will re-provide the goods or services at no additional charge. If Contractor is unable or unwilling to re-provide the goods or services as warranted, then the State shall be entitled to recover the fees paid to Contractor for the Defective goods or services. Any exercise of the State's rights under this Section shall not prejudice the State's rights to seek any other remedies available under this Contract or applicable law.

- A.20. Inspection and Acceptance. The State shall have the right to inspect all goods or services provided by Contractor under this Contract. If, upon inspection, the State determines that the goods or services are Defective, the State shall notify Contractor, and Contractor shall re-deliver the goods or provide the services at no additional cost to the State. If after a period of thirty (30) days following delivery of goods or performance of services the State does not provide a notice of any Defects, the goods or services shall be deemed to have been accepted by the State.

**B. TERM OF CONTRACT:**

This Contract shall be effective on January 1, 2021 ("Effective Date") and extend for a period of sixty (60) months after the Effective Date ("Term"). The State shall have no obligation for goods or services provided by the Contractor prior to the Effective Date.

**C. PAYMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

- C.1. Maximum Liability. In no event shall the maximum liability of the State under this Contract exceed two-hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars (\$235,000.00) ("Maximum Liability"). This Contract does not grant the Contractor any exclusive rights. The State does not guarantee that it will buy any minimum quantity of goods or services under this Contract. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Contract, the Contractor will only be paid for goods or services provided under this Contract after a purchase order is issued to Contractor by the State or as otherwise specified by this Contract.
- C.2. Compensation Firm. The payment methodology in Section C.3. of this Contract shall constitute the entire compensation due the Contractor for all goods or services provided under this Contract regardless of the difficulty, materials or equipment required. The payment methodology includes all applicable taxes, fees, overhead, and all other direct and indirect costs incurred or to be incurred by the Contractor.
- C.3. Payment Methodology. The Contractor shall be compensated based on the payment methodology for goods or services authorized by the State in a total amount as set forth in Section C.1.
- a. The Contractor's compensation shall be contingent upon the satisfactory provision of goods or services as set forth in Section A.
  - b. The Contractor shall be compensated based upon the following payment methodology:

Goods or Services Description	Amount (per compensable increment)
See Attachment B for catalog	

- C.4. Travel Compensation. The Contractor shall not be compensated or reimbursed for travel time, travel expenses, meals, or lodging.
- C.5. Invoice Requirements. The Contractor shall invoice the State only for goods delivered and accepted by the State or services satisfactorily provided at the amounts stipulated in Section C.3., above. Contractor shall submit invoices and necessary supporting documentation, no more frequently than once a month, and no later than thirty (30) days after goods or services have been provided to the following address:

Steven Sanders  
 Director, District Technology  
 Andrew Johnson Towers, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 710 James Robertson Parkway  
 Nashville, TN 37243  
[Steven.Sanders@tn.gov](mailto:Steven.Sanders@tn.gov)

The address above pertains to purchases by State. All other invoices shall be sent to the purchasing LEA.

- a. Each invoice, on Contractor's letterhead, shall clearly and accurately detail all of the following information (calculations must be extended and totaled correctly):
- (1) Invoice number (assigned by the Contractor);
  - (2) Invoice date;
  - (3) Contract number (assigned by the State);
  - (4) Customer account name: Tennessee Department of Education, Office of State
  - (5) Customer account number (assigned by the Contractor to the above-referenced Customer)
  - ;
  - (6) Contractor name;
  - (7) Contractor Tennessee Edison registration ID number;
  - (8) Contractor contact for invoice questions (name, phone, or email);
  - (9) Contractor remittance address;
  - (10) Description of delivered goods or services provided and invoiced, including identifying information as applicable;
  - (11) Number of delivered or completed units, increments, hours, or days as applicable, of each good or service invoiced;
  - (12) Applicable payment methodology (as stipulated in Section C.3.) of each good or service invoiced;
  - (13) Amount due for each compensable unit of good or service; and
  - (14) Total amount due for the invoice

period. b. Contractor's invoices shall:

- (1) Only include charges for goods delivered or services provided as described in Section A and in accordance with payment terms and conditions set forth in Section C;
- (2) Only be submitted for goods delivered or services completed and shall not include any charge for future goods to be delivered or services to be performed;
- (3) Not include Contractor's taxes, which includes without limitation Contractor's sales and use tax, excise taxes, franchise taxes, real or personal property taxes, or income taxes; and
- (4) Include shipping or delivery charges only as authorized in this Contract.



- c. The timeframe for payment (or any discounts) begins only when the State is in receipt of an invoice that meets the minimum requirements of this Section C.5.
- C.6. Payment of Invoice. A payment by the State shall not prejudice the State's right to object to or question any payment, invoice, or other matter. A payment by the State shall not be construed as acceptance of goods delivered, any part of the services provided, or as approval of any amount invoiced.
- C.7. Invoice Reductions. The Contractor's invoice shall be subject to reduction for amounts included in any invoice or payment that is determined by the State, on the basis of audits conducted in accordance with the terms of this Contract, to not constitute proper compensation for goods delivered or services provided.
- C.8. Deductions. The State reserves the right to deduct from amounts, which are or shall become due and payable to the Contractor under this or any contract between the Contractor and the State of Tennessee, any amounts that are or shall become due and payable to the State of Tennessee by the Contractor.
- C.9. Prerequisite Documentation. The Contractor shall not invoice the State under this Contract until the State has received the following, properly completed documentation.
- a. The Contractor shall complete, sign, and present to the State the "Authorization Agreement for Automatic Deposit Form" provided by the State. By doing so, the Contractor acknowledges and agrees that, once this form is received by the State, payments to the Contractor, under this or any other contract the Contractor has with the State of Tennessee, may be made by ACH; and
  - b. The Contractor shall complete, sign, and return to the State the State-provided W-9 form. The taxpayer identification number on the W-9 form must be the same as the Contractor's Federal Employer Identification Number or Social Security Number referenced in the Contractor's Edison registration information.

**D. MANDATORY TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

- D.1. Required Approvals. The State is not bound by this Contract until it is duly approved by the Parties and all appropriate State officials in accordance with applicable Tennessee laws and regulations. Depending upon the specifics of this Contract, this may include approvals by the Commissioner of Finance and Administration, the Commissioner of Human Resources, the Comptroller of the Treasury, and the Chief Procurement Officer. Approvals shall be evidenced by a signature or electronic approval.
- D.2. Communications and Contacts. All instructions, notices, consents, demands, or other communications required or contemplated by this Contract shall be in writing and shall be made by certified, first class mail, return receipt requested and postage prepaid, by overnight courier service with an asset tracking system, or by email or facsimile transmission with recipient confirmation. All communications, regardless of method of transmission, shall be addressed to the respective Party at the appropriate mailing address, facsimile number, or email address as stated below or any other address provided in writing by a Party.

The State:

Steven Sanders  
Director, State Technology  
Andrew Johnson Towers, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
710 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, TN 37243

Steven.Sanders@tn.gov  
Telephone # 615-693-0207

The Contractor:

Jade Estrela, Inside Account Executive  
Next Step Innovation  
703 Hwy 80 West  
Clinton, MS 39056  
Jade\_Estrela@nextstepinnovation.com  
Telephone # 601.718.7411

All instructions, notices, consents, demands, or other communications shall be considered effective upon receipt or recipient confirmation as may be required.

- D.3. Modification and Amendment. This Contract may be modified only by a written amendment signed by all Parties and approved by all applicable State officials.
- D.4. Subject to Funds Availability. The Contract is subject to the appropriation and availability of State or federal funds. In the event that the funds are not appropriated or are otherwise unavailable, the State reserves the right to terminate this Contract upon written notice to the Contractor. The State's exercise of its right to terminate this Contract shall not constitute a breach of Contract by the State. Upon receipt of the written notice, the Contractor shall cease all work associated with the Contract. If the State terminates this Contract due to lack of funds availability, the Contractor shall be entitled to compensation for all conforming goods requested and accepted by the State and for all satisfactory and authorized services completed as of the termination date. Should the State exercise its right to terminate this Contract due to unavailability of funds, the Contractor shall have no right to recover from the State any actual, general, special, incidental, consequential, or any other damages of any description or amount.
- D.5. Termination for Convenience. The State may terminate this Contract for convenience without cause and for any reason. The State shall give the Contractor at least thirty (30) days written notice before the termination date. The Contractor shall be entitled to compensation for all conforming goods delivered and accepted by the State or for satisfactory, authorized services completed as of the termination date. In no event shall the State be liable to the Contractor for compensation for any goods neither requested nor accepted by the State or for any services neither requested by the State nor satisfactorily performed by the Contractor. In no event shall the State's exercise of its right to terminate this Contract for convenience relieve the Contractor of any liability to the State for any damages or claims arising under this Contract.
- D.6. Termination for Cause. If the Contractor fails to properly perform its obligations under this Contract in a timely or proper manner, or if the Contractor materially violates any terms of this Contract ("Breach Condition"), the State shall have the right to immediately terminate the Contract and withhold payments in excess of compensation for completed services or provided goods. Notwithstanding the above, the Contractor shall not be relieved of liability to the State for damages sustained by virtue of any Breach Condition and the State may seek other remedies allowed at law or in equity for breach of this Contract.
- D.7. Assignment and Subcontracting. The Contractor shall not assign this Contract or enter into a subcontract for any of the goods or services provided under this Contract without the prior written approval of the State. Notwithstanding any use of the approved subcontractors, the Contractor shall be the prime contractor and responsible for compliance with all terms and conditions of this Contract. The State reserves the right to request additional information or impose additional terms and conditions before approving an assignment of this Contract in whole or in part or the use of subcontractors in fulfilling the Contractor's obligations under this Contract.

- D.8. Conflicts of Interest. The Contractor warrants that no part of the Contractor's compensation shall be paid directly or indirectly to an employee or official of the State of Tennessee as wages, compensation, or gifts in exchange for acting as an officer, agent, employee, subcontractor, or consultant to the Contractor in connection with any work contemplated or performed under this Contract.

The Contractor acknowledges, understands, and agrees that this Contract shall be null and void if the Contractor is, or within the past six (6) months has been, an employee of the State of Tennessee or if the Contractor is an entity in which a controlling interest is held by an individual who is, or within the past six (6) months has been, an employee of the State of Tennessee.

- D.9. Nondiscrimination. The Contractor hereby agrees, warrants, and assures that no person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination

in the performance of this Contract or in the employment practices of the Contractor on the grounds of handicap or disability, age, race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin, or any other classification protected by federal or state law. The Contractor shall, upon request, show proof of nondiscrimination and shall post in conspicuous places, available to all employees and applicants, notices of nondiscrimination.

- D.10. Prohibition of Illegal Immigrants. The requirements of Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-3-309 addressing the use of illegal immigrants in the performance of any contract to supply goods or services to the state of Tennessee, shall be a material provision of this Contract, a breach of which shall be grounds for monetary and other penalties, up to and including termination of this Contract.

- a. The Contractor agrees that the Contractor shall not knowingly utilize the services of an illegal immigrant in the performance of this Contract and shall not knowingly utilize the services of any subcontractor who will utilize the services of an illegal immigrant in the performance of this Contract. The Contractor shall reaffirm this attestation, in writing, by submitting to the State a completed and signed copy of the document at Attachment A, semi-annually during the Term. If the Contractor is a party to more than one contract with the State, the Contractor may submit one attestation that applies to all contracts with the State. All Contractor attestations shall be maintained by the Contractor and made available to State officials upon request.
- b. Prior to the use of any subcontractor in the performance of this Contract, and semi-annually thereafter, during the Term, the Contractor shall obtain and retain a current, written attestation that the subcontractor shall not knowingly utilize the services of an illegal immigrant to perform work under this Contract and shall not knowingly utilize the services of any subcontractor who will utilize the services of an illegal immigrant to perform work under this Contract. Attestations obtained from subcontractors shall be maintained by the Contractor and made available to State officials upon request.
- c. The Contractor shall maintain records for all personnel used in the performance of this Contract. Contractor's records shall be subject to review and random inspection at any reasonable time upon reasonable notice by the State.
- d. The Contractor understands and agrees that failure to comply with this section will be subject to the sanctions of Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-3-309 for acts or omissions occurring after its effective date.
- e. For purposes of this Contract, "illegal immigrant" shall be defined as any person who is not: (i) a United States citizen; (ii) a Lawful Permanent Resident; (iii) a person whose physical presence in the United States is authorized; (iv) allowed by the federal Department of Homeland Security and who, under federal immigration laws or regulations, is authorized to be employed in the U.S.; or (v) is otherwise authorized to provide services under the Contract.

- D.11. Records. The Contractor shall maintain documentation for all charges under this Contract. The books, records, and documents of the Contractor, for work performed or money received under this Contract, shall be maintained for a period of five (5) full years from the date of the final payment and shall be subject to audit at any reasonable time and upon reasonable notice by the State, the Comptroller of the Treasury, or their duly appointed representatives. The financial statements shall be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.
- D.12. Monitoring. The Contractor's activities conducted and records maintained pursuant to this Contract shall be subject to monitoring and evaluation by the State, the Comptroller of the Treasury, or their duly appointed representatives.
- D.13. Progress Reports. The Contractor shall submit brief, periodic, progress reports to the State as requested.
- D.14. Strict Performance. Failure by any Party to this Contract to require, in any one or more cases, the strict performance of any of the terms, covenants, conditions, or provisions of this Contract shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment of any term, covenant, condition, or provision. No term or condition of this Contract shall be held to be waived, modified, or deleted except by a written amendment signed by the Parties.
- D.15. Independent Contractor. The Parties shall not act as employees, partners, joint venturers, or associates of one another. The Parties are independent contracting entities. Nothing in this Contract shall be construed to create an employer/employee relationship or to allow either Party to exercise control or direction over the manner or method by which the other transacts its business affairs or provides its usual services. The employees or agents of one Party are not employees or agents of the other Party.
- D.16. Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The Contractor agrees that it will be responsible for compliance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ("PPACA") with respect to itself and its employees, including any obligation to report health insurance coverage, provide health insurance coverage, or pay any financial assessment, tax, or penalty for not providing health insurance. The Contractor shall indemnify the State and hold it harmless from any costs to the State arising from Contractor's failure to fulfill its PPACA responsibilities for itself or its employees.
- D.17. Limitation of State's Liability. The State shall have no liability except as specifically provided in this Contract. In no event will the State be liable to the Contractor or any other party for any lost revenues, lost profits, loss of business, decrease in the value of any securities or cash position, time, goodwill, or any indirect, special, incidental, punitive, exemplary or consequential damages of any nature, whether based on warranty, contract, statute, regulation, tort (including but not limited to negligence), or any other legal theory that may arise under this Contract or otherwise. The State's total liability under this Contract (including any exhibits, schedules, amendments or other attachments to the Contract) or otherwise shall under no circumstances exceed the Maximum Liability. This limitation of liability is cumulative and not per incident.
- D.18. Limitation of Contractor's Liability. In accordance with Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-3-701, the Contractor's liability for all claims arising under this Contract shall be limited to an amount equal to two (2) times the Maximum Liability amount detailed in Section C.1. and as may be amended, PROVIDED THAT in no event shall this Section limit the liability of the Contractor for: (i) intellectual property or any Contractor indemnity obligations for infringement for third-party intellectual property rights; (ii) any claims covered by any specific provision in the Contract providing for liquidated damages; or (iii) any claims for intentional torts, criminal acts, fraudulent conduct, or acts or omissions that result in personal injuries or death. For clarity, except as otherwise expressly set forth in this Section, Contractor's indemnification obligations and other remedies available under this Contract are subject to the limitations on liability set forth in this Section.

- D.19. Hold Harmless. The Contractor agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the State of Tennessee as well as its officers, agents, and employees from and against any and all claims, liabilities, losses, and causes of action which may arise, accrue, or result to any person, firm, corporation, or other entity which may be injured or damaged as a result of acts, omissions, or negligence on the part of the Contractor, its employees, or any person acting for or on its or their behalf relating to this Contract. The Contractor further agrees it shall be liable for the reasonable cost of attorneys' fees, court costs, expert witness fees, and other litigation expenses for the State to enforce the terms of this Contract.

In the event of any suit or claim, the Parties shall give each other immediate notice and provide all necessary assistance to respond. The failure of the State to give notice shall only relieve the Contractor of its obligations under this Section to the extent that the Contractor can demonstrate actual prejudice arising from the failure to give notice. This Section shall not grant the Contractor, through its attorneys, the right to represent the State in any legal matter, as the right to represent the State is governed by Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-6-106.

- D.20. HIPAA Compliance. The State and Contractor shall comply with obligations under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA"), Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health ("HITECH") Act and any other relevant laws and regulations regarding privacy (collectively the "Privacy Rules"). The obligations set forth in this Section shall survive the termination of this Contract.

- a. Contractor warrants to the State that it is familiar with the requirements of the Privacy Rules, and will comply with all applicable requirements in the course of this Contract.
- b. Contractor warrants that it will cooperate with the State, including cooperation and coordination with State privacy officials and other compliance officers required by the Privacy Rules, in the course of performance of the Contract so that both parties will be in compliance with the Privacy Rules.
- c. The State and the Contractor will sign documents, including but not limited to business associate agreements, as required by the Privacy Rules and that are reasonably necessary to keep the State and Contractor in compliance with the Privacy Rules. This provision shall not apply if information received or delivered by the parties under this Contract is NOT "protected health information" as defined by the Privacy Rules, or if the Privacy Rules permit the parties to receive or deliver the information without entering into a business associate agreement or signing another document.
- d. The Contractor will indemnify the State and hold it harmless for any violation by the Contractor or its subcontractors of the Privacy Rules. This includes the costs of responding to a breach of protected health information, the costs of responding to a government enforcement action related to the breach, and any fines, penalties, or damages paid by the State because of the violation.

- D.21. Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System. Subject to statutory exceptions contained in Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 8-36-801, *et seq.*, the law governing the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System ("TCRS"), provides that if a retired member of TCRS, or of any superseded system administered by TCRS, or of any local retirement fund established under Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 8-35-101, *et seq.*, accepts State employment, the member's retirement allowance is suspended during the period of the employment. Accordingly and notwithstanding any provision of this Contract to the contrary, the Contractor agrees that if it is later determined that the true nature of the working relationship between the Contractor and the State under this Contract is that of "employee/employer" and not that of an independent contractor, the Contractor, if a retired member of TCRS, may be required to repay to TCRS the amount of retirement benefits the Contractor received from TCRS during the Term.

D.22. Tennessee Department of Revenue Registration. The Contractor shall comply with all applicable registration requirements contained in Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 67-6-601 – 608. Compliance with applicable registration requirements is a material requirement of this Contract.

D.23. Debarment and Suspension. The Contractor certifies, to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it, its current and future principals, its current and future subcontractors and their principals:

- a. are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal or state department or agency;
- b. have not within a three (3) year period preceding this Contract been convicted of, or had a civil judgment rendered against them from commission of fraud, or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or grant under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification, or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
- c. are not presently indicted or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity (federal, state, or local) with commission of any of the offenses detailed in section b. of this certification; and
- d. have not within a three (3) year period preceding this Contract had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.

The Contractor shall provide immediate written notice to the State if at any time it learns that there was an earlier failure to disclose information or that due to changed circumstances, its principals or the principals of its subcontractors are excluded, disqualified, or presently fall under any of the prohibitions of sections a-d.

D.24. Force Majeure. "Force Majeure Event" means fire, flood, earthquake, pandemics, elements of nature or acts of God, wars, riots, civil disorders, rebellions or revolutions, acts of terrorism or any other similar cause beyond the reasonable control of the Party except to the extent that the non-performing Party is at fault in failing to prevent or causing the default or delay, and provided that the default or delay cannot reasonably be circumvented by the non-performing Party through the use of alternate sources, workaround plans or other means. A strike, lockout or labor dispute shall not excuse either Party from its obligations under this Contract. Except as set forth in this Section, any failure or delay by a Party in the performance of its obligations under this Contract arising from a Force Majeure Event is not a default under this Contract or grounds for termination. The non-performing Party will be excused from performing those obligations directly affected by the Force Majeure Event, and only for as long as the Force Majeure Event continues, provided that the Party continues to use diligent, good faith efforts to resume performance without delay. The occurrence of a Force Majeure Event affecting Contractor's representatives, suppliers, subcontractors, customers or business apart from this Contract is not a Force Majeure Event under this Contract. Contractor will promptly notify the State of any delay caused by a Force Majeure Event (to be confirmed in a written notice to the State within one (1) day of the inception of the delay) that a Force Majeure Event has occurred, and will describe in reasonable detail the nature of the Force Majeure Event. If any Force Majeure Event results in a delay in Contractor's performance longer than forty-eight (48) hours, the State may, upon notice to Contractor: (a) cease payment of the fees for the affected obligations until Contractor resumes performance of the affected obligations; or (b) immediately terminate this Contract or any purchase order, in whole or in part, without further payment except for fees then due and payable. Contractor will not increase its charges under this Contract or charge the State any fees other than those provided for in this Contract as the result of a Force Majeure Event.

D.25. State and Federal Compliance. The Contractor shall comply with all State and federal laws and regulations applicable to Contractor in the Contractor's performance of this Contract.

- D.26. Governing Law. This Contract shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Tennessee, without regard to its conflict or choice of law rules. The Tennessee Claims Commission or the state or federal courts in Tennessee shall be the venue for all claims, disputes, or disagreements arising under this Contract. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that any rights, claims, or remedies against the State of Tennessee or its employees arising under this Contract shall be subject to and limited to those rights and remedies available under Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 9-8-101 - 408.
- D.27. Entire Agreement. This Contract is complete and contains the entire understanding between the Parties relating to its subject matter, including all the terms and conditions of the Parties' agreement. This Contract supersedes any and all prior understandings, representations, negotiations, and agreements between the Parties, whether written or oral.
- D.28. Severability. If any terms and conditions of this Contract are held to be invalid or unenforceable as a matter of law, the other terms and conditions of this Contract shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect. The terms and conditions of this Contract are severable.
- D.29. Headings. Section headings of this Contract are for reference purposes only and shall not be construed as part of this Contract.
- D.30. Incorporation of Additional Documents. Each of the following documents is included as a part of this Contract by reference. In the event of a discrepancy or ambiguity regarding the Contractor's duties, responsibilities, and performance under this Contract, these items shall govern in order of precedence below:
- a. any amendment to this Contract, with the latter in time controlling over any earlier amendments;
  - b. this Contract with any attachments or exhibits (excluding the items listed at subsections c. through f., below), which includes Attachment A and B;
  - c. any clarifications of or addenda to the Contractor's proposal seeking this Contract;
  - d. the State solicitation, as may be amended, requesting responses in competition for this Contract;
  - e. any technical specifications provided to proposers during the procurement process to award this Contract; and
  - f. the Contractor's response seeking this Contract.
- D.31. Iran Divestment Act. The requirements of Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-12-101, *et seq.*, addressing contracting with persons as defined at Tenn. Code Ann. §12-12-103(5) that engage in investment activities in Iran, shall be a material provision of this Contract. The Contractor certifies, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of its knowledge and belief that it is not on the list created pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-12-106.
- D.32. Insurance. Contractor shall maintain insurance coverage as specified in this Section. The State reserves the right to amend or require additional insurance coverage, coverage amounts, and endorsements required under this Contract. Contractor's failure to maintain or submit evidence of insurance coverage, as required, is a material breach of this Contract. If Contractor loses insurance coverage, fails to renew coverage, or for any reason becomes uninsured during the Term, Contractor shall immediately notify the State. All insurance companies providing coverage must be: (a) acceptable to the State; (b) authorized by the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance ("TDCI"); and (c) rated A- / VII or better by A.M. Best. All coverage must be on a primary basis and noncontributory with any other insurance or self-insurance carried by the State. Contractor agrees to name the State as an additional insured on any insurance policy with the exception of workers' compensation (employer liability) and professional liability (errors and omissions) insurance. All policies must contain an endorsement for a waiver of subrogation in favor of the State. Any deductible or self insured retention ("SIR") over fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) must be approved by the State. The deductible or SIR and any premiums are the Contractor's sole responsibility. The Contractor agrees that the insurance requirements specified

in this Section do not reduce any liability the Contractor has assumed under this Contract including any indemnification or hold harmless requirements.

To achieve the required coverage amounts, a combination of an otherwise deficient specific policy and an umbrella policy with an aggregate meeting or exceeding the required coverage amounts is acceptable. For example: If the required policy limit under this Contract is for two million dollars (\$2,000,000) in coverage, acceptable coverage would include a specific policy covering one million dollars (\$1,000,000) combined with an umbrella policy for an additional one million dollars (\$1,000,000). If the deficient underlying policy is for a coverage area without aggregate limits (generally Automobile Liability and Employers' Liability Accident), Contractor shall provide a copy of the umbrella insurance policy documents to ensure that no aggregate limit applies to the umbrella policy for that coverage area. In the event that an umbrella policy is being provided to achieve any required coverage amounts, the umbrella policy shall be accompanied by an endorsement at least as broad as the Insurance Services Office, Inc. (also known as "ISO") "Noncontributory—Other Insurance Condition" endorsement or shall be written on a policy form that addresses both the primary and noncontributory basis of the umbrella policy if the State is otherwise named as an additional insured.

Contractor shall provide the State a certificate of insurance ("COI") evidencing the coverages and amounts specified in this Section. The COI must be on a form approved by the TDCI (standard ACORD form preferred). The COI must list each insurer's National Association of Insurance

Commissioners (NAIC) number and be signed by an authorized representative of the insurer. The COI must list the State of Tennessee – CPO Risk Manager, 312 Rosa L. Parks Ave., 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Central Procurement Office, Nashville, TN 37243 as the certificate holder. Contractor shall provide the COI ten (10) business days prior to the Effective Date and again thirty (30) calendar days before renewal or replacement of coverage. Contractor shall provide the State evidence that all subcontractors maintain the required insurance or that subcontractors are included under the Contractor's policy. At any time, the State may require Contractor to provide a valid COI. The Parties agree that failure to provide evidence of insurance coverage as required is a material breach of this Contract. If Contractor self-insures, then a COI will not be required to prove coverage. Instead Contractor shall provide a certificate of self-insurance or a letter, on Contractor's letterhead, detailing its coverage, policy amounts, and proof of funds to reasonably cover such expenses. The State reserves the right to require complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies, including endorsements required by these specifications, at any time.

The State agrees that it shall give written notice to the Contractor as soon as practicable after the State becomes aware of any claim asserted or made against the State, but in no event later than thirty (30) calendar days after the State becomes aware of such claim. The failure of the State to give notice shall only relieve the Contractor of its obligations under this Section to the extent that the Contractor can demonstrate actual prejudice arising from the failure to give notice. This Section shall not grant the Contractor or its insurer, through its attorneys, the right to represent the State in any legal matter, as the right to represent the State is governed by Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-6-106.

**The insurance obligations under this Contract shall be: (1)—all the insurance coverage and policy limits carried by the Contractor; or (2)—the minimum insurance coverage requirements and policy limits shown in this Contract; whichever is greater. Any insurance proceeds in excess of or broader than the minimum required coverage and minimum required policy limits, which are applicable to a given loss, shall be available to the State. No representation is made that the minimum insurance requirements of the Contract are sufficient to cover the obligations of the Contractor arising under this Contract. The Contractor shall obtain and maintain, at a minimum, the following insurance coverages and policy limits.**

- a. Commercial General Liability ("CGL") Insurance



- 1) The Contractor shall maintain CGL, which shall be written on an ISO Form CG 00 01 occurrence form (or a substitute form providing equivalent coverage) and shall cover liability arising from property damage, premises and operations products and completed operations, bodily injury, personal and advertising injury, and liability assumed under an insured contract (including the tort liability of another assumed in a business contract).

The Contractor shall maintain single limits not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence. If a general aggregate limit applies, either the general aggregate limit shall apply separately to this policy or location of occurrence or the general aggregate limit shall be twice the required occurrence limit.

b. Workers' Compensation and Employer Liability Insurance

- 1) For Contractors statutorily required to carry workers' compensation and employer liability insurance, the Contractor shall maintain:

- i. Workers' compensation in an amount not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) including employer liability of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per accident for bodily injury by accident, one million dollars (\$1,000,000) policy limit by disease, and one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per employee for bodily injury by disease.

- 2) If the Contractor certifies that it is exempt from the requirements of Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 50-6-101 – 103, then the Contractor shall furnish written proof of such exemption for one or more of the following reasons:

- i. The Contractor employs fewer than five (5) employees;
- ii. The Contractor is a sole proprietor;
- iii. The Contractor is in the construction business or trades with no employees;
- iv. The Contractor is in the coal mining industry with no employees;
- v. The Contractor is a state or local government; or
- vi. The Contractor self-insures its workers' compensation and is in compliance with the TDCI rules and Tenn. Code Ann. § 50-6-

405. c. Automobile Liability Insurance

- 1) The Contractor shall maintain automobile liability insurance which shall cover liability arising out of any automobile (including owned, leased, hired, and non-owned automobiles).
- 2) The Contractor shall maintain bodily injury/property damage with a limit not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence or combined single limit.

D.33. Major Procurement Contract Sales and Use Tax. Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-39-102 and to the extent applicable, the Contractor and the Contractor's subcontractors shall remit sales and use taxes on the sales of goods or services that are made by the Contractor or the Contractor's subcontractors and that are subject to tax.

- D.34. Confidentiality of Records. Strict standards of confidentiality of records and information shall be maintained in accordance with applicable state and federal law. All material and information, regardless of form, medium or method of communication, provided to the Contractor by the State or acquired by the Contractor on behalf of the State that is regarded as confidential under state or federal law shall be regarded as "Confidential Information." Nothing in this Section shall permit Contractor to disclose any Confidential Information, regardless of whether it has been disclosed or made available to the Contractor due to intentional or negligent actions or inactions of agents of the State or third parties. Confidential Information shall not be disclosed except as required or permitted under state or federal law. Contractor shall take all necessary steps to safeguard the confidentiality of such material or information in conformance with applicable state and federal law.

The obligations set forth in this Section shall survive the termination of this Contract.

**E. SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

- E.1. Conflicting Terms and Conditions. Should any of these special terms and conditions conflict with any other terms and conditions of this Contract, the special terms and conditions shall be subordinate to the Contract's other terms and conditions.
- E.2. Software License Warranty. Contractor grants a license to the State to use all software provided under this Contract in the course of the State's business and purposes.
- E.3. Software Support and Maintenance Warranty. Contractor shall provide to the State all software upgrades, modifications, bug fixes, or other improvements in its software that it makes generally available to its customers.
- E.4. Extraneous Terms and Conditions. Contractor shall fill all orders submitted by the State under this Contract. No purchase order, invoice, or other documents associated with any sales, orders, or supply of any good or service under this Contract shall contain any terms or conditions other than as set forth in the Contract. Any such extraneous terms and conditions shall be void, invalid and unenforceable against the State. Any refusal by Contractor to supply any goods or services under this Contract conditioned upon the State submitting to any extraneous terms and conditions shall be a material breach of the Contract and constitute an act of bad faith by Contractor.
- E.5. Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act & Tennessee Data Accessibility, Transparency and Accountability Act. The Contractor shall comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. 1232(g)) and its accompanying regulations (34 C.F.R. § 99) ("FERPA"). The Contractor warrants that the Contractor is familiar with FERPA requirements and that it will comply with these requirements in the performance of its duties under this Contract. The Contractor agrees to cooperate with the State, as required by FERPA, in the performance of its duties under this Contract. The Contractor agrees to maintain the confidentiality of all education records and student information. The Contractor shall only use such records and information for the exclusive purpose of performing its duties under this Contract. The obligations set forth in this Section shall survive the termination of this Contract.

The Contractor shall also comply with Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-1-701, *et seq.*, known as the "Data Accessibility, Transparency and Accountability Act," and any accompanying administrative rules or regulations (collectively "DATAA"). The Contractor agrees to maintain the confidentiality of all records containing student and de-identified data, as this term is defined in DATAA, in any databases, to which the State has granted the Contractor access, and to only use such data for the exclusive purpose of performing its duties under this Contract.

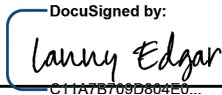
Any instances of unauthorized disclosure of data containing personally identifiable information in violation of FERPA or DATAA that come to the attention of the Contractor shall be reported to the State within twenty-four (24) hours. Contractor shall indemnify and hold harmless State, its employees, agents and representatives, from and against any and all claims, liabilities, losses, or causes of action that may arise, accrue, or result to any person or entity that is injured or damaged as a result of Contractor's failure to comply with this section.

- E.6. Intellectual Property Indemnity. The Contractor agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the State of Tennessee as well as its officers, agents, and employees from and against any and all claims or suits which may be brought against the State concerning or arising out of any claim of an alleged patent, copyright, trade secret or other intellectual property infringement resulting from the services. In any such claim or action brought against the State, the Contractor shall satisfy and indemnify the State for the amount of any settlement or final judgment, and the Contractor shall be responsible for all legal or other fees or expenses incurred by the State arising from any such claim. The State shall give the Contractor notice of any such claim or suit, however, the failure of the State to give such notice shall only relieve Contractor of its obligations under this Section to the extent Contractor can demonstrate actual prejudice arising from the State's failure to give notice. This Section shall not grant the Contractor, through its attorneys, the right to represent the State of Tennessee in any legal matter, as provided in Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-6-106.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF,

**NEXT STEP INNOVATION**

**LANNY EDGAR:**

DocuSigned by:  
  
C11A7B709D604E0...

11/5/2020

**CONTRACTOR SIGNATURE**

**DATE**

Lanny Edgar, CFO

**PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTOR SIGNATORY (above)**

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:

**Dr. Penny**

**COMMISSIONER, PENNY SCHWINN**

**Schwinn\_jc**

Digitally signed by Dr. Penny Schwinn\_jc

DN: cn=Dr. Penny Schwinn\_jc, o, ou,

email=joanna.collins@tn.gov, c=US

Date: 2020.11.18 11:22:17 -06'00'

**ATTACHMENT A***(Fill out only by selected Contractor)***ATTESTATION RE PERSONNEL USED IN CONTRACT PERFORMANCE**

<b>SUBJECT CONTRACT NUMBER:</b>	68610
<b>CONTRACTOR LEGAL ENTITY NAME:</b>	Next Step Innovation
<b>EDISON SUPPLIER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER</b>	0000245566

The Contractor, identified above, does hereby attest, certify, warrant, and assure that Contractor shall not knowingly utilize the services of an illegal immigrant in the performance of this Contract and shall not knowingly utilize the services of any subcontractor who will utilize the services of an illegal immigrant in the performance of this Contract.

DocuSigned by:

*Lanny Edgar*

C11A7D700D804E0...

**CONTRACTOR SIGNATURE**

NOTICE: This attestation MUST be signed by an individual empowered to contractually bind Contractor. If said individual is not the chief executive or president, this document shall attach evidence showing the individual's authority to contractually bind Contractor.

Lanny Edgar

CFO

**PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNATORY**

11/5/2020

**DATE OF ATTESTATION**

## **ATTACHMENT B**

---

**See the attached catalog.**