DESCRIPTION OF INTENDED SINGLE SOURCE PURCHASE (PUR 7776)

AGENCY: Early Learning Coalition of Manatee County, Inc.

TITLE: ELCie Custom Adult-Facing AI Tool
Short description of the commodity or service desired: The Early Learning Coalition of Manatee County, Inc. seeks to purchase the design, development, implementation, and support of ELCie, a customized, Google Cloud-hosted learning platform for the Coalition's mobile RV early learning initiative. The platform will combine high-quality early learning content, guided whole-group instruction, hands-on learning stations, and ELCie, the Coalition's customized manatee character and adult-facing artificial intelligence instructional support tool.

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Internal tracking number, if any:

Date posted: 11/17/26 Last day for receipt of information: 12/7/26

This description of commodities or contractual services intended for purchase from a single source is posted in accordance with Sections 120.57(3) and 287.057(3), Florida Statutes (F.S.), and will remain posted for a period of at least 15 business days.

Commodity or Contractual Service Required (commodity or United National Standard Products and Services Code (UNSPSC), manufacturer, model, and description, as appropriate):
Learning Beyond Paper, Inc. will provide the discovery, planning, engineering, development, design, testing, implementation, training, and ongoing support required to create and launch the customized ELCie learning platform.
Services will include:

- Collaborative discovery and planning to establish the project's vision, scope, priorities, and intended outcomes.
- Development of ELCie and the technical infrastructure necessary to support the customized AI character and its adult-facing early education functions.
- Google Cloud development and learning management system integration.
- Development of the user experience, functionality, features, and technical requirements, subject to final approval by the Coalition.
- Translation of project content into languages identified by the Coalition.
- Human review of translated content for linguistic accuracy, clarity, and intended meaning.
- Qualified review of content to ensure it is safe, age-appropriate, and developmentally appropriate.

- Platform security, reliability, cybersecurity safeguards, and protection from unauthorized access.
- Training and guidance for Coalition staff regarding the effective use and administration of ELCie.
- Ongoing technical and operational support, including troubleshooting and assistance with user concerns, functionality issues, and unforeseen circumstances affecting the platform.

Quantity or Term (as appropriate):
January 1, 2027 - December 31, 2027

Requestor (division, bureau, office, individual, as appropriate):
Early Learning Coalition of Manatee County, Inc.

Performance and/or Design Requirements (e.g. intended use, function or application, compatibility, requirements; reference to policy, rule, statute or other act of the Legislature, etc., as appropriate):
Learning Beyond the The customized platform must be hosted through Google Cloud and designed to support the Coalition's mobile RV early learning initiative. It must integrate high-quality early learning content, guided whole-group instruction, hands-on learning stations, and an adult-facing AI instructional support tool represented by ELCie, the Coalition's customized manatee character.
The platform's initial implementation must be appropriate for preschool and prekindergarten children participating in approximately one-hour RV visits. Learning experiences must use a story-based instructional sequence that includes:
1. A shared introduction and read-aloud.
2. Guided discussion.
3. Vocabulary development.
4. Hands-on learning stations.
5. A closing reflection.

The Contractor must collaborate closely with the Coalition throughout discovery, planning, development, and implementation. The Coalition will retain final approval authority over ELCie's design, features, functionality, technical requirements, user experience, and initial content.
Content must be translated into languages identified by the Coalition. Translated content must undergo human review for accuracy, clarity, and intended meaning. All content must also be reviewed by a qualified individual to verify that it is safe, age-appropriate, and developmentally appropriate for the children and educators served through the mobile RV initiative.
The Contractor must maintain the platform's security, reliability, and functionality and implement safeguards to reduce cybersecurity vulnerabilities, unauthorized access, and other potential risks. The Contractor must provide staff training and ongoing technical and operational support throughout the implementation.is designed for use in after-school, out-of-school time (OST), and summer programs serving mixed-age groups in community-based settings. The curriculum functions as a structured, implementation-ready system that provides sequenced lesson plans, embedded staff guidance, and flexible delivery through a digital platform with optional supplemental materials. It is intended to support consistent, high-quality programming by integrating academic enrichment, social-emotional learning, and project-based activities. The

design ensures accessibility across diverse populations through bilingual (English/Spanish) content and adaptable implementation options.

Intended Single Source:
Learning Beyond Paper, Inc.

Estimated Dollar Amount:
$250,000

Justification for single source acquisition (what is necessary and unique about the product, service or source; steps taken to confirm unavailability of competition, as appropriate):
Learning Beyond Paper, Inc. is the only viable source for this project because the customized ELCie platform will be designed and developed using Learning Beyond Paper's existing proprietary curriculum, platform framework, artificial intelligence architecture, editor, templates, tools, and reusable technology.
The project requires the integration of these pre-existing proprietary components with a customized ELCie character, Google Cloud-hosted technical infrastructure, learning management system functionality, early learning content, and an adult-facing AI instructional support tool. Learning Beyond Paper will retain ownership of its pre-existing curriculum and technology while providing the Coalition with the appropriate rights to use the customized ELCie implementation.
Another vendor would not have the necessary ownership rights or access to Learning Beyond Paper's proprietary curriculum, AI architecture, platform framework, development tools, templates, editor, and reusable technology. Selecting another provider would require the Coalition to procure or independently develop a separate curriculum, platform, technology architecture, content-management structure, and AI functionality. This would duplicate development efforts, increase costs, extend the implementation timeline, and create significant integration and compatibility risks.
Learning Beyond Paper's existing technology and curriculum, combined with its responsibility for the customized engineering, design, translation, testing, secure delivery, training, and ongoing support, make it uniquely positioned to provide the fully integrated ELCie platform required for the Coalition's mobile RV initiative.

Approved By (names & titles, as appropriate, e.g., requestor, requestor management, information systems, budget, purchasing):
Darrell King, Chief Executive Officer

Prospective vendors are requested to provide information regarding their ability to supply the commodities or contractual services described. If it is determined in writing by the agency, after reviewing any information received from prospective vendors, that the commodities or contractual services are available only from a single source, the agency shall provide notice of its intended decision to enter a single-source purchase contract in the manner specified in Rule 60A-1.045, Florida Administrative Code, and section 120.57(3), F.S.