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Contract

The Delivery and Development of the University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT)

UK CAT Consortium Ltd

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-012559

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03d54c

Published 2 April 2025, 3:00pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

UK CAT Consortium Ltd

B-Floor, Medical School, QMC, Nottingham

Nottingham

NG7 2UH

Contact

Rachel Greatrix

Email

rachel.greatrix@nottingham.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKF14 - Nottingham

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.ucat.ac.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.ucat.ac.uk/>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object**II.1) Scope of the procurement****II.1.1) Title**

The Delivery and Development of the University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT)

Reference number

INT-UC01

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80000000 - Education and training services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The UCAT Consortium is a consortium of 36 universities responsible for the delivery and development of a test used in undergraduate medical and dental selection. The purpose of the future procurement exercise is for the UCAT Consortium to appoint a supplier to deliver and further develop the test from 2025 onwards.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £26,500,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support
- 48000000 - Software package and information systems
- 80320000 - Medical education services
- 80300000 - Higher education services
- 72500000 - Computer-related services
- 72200000 - Software programming and consultancy services
- 80490000 - Operation of an educational centre
- 72316000 - Data analysis services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The UCAT test is an aptitude exam, designed to measure innate cognitive abilities in addition to individuals' judgement regarding situations encountered in a target role. The test is used in selection by a consortium of UK universities for entry to medical and dental training. The current exam consists of five separately timed subtests - Verbal Reasoning, Decision Making, Quantitative Reasoning, Abstract Reasoning and the Situational Judgement Test. Items (questions) include those developed from operational items used in previous administrations and new items trialled in previous years. The Consortium owns the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in existing test content. The test is currently delivered to candidates at physical test locations in the UK and internationally from July through to October. A small number of candidates take the test online. In 2022 over 36,000 candidates sat the test. Test scores are delivered to universities in early November. The delivery of the test is underpinned by a commitment to excellent customer service including candidate access to a straightforward online booking system, provision of a wide range of accommodations for candidates with disabilities, extensive preparation advice to candidates and access to freely available preparation materials, and pre-equating of the test to allow candidates immediate access to their test scores. The Consortium wishes to appoint a supplier to develop and deliver services within the UK and Internationally from January 2025 (mobilisation period to start October 2024). The supplier may also be required to provide the test for use in selection by a consortium of Australia and New Zealand universities. It is anticipated that the contract will be awarded in December 2023.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: quality / Weighting: 60

Price - Weighting: 40

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2023/S 000-022032](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

0

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

12 December 2023

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 2

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 2

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Pearson Professional Assessments Limited

80 Strand

London

WC2R 0RL

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

The contractor is an SME

No

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £26,500,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £27,000,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

UK CAT Consortium Ltd

Nottingham

Country

United Kingdom