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Contract

Third Party Admissions System

University Of Edinburgh

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-039692

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0486af

Published 10 December 2024, 9:17am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

University Of Edinburgh

Charles Stewart House, 9-16 Chambers Street

Edinburgh

EH1 1HT

Contact

Elliot Freeman

Email

Elliot.Freeman@ed.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 1316502508

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00107

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

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

Third Party Admissions System

Reference number

EC1028

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 75121000 - Administrative educational services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The University is looking to work with a commercial partner to support admissions decision-making, with scope to consider verification and conversion support. This work would cover the next three admissions cycles, with the first intake being September 2025.

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: £600,000

II.2) Description**II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 80300000 - Higher education services
- 72316000 - Data analysis services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The University of Edinburgh seeks to enhance the Future Student experience both in speed of decision turnaround and in the qualitative experience of all applicants whether they receive an offer or not. This is to support our delivery of institutional student population strategic objectives, and to ensure our future student experience is in line with our world class standing. The University is looking to work with a commercial partner to support admissions decision-making, with scope to consider verification and conversion support. This work would cover the next three admissions cycles, with the first intake being September 2025. The third-party admissions service should support to admissions teams at the University of Edinburgh, to provide more concentrated and flexible support in peak periods, and allow for University of Edinburgh Admissions staff to focus on specialist, value-added activity. This should also enable offer making to be delivered in a timely manner. This would likely include:

- Identification and completion of missing data;
- Identification of ineligible applicants;
- Identification of applicants who are highly competitive and should be considered further by admissions teams; and
- Requesting documentation post-offer, to confirm whether the applicant has met their conditions of offer.

This would primarily be undertaken by staff from the supplier, who are trained by the University of Edinburgh. These staff will be granted access the University's systems to support this activity. This will include the use of the University's student records system, EUCLID (SITS). Access is cloud based through multi factor authentication and a VPN should be utilised for any work undertaken off campus. Information will be shared through Microsoft 365 products and supplier staff will be invited to relevant admissions team meetings to ensure accurate and successful completion of work to SLAs.

Data protection standards must be met to ensure safety and security of applicant data.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Technical / Weighting: 80

Price - Weighting: 20

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

One 12-month extension option available to the University.

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: Yes

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2024/S 000-024106](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

EC1028

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

9 December 2024

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 5

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 4

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

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 5

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 5

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

QS Quacquarelli Symonds Limited

1 Tranley Mews, Fleet Road, London NW3 2DG UNITED KINGDOM

London

NW32DG

Telephone

+44 2031483056

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £600,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

(SC Ref:785008)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Edinburgh Sheriff Court

27 Chambers Street

Edinburgh

EH1 1LB

Country

United Kingdom