

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/039692-2024>

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](mailto: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](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