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Award

Exam Boards

DUDLEY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

UK5: Transparency notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-046173

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0581a0

Published 5 August 2025, 2:30pm

Scope

Description

Subject of the Contract:

Provision of regulated qualifications and assessments from specified awarding bodies.

Description of the Contract:

Dudley College intends to directly award contracts for the provision of qualifications and assessments to a defined list of approved exam boards. These include:

- Pearson Edexcel
- AQA
- City & Guilds
- NCFE

This decision is based on curriculum alignment, quality assurance, and regulatory compliance. No competitive tendering procedure will be undertaken for this procurement.

Justification for Direct Award:

Under Section 41 and Schedule 5 of the Procurement Act 2023, Dudley College is permitted to make a direct award where:

- The goods or services can only be supplied by a particular supplier due to technical or educational requirements.
- The contract value and nature do not warrant a competitive procedure.
- The decision supports continuity and consistency in curriculum delivery.

Estimated Contract Value:

£5-£6 million.

Contract Duration:

3 years with optional 1-year extension

Contract 1

Suppliers (4)

- AQA
- CITY AND GUILDS OF LONDON INSTITUTE
- NCFE
- PEARSON EDUCATION LIMITED

Contract value

- £6,000,000 excluding VAT
- £6,000,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

1 September 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2029
- 4 years

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 80000000 - Education and training services

Contract locations

- UKC - North East (England)
- UKD - North West (England)
- UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber
- UKF - East Midlands (England)

- UKG - West Midlands (England)
- UKH - East of England
- UKI - London
- UKJ - South East (England)
- UKK - South West (England)

Other information

Description of risks to contract performance

Students unable to complete exams without contract which would impact College performance and student experience.

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Special regime

Light touch

Direct award justification

- Single supplier - technical reasons
- Extreme and unavoidable urgency

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- The contract value and nature do not warrant a competitive procedure.
- The decision supports continuity and consistency in curriculum delivery.

Suppliers

AQA

- Companies House: 03644723

Devas Street

Manchester

M15 6EX

United Kingdom

Email: AQAcustomersupport@aqa.org.uk

Region: UKD33 - Manchester

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1

CITY AND GUILDS OF LONDON INSTITUTE

- Companies House: RC000117
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PGZW-9515-MWNT

Giltspur House, 5-6 Giltspur Street

London

EC1A 9DE

United Kingdom

Email: Tracker.Inbox@cityandguilds.com

Website: <http://www.cityandguilds.com>

Region: UKI31 - Camden and City of London

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1

NCFE

- Companies House: 02896700
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PQMG-6939-YRZN

Q6 Quorum Park

Newcastle Upon Tyne

NE12 8BT

United Kingdom

Email: bidning@ncfe.org.uk

Website: <https://www.ncfe.org.uk/>

Region: UKC22 - Tyneside

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1

PEARSON EDUCATION LIMITED

- Companies House: 00872828
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PBHP-6465-TLVW

80 Strand

London

WC2R 0RL

United Kingdom

Email: pte.gov@pearson.com

Website: <http://www.pearson.com>

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1

Contracting authority

DUDLEY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNPV-7259-DHXD

Dudley College of Technology

DUDLEY

DY1 4AS

United Kingdom

Email: finance@dudleycol.ac.uk

Region: UKG36 - Dudley

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government