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Tender

ID 5967233 - DE - Statistics and Research - The Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) 2027

The Department of Education (DE)

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-072042

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05cefe ([view related notices](#))

Published 7 November 2025, 1:30pm

Changes to notice

This notice has been edited. The [previous version](#) is still available.

The Contract Dates have been updated as they were previously inputted incorrectly.

The contract will therefore run from the date of award (estimated to be in December 2025) until 31 December 2028. There will be one optional extension of any period up to 9 months.

Scope

Reference

ID 5967233

Description

The Department of Education is responsible, under statute, for the provision of education for the children and young people of Northern Ireland and to promote the education system of Northern Ireland needs. The Department commissions evidence-based research including a number of international large-scale assessments of education systems. One such assessment is the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS). TIMSS is a world-wide comparative study of the attainment in mathematics and science of pupils aged 9/10 years; primary year six in Northern Ireland.

TIMSS is managed internationally by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA). To deliver the study in participating countries the IEA, under the conditions of their agreement, require each country to employ the services of a National Study Centre (NSC), this centre is to be led by a National Research Coordinator (NRC). The NSC will be responsible for the delivery of the TIMSS 2027 nationally. The Department therefore wishes to appoint a contractor for the provision of a NSC as well as a NRC to deliver TIMSS 2027 in Northern Ireland.

The new contract will commence for the Date of Award, which is anticipated to be in November/December 2025.

Total value (estimated)

- £796,000 excluding VAT
- £955,200 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 15 December 2025 to 31 December 2028

- Possible extension to 30 September 2029
- 3 years, 9 months, 17 days

Description of possible extension:

Following the initial contract period, there is 1 optional extension for a period of up to 9 months. Optional extension periods will be subject to review and satisfactory performance assessment by the Contracting Authority.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 73000000 - Research and development services and related consultancy services

Contract locations

- UKN - Northern Ireland

Participation

Legal and financial capacity conditions of participation

N/A

Technical ability conditions of participation

As per Tender documentation.

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

10 November 2025, 2:00pm

Tender submission deadline

19 November 2025, 2:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

Tenders must be submitted electronically via the relevant Call for Tender (CfT) opportunity on eTendersNI, website details immediately below.

Paper submissions will not be accepted or considered and will be rejected by the Contracting Authority / Buyer.

The tender documents are available with unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at: URL <https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

3 December 2025

Award criteria

Name	Description	Type
AC1 - Proposed Methodology	As per Tender documentation.	Quality
AC2 - Key Personnel Experience	As per Tender documentation.	Quality
AC3 - Contract Management and Contingency	As per Tender documentation.	Quality
AC4 - Social Value	As per Tender documentation.	Quality
AC5 - Total Contract Price	As per Tender documentation.	Price

Weighting description

Weighting Breakdown

60 Percent Qualitative

40 Percent Quantitative

Qualitative Criteria - Percentage Weighting

AC1 - Proposed Methodology - 24 Percent

AC2 - Key Personnel Experience - 18 Percent

AC3 - Contract Management and Contingency - 7.8 Percent

AC4 - Social Value - 10.2 Percent

Quantitative Criteria - Percentage Weighting

AC5 - Total Contract Price - 40 Percent

Other information

Payment terms

For further details on invoicing procedures please see : <https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/articles/account-ni-good-invoicing-practice>

Applicable trade agreements

- Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Contracting authority

The Department of Education (DE)

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PTYH-9512-JWZZ

Rathgael House, Balloo Road

Rathgill

BT19 7PR

United Kingdom

Email: SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/>

Region: UKN09 - Ards and North Down

Organisation type: Public authority - central government

Devolved regulations that apply: Northern Ireland

Other organisation

These organisations are carrying out the procurement, or part of it, on behalf of the contracting authorities.

CPD - Supplies and Services Division

Summary of their role in this procurement: Construction and Procurement Delivery - Supplies and Services Division, is a Centre of Procurement Expertise and provides a central procurement function for central government in Northern Ireland.

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVWG-8426-YWXV

Clare House, 303 Airport Road West

Belfast

BT3 9ED

United Kingdom

Email: SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/topics/procurement>

Region: UKN06 - Belfast

Contact organisation

Contact CPD - Supplies and Services Division for any enquiries.