

Solicitation Amendment No. 002

To: Prospective Bidder/Offeror:	Date:
Prospective Proposers	September 28, 2015
	Project No.:
Student Learning Predictive Analytics	RFP 16-01

The Request For Proposal (Project No. 16-01) is hereby amended as set forth below:

1. Please be advised that the solicitation due date for RFP 16-01 Student Learning Predictive Analytics is hereby extended.

The new solicitation due date shall be Tuesday, October 13, 2015 by 2:00 P.M. (local time).

2. Attachments: The following attachments are made part of this Amendment No. 002 and included below.
 - a. RFP 16-01 Student Learning Predictive Analytics QA 2

Except as provided herein, all term and conditions of the solicitation remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

Continued next page

Acknowledgement of Amendment No. 002 by:	Date:
Company Name (Bidder/Offerer):	
Signed by:	
Name (Type or Print):	Title:

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
PROJECT NO. 16-01
STUDENT LEARNING PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS NO. 2

Date: September 28, 2015

To: Prospective Respondents

From: Procurement Operations Department, Houston Community College

Subject: Questions and Answers Responses

- 1.** How many users will be creators (ex: view/edit/create) and how many will be consumers (ex: view only)?
 - a.** It is uncertain how many respective users HCC will need. It may depend on how users are specified, but we generally understand that the actual creators of the data, as defined as those creating parameters, would be relatively small in number, perhaps no more than 25-30 if we include dean level "creation" as a possibility. The number of "view" users could easily reach into the thousands per semester.
 - b.** Generally, HCC is looking for the proposers to provide a solution that meets the needs of the scope of services as defined and that is aligned with best practices in the use and application of predictive analytics software. Please describe your proposed solution in detail as related to this functionality.
- 2.** Please provide examples of 'what if' type questions that you would want the solution to answer. Do you require an end user to type in or load a factor used in the calculation?
 - a.** Generally HCC believes that end users need to be able to specify values, but those can be determined through a pull down menu that is prepopulated with factors.
 - b.** It is unknown but probable that "typed in" values would be used as variables for specific reports, so HCC end users may very well need to define variables beyond what is available in a pull-down menu.
 - c.** Possible scenarios include but are not limited to the following:
 - i.** What if the solution delineates the student experience enabling HCC to truly comprehend their world in terms of what is working and what's not; and, the

- solution provides real-time insight to match appropriate interventions?
- ii. What if the solution provided a comprehensive picture of HCC interventions, programs and overall efficacy so that HCC may improve completion rates?
 - d. Generally, HCC is looking for the proposers to provide a solution that meets the needs of the scope of services as defined and that is aligned with best practices in the use and application of predictive analytics software. Please describe your proposed solution in detail as related to this functionality.
3. Please clarify the requirements for student access to analytics vs staff needs. What types of analytics are desired for students to be able to access from the system? (I'm assuming it will be a smaller set of req than for staff).
- a. Student analytics would include program and or degree progression information, a dashboard, course adjacencies for other degrees or certificates, and others. However, it will likely be a smaller set than required by staff.
 - b. Student access to an analytic should be specific to that student and relative to their peer group (e.g. progress to completion as compared to same/similar peers).
 - c. Generally, HCC is looking for the proposers to provide a solution that meets the needs of the scope of services as defined and that is aligned with best practices in the use and application of predictive analytics software. Please describe your proposed solution in detail as related to this functionality.
4. What is concurrency estimate for student and staff access should we plan for? i.e. How many students and staff are expected to be using the system simultaneously?
- a. This is unknown at this time, but HCC generally believes that not all students and staff will be using the system at the same time initially, as adoption of the solution increases the usage HCC expects may increase.
 - b. Generally, HCC is looking for the proposers to provide a solution that meets the needs of the scope of services as defined and that is aligned with best practices in the use and application of predictive analytics software. Please describe your proposed solution in detail as related to this functionality.
 - c. This is a hard question to answer as HCC has anywhere from 6,000 to 8,000 active wireless users during peak business hours. Consider the following (only an estimate):
 - Estimated number of concurrent staff and faculty: 250
 - Estimated number of concurrent students: 1,500
5. Are there budget constraints we should be aware of now, both in timing and amount of investment?

- a.** A budget has not been defined.
- 6.** For 3.1.6, can you reframe this question or provide more detail about what you are looking for here.
 - a.** [Model] Transparency refers to the extent to which parties can review a model's structure, equations, parameter values, and assumptions. It does not refer to the formulation, conduct, or results of a particular analysis. Transparency serves two purposes: 1) to provide a non-quantitative description of the model to [users] who want to understand in a general way how a model works and 2) to provide technical information to [users] who want to evaluate a model at [a] higher level of mathematical and programming detail, and possibly replicate it. (Retrieved from <http://www.ispor.org/workpaper/model-transparency-and-validation.asp> on 9/24/15).
 - b.** The model must provide a high level of accuracy while handling large amounts of data from various sources.
 - c.** The model's algorithms need to be able to trap and report anomalies in the inputs and continue to operate despite these abnormalities thus providing validity to the framework.

Balance of page intentionally left blank.