

**TO:** Roger Breed, Ed.D.  
Commissioner of Education

**FROM:** John Moon, Data Project Manager, Statewide Assessment

**SUBJECT:** Data Recognition Corporation – NeSA-Writing Contract: 2012--2013

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### **PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

Grant the Commissioner the authority to continue contracting with Data Recognition Corporation for the administration and scoring of the statewide writing assessment, the NeSA-W.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

As required in state legislation, the NDE has been administering a statewide writing assessment to students in grades 4, 8, and 11 since 2001. In 2010 a Request For Proposal (RFP) was posted seeking a vendor to assist the Department in a transition from holistic to analytic scoring of the writing assessment and from paper/pencil to online test administration. Five vendors submitted proposals, and the independent evaluation team recommended to the State Board that the contract be negotiated with Data Recognition Corporation, the same vendor used in the administration and scoring of the reading, mathematics, and science NeSA Tests. The first and second years of administration and scoring of the writing assessment has gone extremely well.

It is time to move to the third year of the transition. The approval of the contract with DRC for the third year of administration will involve analytic scoring and online administration of the 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade writing papers and analytic scoring and paper administration of the 4<sup>th</sup> grade paper/pencil writing papers, as outlined in the transition plan.

Cost: Up to \$895,054

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Supporting Documentation Included: Contract Budget Page  
**For additional information on this item:** Call John Moon 402-471-2495,  
[john.moon@nebraska.gov](mailto:john.moon@nebraska.gov)

**Form B – Yr. 3 Cost Sheet – 6/20/12**  
**NeSA-Writing: 2013 - Request for Proposal Number 10-403-01**

<b>Deliverables</b>	<b>Year 3 (2013)</b>
<b>NeSA-W test booklet development, distribution, and return</b>	<b>\$32,469</b>
<b>Paper/pencil Booklets</b>	<b>\$90,630</b>
<b>Online Writing</b>	<b>\$122,376</b>
<b>NeSA-W Administration Manuals, testing protocols, and procedures</b>	<b>\$32,989</b>
<b>Scoring</b>	<b>\$347,862</b>
<b>Data Transfer</b>	<b>\$495</b>
<b>Reporting Student Results</b>	<b>\$54,293</b>
<b>Contractor Support</b>	<b>\$16,460</b>
<b>Technical Support (Psychometrics)</b>	<b>\$29,120</b>
<b>Grade 4 Administered Paper/pencil*</b>	<b>\$10,379</b>
<b>Spanish Scoring</b>	<b>\$5,181</b>
<b>Appeals or Training</b>	<b>\$3,640</b>
<b>Rangefinding</b>	<b>\$9,341</b>
<b>Gr. 4 Standard Setting</b>	<b>\$42,419</b>
<b>Integrate Writing into NeSA Individual Student Reports</b>	<b>\$24,400</b>
<b>Collect &amp; Process Transcribed Responses</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>NeSA-W Online Field Test – Grades 8 &amp; 11</b>	<b>\$73,000</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$895,054</b>

\*Original proposal had all three grades online in year three.