

Name of Proposed Contractor: Nicole Long

Initial Date of Posting This Public Notice: 7/10/2025

NDE Contract Number: 46060

Contract Amount: \$9,200

Contract Dates: 8/1/25-7/31/26

Scope of Services: Provide program quality observations.

Public Employee or Public Official Relationship: Nicole is an employee of ESU 15 & 16..

NDE Team Responsible for the Contract: [Early Childhood Education](#)

Email address and phone number for contacting responsible team:
melody.hobson@nebraska.gov (402/860-4055)

Name of Proposed Contractor: Diane Ellis

Initial Date of Posting This Public Notice: 7/10/2025

NDE Contract Number: 46061

Contract Amount: \$8,100

Contract Dates: 8/1/25-7/31/26

Scope of Services: Provide program quality observations.

Public Employee or Public Official Relationship: Diane is an employee of Bellevue Public Schools and ESU 3.

NDE Team Responsible for the Contract: [Early Childhood Education](#)

Email address and phone number for contacting responsible team:
melody.hobson@nebraska.gov (402/860-4055)

Name of Proposed Contractor: Center for Rural Affairs

Initial Date of Posting This Public Notice: 7/18/2025

NDE Contract Number: 46072

Contract Amount: \$49,999

Contract Dates: 8/15/25-8/14/26

Scope of Services: Assist with expansion of the Harvest of the Month Program..

Public Employee or Public Official Relationship: Board Member-Melissa Florell employee of UNMC.

NDE Team Responsible for the Contract: [Coordinated Student Support Services](#)

Email address and phone number for contacting responsible team:
zainab.rida@nebraska.gov (402/471-4620)

Name of Proposed Contractor: Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Initial Date of Posting This Public Notice: 7/22/2025

NDE Contract Number: 46073

Contract Amount: \$75,000

Contract Dates: 7/30/25-6/30/26

Scope of Services: Ensure alignment between PK-16 pathways, employer needs, statewide talent, education goals, stronger connections across education and workforce systems; support and inform strategic efforts to strengthen education to career pipeline; encourage cross-sector collaboration; embed and sustain workforce-aligned practices, support integration of education and workforce strategies across state plans; create conditions for long-term sustainability of key alignment initiatives; engage stakeholders to surface policy or practice recommendation that remove barriers and promote innovation in career and technical education.

Public Employee or Public Official Relationship: Board Member-Courtney Dentlinger, NPPD; Rob Schafer, UNL; Jeff Gold, UNL; Pete Festerson, Omaha City Council; Yesinia Peck, OPPD.

NDE Team Responsible for the Contract: [Commissioner's Office](#)

Email address and phone number for contacting responsible team:
lane.carr@nebraska.gov (402/419-3012)