# EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER REGION 19 RFP AWARD SUMMARY

RFP TITLE: Special Education Web Based Management Systems – ESC Region 19

Allied States Cooperative

**RFP NUMBER**: 15-7144

RFP OPENING DATE: August 4, 2015

**CONTRACT TERM:** Date of award until September 30, 2016 with the option to extend in one year

increments annually for an additional four (4) years if agreed to by ASC and Vendor

(Extended by Region 19 until September 30, 2017) (Extended by Region 19 until September 30, 2018) (Extended by Region 19 until September 30, 2019) (Extended by Region 19 until September 30, 2020)

FUNDING SOURCE: Various RFP's ISSUED: 40 RESPONSES: 3

ADVERTISEMENT DATES: Washington Post - July 3, 2015 & July 10, 2015

El Paso Times – July 3, 2015 & July 10, 2015

BOARD MEETING DATE: October 15, 2015

RECOMMENDED FOR AWARD Esped.com, Inc. (renamed 9/11/18) \*updated 10/2/18

Frontline Technologies Group LLC dba Frontline Education (as of 9/11/18)

SchoolStatus, LLC

**SEAS** 

TOTAL (estimated) \$1,500,000.00/ year

#### **EXPLANATIONS:**

Award of this contract will enable ESC Region 19 Allied States Cooperative members to utilize the following services to purchase Special Education Web Based Management Systems from the pool of vendors. It was determined that all systems were above average and that any systems could provide for the stated requirements, and each standing alone would be a matter of personal preference requirements by each member requiring a web based interfaced Special Education Management System. All vendors awarded scored an 8 or above out of a possible 10 in evaluation factors.

SPECIFICATIONS PROVIDED BY: Royce Cleveland

ESC Region 19 Allied States Cooperative

**EVALUATION COMMITTEE:** Royce Cleveland

ESC Region 19 Allied States Cooperative

Martin Camacho

ESC Region 19 Allied States Cooperative

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## **Contact Information:**

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Frontline Technologies Group LLC dba Frontline Education \*as of 9/11/18 \*updated 10/2/18 \*updated as of 03/09/2020

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## SchoolStatus, LLC

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#### **SEAS**

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## Esped.com, Inc. Frontline Technologies Group LLC dba Frontline Education \*as of 9/11/18 \*updated 10/2/18

## PRICE LINK \*updated 2/14/19

- 1. <u>Itemize the features and functions</u> critical to a successful Special Education Student Web Based Management Software System in the space provided. Statements should be true and direct as it applies to school district requirements; include whether or not 30-day trials are offered at no charge to the ESC Region 19 Allied States Purchasing Cooperative members.
  - Cost effective
  - Complete On-line electronic student document portfolio
  - Cloud-based, always available, no hardware investment and maintenance
  - Single relational database
  - Lightning fast page turns, in under 2 seconds
  - Dynamically expanding forms
  - Reporting, ad hoc and extensive library included
  - Encrypted/Password protected email capability
  - Co-location Services Level (3)
  - System Security
  - State and Federal Compliance maintained and always current
  - PDF Scan/email/upload archiving
  - Archiving student information, required 7 years.
  - Integrated Document Translation
  - System Integration
  - Document Electronic Signature
  - Maintenance free
  - Outstanding Customer Support
  - Comprehensive Special Population System
    - ARD/IEF
    - Goals/Objectives with TEK integration
    - Assessment Histories
    - Notices and Forms
    - Spanish Notices and Forms
    - FIE and all Evaluations
    - FBA and BIP
    - 504 Plan
    - Progress Reporting and Charting
    - Transition Plans
    - ARD Compliance Monitor
    - Medicaid Service Log
    - PEIMS collection
    - RTI
    - ELL/LPAC

#### Trial Period

Upon signing an NOA esped Frontline Technologies Group LLC \*as of 9/11/18 will grant ESC R19 member districts guest access to our demo site for a period of 14 days to browse our suite of applications.

2. <u>SUPPORT/ SERVICE-</u> As new versions of the system are introduced, are current customers offered the option to purchase or are they included with the original price? What would be the cost annually to stay current typically? Also how often are updates and new versions introduced historically?

Our product, eSTAR<sup>TM</sup>, is offered as a per pupil application subscription, pricing is based on the number of students served in the district. The Software License Subscription and Annual Recurring Maintenance fee include all technical supportand software licenses for UNLIMITED, CONCURRENT, DISTRICT USERS. On- going maintenance, most application feature enhancements and state and federal compliance updates (all Federal and State changes!) are performed by esped Frontline Technologies Group LLC \*as of 9/11/18 at no additional cost. Customers will always be up to date with the newest version. System updates occur throughout the school year with the larger releases scheduled in thesummer and during holidays and weekends.

Is telephone support included with the purchase price? And if not, what is the cost? And what is the typical response time? Also, is support directly from the company or a 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor?

Our technical support is available to all district users with unlimited free access to our toll-free support hotline and on-line support services. Support is provided from 8:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. EDT and email support is monitored until 11:00 p.m. EDT and during weekends. If all support representatives are on the phone at the time of an incoming call they do their best to call back immediately if not by the end of the business day. Email support is monitored by all support representatives and if a user is not answered instantly, contact will be made by the end of the business day. It is suggested that users call the 800 number first and if all representatives are busy, —, email support@esped.com to document the problem and to make the department aware of any issues. Within the system there are easy-to-follow Texas specific on-line help documents and we also provide all extensive training documents to users at the time of implementation. Additionally, all system updates are well documented for teaching/ training purposes and disbursed when necessary.

All support is provided by employees of esped.com, Inc., we do not employ third party support personnel.

Contact Frontline Technologies for Support Services – as of 9/11/18

## Is credit offered when a user upgrades due to the increase in size of the program? If so, please provide details;

This does not apply as our product, eSTAR™, is offered as a per pupil application subscription, pricing is based on the number of students served in the district. The Software License Subscription and Annual Recurring Maintenance fee include all technical support and software licenses for UNLIMITED, CONCURRENT, DISTRICT USERS. On-going maintenance, most application feature enhancements and state and federal compliance updates (all federal and state changes!) are performed by esped Frontline Technologies Group LLC \*as of 9/11/18 at no additional cost.

## Are remote diagnostics available with the program? If yes, what are the hardware requirements specifically, including pricing if available?

Remote diagnostics of the software program are provided via Webinar so esped Frontline Technologies Group LLC \*as of 9/11/18 support personnel can take control of the user's computer to determine and resolve any problems. No additional hardware is required for our diagnostic support. All support costs are included in the annual software license subscription agreement. All users have unlimited, free access to our support.

## Is training / consulting available on site? If so, provide all associated costs if they are not included in the purchase price. Also, the typical time for the system to be fully implemented should be provided based on the stated size and scope on previous work.

On-site training sessions are hands-on and will be organized by job function. Each training group will be limited to maximum of 25 attendees in order to ensure personal attention for each staff member. The use of a computer for each participant is highly recommended. Free, remote, webinar trainings are also offered throughout the year on a wide variety of subjects via Webinar. Training costs are part of the non-recurring implementation costs at \$1,800 per day.

Full system integration depends greatly on district size and training method. Most new districts are up and running within 45 days of a signed contract.

## Is customization available? If yes, provide costs associated with special requests for additional features. And if customized, do future versions include the customization feature?

Customization can be provided to districts and is charged based on time and materials. When customizations are made to the system they stay in there indefinitely.

## Is there an established users group for the system proposed? Are users allowed to provide input? Provide details;

Esped Frontline Technologies Group LLC \*as of 9/11/18 hosts two very well attended, full day user group meetings each year the day before the January and July TCASE meetings. Other user group meetings are conducted on a regular basis throughout the year in various regional locations. Also, we have Texas Advisory Groups that meet quarterly by discipline (ARD, RTI and FIE etc.) and provide feedback to esped Frontline Technologies Group LLC \*as of 9/11/18 Project Managers. All options give users the opportunity to provide us input on their experience and needs regarding the direction of the system.

## 2. EASE OF USE/ IMPLEMENTATION

Complete the following questions with <u>Yes</u> or <u>No</u> responses and any additional information about the questions deemed beneficial for use of the product;

 Help Screens
 Yes

 Consistent Use of Function Keys
 Yes

 User Tutorials
 Yes

 Quick Reference Cards
 Yes

 Is It Intuitive?
 Yes

 Can It Be Implemented In Modules?
 Yes

# 4. <u>ABILITY TO INTERFACE/ INTEGRATE-</u> Describe the ability of this system to integrate with existing student systems if that is the instance as well as other PC Microcomputer applications?

Esped.com, Inc. Frontline Technologies Group LLC \*as of 9/11/18 is SIF certified. We currently integrate with all Student Information Systems in Texas. We do this through a nightly batch process where the SIS posts an export file to esped's Frontline Technologies Group LLC \*as of 9/11/18 ftp site. Esped Frontline Technologies Group LLC \*as of 9/11/18 also sends PEIMS data to the SIS so the integration is bi-directional. Esped Frontline Technologies Group LLC \*as of 9/11/18 has current clients employing many different SIS systems. We update student records based on matching primary and secondary student identification numbers. If the district is interested in real-time exchange of data, we also offer a web services integration option. Esped Frontline Technologies Group LLC \*as of 9/11/18 supports an open approach to integration. Provided eSTAR<sup>TM</sup>, includes a corresponding data element, we will transfer and load the data elements according to the district's specification from multiple systems if necessary.

Additional system integration would also be facilitated using a batch process upload with the frequency to be determined by the district

## 5. ABILITY TO EXPAND- Is data compatible from one configuration to another? Explain;

eSTAR™ was architected from the ground up as a true, Cloud-based application. It is based on a centralized district database model with all user access performed through the Web browser. All data entered into the system by authorized users is maintained in the system creating a virtual file folder for each student. This data stays the same even as the program expands and additions to the system are made. Information is entered only once and then automatically shared throughout the application, fostering collaboration among staff at all levels and locations

## Provide a listing of the platforms system will run on?

Clients can access eSTAR™ using either a Mac or Windows via any Web browser

#### Can Software be implemented one module at a time?

eSTAR™ can be implemented one module at a time, most initial trainings are conducted for the FIE and ARD applications.

## Are new modules being developed constantly?

New features are constantly being developed and added to our suite of applications keeping our clients up to date with state-of-the art solutions for their data management and reporting needs.

## 4. COSTS-Provide attachment of different pricing structure and the hardware requirements for each pricing configuration on attachment; Hardware estimates should also be included separately, even if vendor does not sell hardware;

Pricing is based on the number of students served in the School/ISD. The Annual Software License Subscription fees are based on an Application Service Provider model and include application and hosting, all server, database & software costs, technical support, ongoing software updates and compliance changes, and software licenses for unlimited, concurrent district users.

Number of employees working directly for company in sales? In Service? And in Support?

Esped Frontline Technologies Group LLC \*as of 9/11/18 has 7 people working directly for the company in sales. We have 15 people working in the service and support department.

#### **RESPONSE FORM**

## Can Vendor support Texas, New Mexico and Arizona? Provide details;

Currently esped Frontline Technologies Group LLC \*as of 9/11/18 can support Texas school districts, as we partner with nearly 700 schools and districts in the state. We do not have applications for New Mexico or Arizona but would be open to discussing should the opportunity arise.

#### Vendor should provide a 10-step implementation program as a template for School District's using this product;

- 1. Transfer District student data from previous management system.
- 2. Evaluate student data for migration to eSTAR™
- 3. Data Conversion of identified student information
- 4. Population of administrative tables, which become dropdown lists in the IEP applications
- 5. Definition of roles and security access levels
- 6. Registration of users and assignment to roles
- 7. Electronically loading student data into eSTAR™
- 8. Integration of eSTAR™ with the district's Student Information System
- 9. Training of school or district personnel
- 10. Evaluation and Review of Implementation

#### Number of years in business with the product proposed for award consideration;

Esped Frontline Technologies Group LLC \*as of 9/11/18 is in its 15th year providing districts with our proposed solution, eSTAR™. In January 2000, esped.com, Inc. Frontline Technologies Group LLC \*as of 9/11/18 combined with Learning Systems Technologies, a developer of Special Education IEP and Student Data Management systems. Learning Systems was the first company to provide computer assisted IEP applications in the United States and has implemented thousands of special education systems nationwide. esped.com, Inc. Frontline Technologies Group LLC \*as of 9/11/18 president, George Dhionis, founded Learning Systems Technologies in 1979. George has extensive experience, both as a Director of Special Education in Massachusetts as well as a developer of special education administrative applications. esped.com, Inc. Frontline Technologies Group LLC \*as of 9/11/18 is an independent company, owned by its directors.

States Covered - Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Wisconsin All States \*updated 10/4/18

## SchoolStatus, LLC

1. <u>Itemize the features and functions</u> critical to a successful Special Education Student Web Based Management Software System in the space provided. Statements should be true and direct as it applies to school district requirements; include whether or not 30-day trials are offered at no charge to the ESC Region 19 Allied States Purchasing Cooperative members.

SchoolStatus is a data framework for K-12 education that combines a district's disjointed data systems in one place. Our web-based interface allows Superintendents, Principals, and Teachers to make intelligent, data-driven decisions.

#### Powerful analytics built right in

We strive to create solutions that are both elegant and powerful. We provide, out of the box, incredibly powerful statistical analysis at the tap of your finger.

- Attendance & Discipline
- Absenteeism
- 3rd party Learning systems
- Regression Analysis
- Correlation Coefficients
- Geographic Data Mapping
- · Point-and-click reporting
- Elegant & simple interface

#### All district learning data, up-to-date & in one place

By creating a data framework designed around the needs of K-12 education, SchoolStatus is poised to help districts tackle their data challenges. Our framework connects to district Learning and data systems to import all available instructional & operational data in one interface.

## Empowering teachers to make smart instructional decisions

While most K-12 districts collect ample amounts of educational data, that data rarely flows to teachers in real-time. School Status collects data from the disjointed data systems in a school district, normalizes and organizes it, and then makes it available to those who truly affect student outcomes: classroom teachers.

#### Automatically download the latest data from all district apps

Import, export, save, upload, format. If you work in a school, these terms all engender a common feeling: hassle. Our framework uses a proprietary process that connects to almost any web-based or database-based app. We automatically connect on a schedule you set to download the data you need. We make this Look easy.

## Our cloud-based solution creates unlimited possibilities

When you eliminate the burdens of capacity and storage requirements from school districts, they're able to focus on what matters: educating students. Our extensive resources are Located in the cloud to prevent the sort of headaches our team had to contend with when they worked in their own districts. We bring the power of the cloud to any device, personal or district-owned, to allow districts to make the most of their data.

## Highly Secure

Our framework is housed in a PCI DSS Level 1 and SOC 1/ISAE 3402 facility and uses banking-grade encryption. We have designed School Status with strict FERPA compliance as the baseline rule and add additional safeguards that comply with Local and state laws, as required. Powerful Reporting

Not only are our dashboards incredibly easy to use, but we marry that with a powerful drag-and-drop reporting engine. School Status allows for fast reporting like you've never seen.

#### Customized Tagging

Need to keep an eye on a student? Creating a List of students receiving special services? We've created a unique system for tagging students who need extra attention.

## 24x7 support

Working Late? No problem. When you have a question, we're here to help. We operate 24x7 to ensure we're always here to help when you need us.

#### Unlimited, Onsite or Online Training

Unlike other software vendors, we provide unlimited onsite or online training at no cost. We want you happy, educated, and using SchoolStatus to its fullest

2. <u>SUPPORT/ SERVICE-</u> As new versions of the system are introduced, are current customers offered the option to purchase or are they included with the original price? What would be the cost annually to stay current typically? Also how often are updates and new versions introduced historically?

All of the new versions and updates released of School Status are included in the original price at no extra cost. We release new versions of our software on a 2-week release cycle.

Is telephone support included with the purchase price? And if not, what is the cost? And what is the typical response time? Also, is support directly from the company or a 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor?

Telephone supp01i is included with the purchase price. We offer 24/7 phone support to not only district administrators and purchasing influencers, but ALL members of the school district coming into contact with our solution. We use a call center that answers phone calls during afterhours and transfers the calls to our supporting team. We have a rotating staff call system that allows for 24/7 coverage during all times of the year. Customers can reach out to us via text, email, or by calling at any time. We've also recently added the capability to proactively call any customer who is having trouble logging in without them having to reach out to us.

We pride ourselves on being accessible. We return every e-mail and phone call with in 24 hours and often within n an hour or two. This all-access approach to support and service sets us apart in the indust1y as our customer support team is the largest department in the company to facilitate this level of satisfaction.

Is credit offered when a user upgrades due to the increase in size of the program? If so, please provide details;

If a user upgrades due to an increase in the size of the program, SchoolStatus provides a 100% credit (prorated) toward the purchase of upgraded size.

Are remote diagnostics available with the program? If yes, what are the hardware requirements specifically, including pricing if available?

As a cloud based System School Status only requires a modern web-browser and an internet connection. Any system capable of running a modern version of Internet Explorer (I O or higher, Chrome, Firefox or Safari) can use School Status.

Windows X P and OS X, specifically, both support Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox, both of which are supported.

If a user wants to export information as a PDF, a PDF viewer is required. Likewise, if a user wishes to analyze data further in a spreadsheet application (like Microsoft Excel) a relevant viewer is required. However, neither are required for routine access to SchoolStatus.

## SUPPORT/ SERVICE

Is training / consulting available on site? If so, provide all associated costs if they are not included in the purchase price. Also, the typical time for the system to be fully implemented should be provided based on the stated size and scope on previous work.

Training is available on site, one on one, one to few, and one to many through a variety of mediums including webinars, seminars in large groups, conferences, and workshop style events.

Unlike other software vendors, we provide unlimited onsite or on line training at NO COST. We want our customers happy, educated, and using SchoolStatus to its fullest.

Is customization available? If yes, provide costs associated with special requests for additional features. And if customized, do future versions include the customization feature?

We allow our users to submit feature requests which some have been implemented in School Status on new versions of our product.

Is there an established users group for the system proposed? Are users allowed to provide input? Provide details;

There is not an established user group but we make available our help page to all of our users on every page of our site. We regularly take customer feedback and request for features through this method.

## 2. EASE OF USE/ IMPLEMENTATION

Complete the following questions with <u>Yes</u> or <u>No</u> responses and any additional information about the questions deemed beneficial for use of the product;

Help Screens Yes

Each user has a support tab on each page of the software to directly contact support of any issue they may be having. This includes direct support email and chat. We also include a searchable. Context-sensitive knowledge base for self-help.

Consistent Use of Function Keys Ye

User Tutorials Yes

Our help resource landing page is also updated 3-4 times a month with new how-to videos, printable walk-through instructions, and ondemand recordings of all our previous training webinars held monthly on the last Wednesday of the month.

Quick Reference Cards Yes

We offer a variety of printable walk-through instructions in our help resource landing page.

Is It Intuitive? Yes

SchoolStatus is a user-friendly, easy to navigate software com posed of several important elements encompassing design, content, navigation and functionality. Our drag and drop reporting makes it easy to create reports. No queries to run. No fancy code. Drag, drop and print. Reports can be saved for later use or scheduled to run on a recurring basis.

Can It Be Implemented In Modules? Yes

SchoolStatus's Dash board is composed of different mod u les that make easier the navigation in the system.

## 4. <u>ABILITY TO INTERFACE/ INTEGRATE-</u> Describe the ability of this system to integrate with existing student systems if that is the instance as well as other PC Microcomputer applications?

SchoolStatus is a data framework for K-1 2 education that combines a district's disjointed data systems in one place. Student Information System integration is a core functionality of School Status. Specifically, Central Access' Spectra is our largest student information package integration.

At School Status, we believe in doing only what we can do well. As such, SchoolStatus is not in the item bank or test creation business. Our core competencies are storing, analyzing and distilling information to make it easier for K-1 2 districts and schools to get the job done. Forth is reason, we partner with a number of

Third-party companies and products that provide those services to you.

Many of our customers use products by TE2 I, such as the Case21 series of assessments. Buying School Status does not mean you should stop using those products; to the contrary, buying SchoolStatus means you should get more out of your investment in those products.

#### 5. ABILITY TO EXPAND- Is data compatible from one configuration to another? Explain;

Yes, we integrate data from different systems into our product.

## Provide a listing of the platforms system will run on?

As a cloud based System School Status on I y requires a modern web-browser and an internet connection. Any system capable of running a modern version of

Internet Explorer (10 or higher, Chrome, Firefox or Safari) can use SchoolStatus.

Windows X P and OS X, specifically; both support Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox, both of which are supported.

## Can Software be implemented one module at a time?

Yes

#### Are new modules being developed constantly?

Yes

## **RESPONSE FORM**

4. <u>COSTS</u>-Provide attachment of different pricing structure and the hardware requirements for each pricing configuration on attachment; Hardware estimates should also be included separately, even if vendor does not sell hardware;

Software as a service does not require special hardware to operate other than a web browser.

#### Number of employees working directly for company in sales? In Service? And in Support?

We have 4 official sales-focused personnel. This sales team is sufficient at this time considering that we sell a single product at the district level. As a young Company, there are also an additional 5 non-sales-specific personnel with regular face-to-face prospecting/sales responsibilities.

We also have a team of 5 people focused on customer service and support. SchoolStatus is committed to providing a truly best-al laround experience for our customers, as we believe customer satisfaction is the grounds for success. We also offer 24/7 phone support to not only district administrators and purchasing influencers, but ALL members of the school district coming into contact with our solution. Our help resource landing page is also updated 3-4 times a month with new how-to videos, printable walk-through instructions, and on-demand recordings of all our previous training webinars held monthly on the last Wednesday of the month. This all-access approach to support and service sets us apart in the industry as our customer support team is the largest department in the company to facilitate this level of satisfaction.

### Can Vendor support Texas, New Mexico and Arizona? Provide details;

In the past year, we have grown organically from I state to now reaching 6 states with leads in an additional 4. This was largely due to a strong presence at various industry trade shows, some drawing a national audience, with targeted participation goals. With such rapid growth, our strategy this coming year will be to continue working in those new states to gain more share with in each one. To do this, we will continue the methods that earned us the majority in Mississippi so quickly - attend and sponsor educational conferences and events, provide hosted networking opportunities for district leaders to exchange ideas, introduce satisfied customers to potential prospects, meet face to face and via internet to provide product demonstrations and integration consultations, and also continue growing our lead generation email marketing campaigns.

### Vendor should provide a 10-step implementation program as a template for School District's using this product;

SchoolStatus Implementation Phase

#### Legal and Due Diligence

1. Contracts Negotiated and signed

#### **Discovery Phase**

- 2. Credentials Provided to Data Systems
- 3. First Login I Update Meeting
- 4. (If negotiated) First Milestone Payment

## **Beta Testing and Further Development Phase**

5. JPSD Testing and Feedback Period and Reports Back Findings to Development

## **Continued Development and Training Phase**

- 6. SchoolStatus and ASC Member Continue to Adjust and Tweak Dashboard Templates
- 7. Training for Administrators and IT Staff

## **Final Beta Testing Meeting Before Go Live**

- 8. Project Handover to JPSD
- 9. Ongoing Training, as Needed for Administrators, IT Staff and Teachers
- 10. (If negotiated) Final Payment for Project

## Number of years in business with the product proposed for award consideration;

SchoolStatus has been in business for 3 years.

States Covered - All States

## **SEAS**

1. <u>Itemize the features and functions</u> critical to a successful Special Education Student Web Based Management Software System in the space provided. Statements should be true and direct as it applies to school district requirements; include whether or not 30-day trials are offered at no charge to the ESC Region 19 Allied States Purchasing Cooperative members.

SEAS has been on the front lines of over 1,600 implementations. The following list highlights the feature sets and functionality we see as being critical to continued success of any given district. Likewise, we have built a solution that targets Texas' Special Education specific needs through:

Follows TEA guidelines
PE/MS Reporting
SIF interfacing capabilities
Medicaid Claiming services
SEAS Achieve Texas user group that meets several times per year
Child Outcome Summary Report
STAAR Assessment Report
October Snapshot Report
Alternate Assessment Detail Report

Bi-directional SIS Integration capabilities TREX management and reporting TEXS and TAKS-alt curriculum standards SHARS billing Services SPP Indicator Reports 7, 11,12,13,14 State form requirement compliant Legally reviewed forms CLASS GoalBanks

**Forms** - The presence of forms in the application that are compliant with state standards is key to success. Many states utilize forms provided from the given state agencies. Texas (TEA) does not provide common forms for all districts. SEAS provides for all of our Texas users over 250 forms (English & Spanish) that are compliant with TEA regulations. These forms are regularly reviewed by our customer base and internal experts to ensure the content and functionality is compliant with state regulations.

Additionally, forms provided in Achieve are interactive and provide compliance features such as auto-fill, color coding, locking, and many more

**Reporting** - Accurate state reporting is important for every SEAS customer. Achieve is delivered with a bank of standard reports that include state and federal reports as well as the ad hoc Report Designer. Reports in Achieve include:

- 1. Access Schedule Assignment Report
- 2. Admin Quick Count
- 3. Alternate Assessment Detail
- 4. Alternate Assessment Detail Archive
- 5. Alternate Assessment Summary
- 6. Class Lists
- 7. Compliance Report
- 8. Conference Status Report
- 9. Disability By Grade
- 10. Disability By School
- 11. Exit Report
- 12. File IArchive Report
- 13. October Snapshot
- 14. SPP Indicator 07: Early Childhood Outcomes
- 15. SPP Indicator 11: Child Find
- 16. SPP Indicator 12: Early Childhood Transition
- 17. SPP Indicator 13: Secondary Transition
- 18. SPP Indicator 14: Post-School Outcomes
- 19. STAAR Assessment Detail
- 20. STAAR Assessment Detail Archive
- 21. STAAR Assessment Summary
- 22. Student Audit Trail
- 23. Student Information Report
- 24. Student Placement Report
- 25. Saved Report Designer Reports

Goal Banks - The SEAS Achieve Texas offering is delivered with the following standard goal banks:

- TAKS-ALT
- SEAS Achieve goals/objectives bank
- Spanish TEKS
- TEKS
- TX Pre-K Guidelines.

SIS Interfacing - Accurate data begins with accurate student information and demographics. SEAS know that that is of the utmost importance to our customers. This being said, SEAS offers an industry standard method for data sharing between the SIS and our applications as well as a boosted data utility, DataSenase. Data can move singularly or bi-directional and can be prescribed to update either system at virtually any interval.

#### PRODUCT TRIAL

SEAS will provide a "sand-box" site to districts to be used to explore the application after we have provided a product demonstration and a short training to at least a selection of district staff. Typically the time period we associate with a sand-box site is one week.

2. <u>SUPPORT/ SERVICE-</u> As new versions of the system are introduced, are current customers offered the option to purchase or are they included with the original price? What would be the cost annually to stay current typically? Also how often are updates and new versions introduced historically?

Because SEAS systems are provided as Software as a Service and hosted by the vendor, as product updates/fixes/enhancements are released, they are provided to all relevant users at no additional cost, (i.e. users in Texas will receive all Texas based updates, not updates that would only affect Oklahoma users).

SEAS does not require any additional costs for customers to "stay current," as this is included with the annual licensing and hosting fees.

Is telephone support included with the purchase price? And if not, what is the cost? And what is the typical response time? Also, is support directly from the company or a 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor?

Telephone, email and "live chat" support are included with the purchase price. All support is provided by SEAS staff,

Is credit offered when a user upgrades due to the increase in size of the program? If so, please provide details;

No

Are remote diagnostics available with the program? If yes, what are the hardware requirements specifically, including pricing if available?

Because SEAS systems are provided as Software as a Service and hosted by the vendor, by design, all diagnostics are done remotely

## SUPPORT/ SERVICE

Is training / consulting available on site? If so, provide all associated costs if they are not included in the purchase price. Also, the typical time for the system to be fully implemented should be provided based on the stated size and scope on previous work.

On-site training is provided at the cost of \$1,800 for a full day of training (up to 8 hours), plus expenses.

Is customization available? If yes, provide costs associated with special requests for additional features. And if customized, do future versions include the customization feature?

Customization is available at the rate of \$175/hour for programming. Customizations will maintain through Upgrades/enhancements, however customizations may require additional programming to be functional along with upgrades/enhancements. SEAS will only commit to product customizations after in-depth conversation with client.

Is there an established users group for the system proposed? Are users allowed to provide input? Provide details;

Yes. SEAS Education regularly schedules regional or state User Group conferences/meetings for our customers across many different states. This is inclusive of our Texas specific User Groups that are held in conjunction with the semi-annual TCASE conferences. This year,

SEAS has increased our Texas User Groups by providing User Group meetings in Region 10 and Region 4 in 2015 and plans on adding more regions to our annual calendar moving forward.

#### **RESPONSE FORM**

## 3. EASE OF USE/ IMPLEMENTATION

Complete the following questions with Yes or No responses and any additional information about the questions deemed beneficial for use of the product;

**Help Screens** Yes

**Consistent Use of Function Keys** Yes

**User Tutorials** Yes

**Quick Reference Cards** Yes / No

Is It Intuitive? <u>Yes</u>

Can It Be Implemented In Modules? Yes

## 4. ABILITY TO INTERFACE/ INTEGRATE- Describe the ability of this system to integrate with existing student systems if that is the instance as well as other PC Microcomputer applications?

SEAS is committed to integrating our systems with our customers' other data systems. SEAS has extensive experience interfacing solutions with the district's student information system (SIS). We have successfully interfaced with dozens of different packages as indicated below:

Achieve has been interfaced with a multitude of SIS applications, including:

Administrator Plus **iNOW** SAMS ADPC /-Point SAS/

Centerpoint **ITCCS** School House JMAC I WINN School School Master CDR

**JPAM** SOS/Student Data Systems

Chancery SMS JR3 Web Smart Chronical SERS C/MS SIS K12 Lemberger **CORIS** MAS/WENGAGE SIS, INC. Crosspoint/AS400 Sped MMS Skyward CRT MSIS **SMART** DASL OK IEP SMS SSMS/STAR **OSCAR** Discovery Pentamation **EDP** SSUI Edustar PE/MS Star Base **ESAP** ST/ **PowerSchool** eSchool Plus Prologic I TEAMS **TEAMS** Redika **TERMF ESIS** File Maker Pro Redker txEIS Gateway Ren Web Tyler

Genesis **RSCCC** Infinite Campus SAM6i INNVOK SAMI

Win School

## 5. ABILITY TO EXPAND- Is data compatible from one configuration to another? Explain;

## Provide a listing of the platforms system will run on?

At the end-user client, SEAS Achieve supports the following minimum configurations:

#### PC

- Windows XP, Service Pack 2 or higher
- Internet Explorer 8.0+
- Firefox v3 or higher recommended
- Google Chrome v35 or higher
  - Any PDF viewer for printing forms

#### Mac

- OS X (10.4.8+ recommended for Intel MACS/Macbook pro)
- Apple Safari 5.0.5
- Any PDF viewer for printing forms

SEAS Achieve operates on Android and iPad liPhone Operating system mobile browsers. Additionally, our Teaming Partner, Metova develops mobile apps for Android and iPad I iPhone operating systems

#### Can Software be implemented one module at a time?

Yes. Districts may begin utilizing any of the Achieve modules within our platform and individually add modules moving forward.

## Are new modules being developed constantly?

Yes. In order to best serve our customers, SEAS continually invests time and resources into adding components to our offerings to enhance the value offered with the SEAS platform

# 4. <u>COSTS</u>-Provide attachment of different pricing structure and the hardware requirements for each pricing configuration on attachment; Hardware estimates should also be included separately, even if vendor does not sell hardware;

SEAS systems are provides with the Saas model. Customers will not be required to purchase any hardware to operate our systems other than typical computer work stations.

#### Number of employees working directly for company in sales? In Service? And in Support?

SEAS employs nearly 100 associates (turn over, summer interns etc. make for a non-static figure). While sales is an easy category to define, our service and support teams overlap.

Sales - 4

Service - 30 +/-

Support - 30 +/-

#### Can Vendor support Texas, New Mexico and Arizona? Provide details;

Yes, we currently support all three states along with 31 other states.

## Vendor should provide a 10-step implementation program as a template for School District's using this product;

The SEAS system is used by over 1,600 school districts nationwide. We have designed and implemented a proven Project Implementation Plan which allows districts to begin utilizing the efficiencies and benefits of our system very quickly. Our implementation staff members (project managers and trainers) have the benefit of working with many school districts nationwide and bring a broad understanding of issues to each implementation.

An Achieve implementation project is based on a collaborative team approach, combining the strengths, talents, and areas of expertise and responsibilities of SEAS staff and district staff. This approach will clearly define:

- 1. Clear Communication paths
- 2. Team member's assignments and accountability
- 3. Project timelines and deliverables
- 4. Staff Training requirements
- 5. Customization Needs
- 6. Data interactions legacy conversion and inter-system interfacing

The benefits to the district of this type of collaborative approach include:

- 1. Involvement and approval in every step of the implementation
- 2. Exposure to best-practices learned by SEAS in other implementations
- Shared responsibility for project tasks
- Rapid implementation
- 5. One cohesive team focused on the same goal: a successful project!

## Number of years in business with the product proposed for award consideration;

The initial offering of SEAS was produced in 1996 as a stand-alone product, delivered on CD. In 2003 we released the first web-based offering.

**States Covered** – Arizona, Arkansas, Alaska, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming & Puerto Rico

Approved by:		Date:		
	(Armando Aguirre – Executive Director)	-	(September 16, 2015)	
	(Armando Aguirre – Executive Director)		(August 31, 2016)	
	(Armando Aguirre – Executive Director)		(July 31, 2017)	
	(Sonia Eubank – Associate Executive Director)		(July 9. 2018)	