

Action Item

California Student Aid Commission

Approval of contracts and contract amendments

The following contract and contract amendments are attached for your consideration:

Tab 5.a

Amendment to the Radian Solutions LLC, Contract No. S-12-008 for information technology consulting services to increase the amount of the contract from \$215,250 up to \$350,000 and to extend the term of the contract to June 30, 2014

Tab 5.b

Amendment to the Stanfield Systems, Incorporated, Contract No. S-12-007 for information technology consulting services to increase the amount of the contract from \$188,275 up to \$350,000 and to extend the term of the contract to June 30, 2014

Tab 5.c

Contract for up to \$150,000 for information technology consulting services to upgrade the Grant Delivery System (GDS) from Oracle 10g to Oracle 11g and to conduct an assessment of the GDS and its applications

Recommended Action: Approve as requested.

Responsible Person(s): Janet McDuffie, Chief
Administration & External Affairs Division

Chris Edwards
Chief Technology Officer

5.a

Action Item

California Student Aid Commission

Consideration of an amendment to the Radian Solutions LLC, Contract No. S-12-008 for information technology consulting services to increase the amount of the contract from \$215,250 up to \$350,000 and to extend the term of the contract to June 30, 2014

We are seeking authority for the Executive Director to enter into an amendment of an existing contract to continue to receive information technology services to work with staff in maintaining and enhancing the Grant Delivery System for operational purposes

At its September 13-14, 2012 meeting, the Commission authorized the Executive Director to enter into contracts up to \$404,000 in 2012-13 with selected vendors to obtain temporary information technology programming services during the development of the Dream Act Application.

Radian Solutions LLC was one of the vendors selected to provide these services. In analyzing the information technology workload, we have determined that there is a tremendous backlog of defects and enhancements that need to be completed. There has been a turnover of experienced staff that we are in the process of replacing. However, it will take time for the new staff to become familiar with the Grant Delivery System. This contract, together with the Stanfield Systems contract in Tab 5.b, will allow the temporary extension of existing outside servicers to do the necessary work as the new staff becomes familiar with the Grant Delivery System.

The Executive Director must obtain approval from the Commission prior to entering into a new contract or executing a contract amendment of over \$100,000. We are still determining exactly how much longer we will need to keep the consultants. Therefore, we are requesting an increase in the amount of the contract up to \$134,750 and an extension of the term of the contract through June 30, 2014.

Recommended Action: The Commission authorizes the Executive Director to amend the Radian Solutions LLC, Contract No. S-12-008 to increase the amount of the contract from \$215,250 up to \$350,000 and to extend the term of the contract to June 30, 2014.

Responsible Person(s): Janet McDuffie, Chief
Administration and External Affairs Division

Chris Edwards
Chief Technology Officer

5.b

Action Item

California Student Aid Commission

Consideration of an amendment to the Stanfield Systems, Incorporated, Contract No. S-12-007 for information technology consulting services to increase the amount of the contract from \$188,275 up to \$350,000 and to extend the term of the contract to June 30, 2014

We are seeking authority for the Executive Director to enter into an amendment of an existing contract to continue to receive information technology services to work with staff in maintaining and enhancing the Grant Delivery System for operational purposes

At its September 13-14, 2012 meeting, the Commission authorized the Executive Director to enter into contracts up to \$404,000 in 2012-13 with selected vendors to obtain temporary information technology programming services during the development of the Dream Act Application.

Stanfield Systems, Incorporated was one of the vendors selected to provide these services. In analyzing the information technology workload, we have determined that there is a tremendous backlog of defects and enhancements that need to be completed. There has been a turnover of experienced staff that we are in the process of replacing. However, it will take time for the new staff to become familiar with the Grant Delivery System. This Stanfield Systems contract, together with the Radian Solutions contract in Tab 5.a, will allow the temporary extension of existing servicers to do the necessary work as the new staff become familiar with the Grant Delivery System.

The Executive Director must obtain approval from the Commission prior to entering into a new contract or executing a contract amendment of over \$100,000. We are still determining exactly how much longer we will need to keep the consultants. Therefore, we are requesting an increase in the amount of the contract up to \$161,725 and an extension of the term of the contract through June 30, 2014.

Recommended Action: The Commission authorizes the Executive Director to amend the Stanfield Systems, Incorporated, Contract No. S-12-007 to increase the amount of the contract from \$188,275 up to \$350,000 and to extend the term of the contract to June 30, 2014.

Responsible Person(s): Janet McDuffie, Chief
Administration and External Affairs Division

Chris Edwards
Chief Technology Officer

5.c

Action Item

California Student Aid Commission

Consideration of up to \$150,000 for a contract for information technology consulting services to upgrade the Grant Delivery System (GDS) from Oracle 10g to Oracle 11g and to conduct an assessment of the GDS and its applications

We are seeking authority for the Executive Director to enter into one or more contracts totaling no more than \$150,000 to migrate the Grant Delivery System (GDS) Oracle database from Oracle 10g to 11g and to assess the performance, structure and application of GDS. GDS is a complex system designed to process awards for Cal Grant and Specialized Programs.

During the 1990s, the Cal Grant Program was administered on the Commission's Financial Aid Processing System (FAPS), an integrated Student Loan Guarantee and Cal Grant mainframe application. In 1997, a Feasibility Study Report was approved to convert the Cal Grant portion of the FAPS application to an Oracle Database client/server and to create a web application. The Grant Delivery System (GDS) project was approved with the understanding that the Cal Grant portion of FAPS would be converted to the newer technology without adding new functionality and capabilities. This provision was instituted to reduce risk and scope to the conversion project. It was also agreed that future enhancements would be made with follow-on projects. The conversion project was completed with the implementation of the GDS system during spring 2000.

On September 11, 2000, Senate Bill 1644 was enacted, creating the Ortiz-Pacheco-Poochigian-Vasconcellos Cal Grant Program. SB 1644 set forth the long-term policy that Cal Grant awards should be granted to all recent high school graduates with demonstrated financial need and eligible grade point averages, and who meet other prescribed criteria. The provisions of the bill required extensive modifications to GDS and sidelined imminent plans for system enhancements.

The existing GDS system was enhanced in 2008 and in 2010 to provide real-time functionality to allow institutions and students the ability to have up-to-date information. The Commission has continued to enhance the GDS system and provide ASP.Net screens for institutions.

The GDS database and its applications (such as WebGrants for Students) are now over 13 years old and need to be assessed for current functionality and for long-term sustainability.

The Executive Director must obtain approval from the Commission prior to entering into a new contract or executing a contract amendment of over \$100,000.

Normally we would be able to provide you with the specific vendor when seeking authorization to enter contracts over \$100,000. We sent out requests for offers June 3, 2013 with a response due date of June 14, 2013. We plan to evaluate the offers and interview prospective consultants beginning the week of June 17, 2013. We should be able to provide the selected vendor and contract amount at the meeting.

Recommended Action: The Commission authorizes the Executive Director to enter into a contract of up to \$150,000 in 2012-13 with a selected vendor to upgrade the Grant Delivery System (GDS) from Oracle 10g to Oracle 11g and to conduct an assessment of the GDS and its applications.

Responsible Person(s): Janet McDuffie, Chief
Administration and External Affairs Division

Chris Edwards
Chief Technology Officer