Business Unit & Req. # 223332270 ECCN: _____ Total Amount: $200,000

Note: This Sole Source Certification will become a public document, open to public inspection; therefore, you should be certain all material facts are true, relevant and clearly understandable.

SOLE SOURCE CERTIFICATION

Under the requirement of University of Florida Rule No. 6C1-3.020(5)(e)(2), the following is submitted in support of this request for authority to purchase, without bidding, the items available from only one source.

Note: Sole Source means that the item/service is unique and that the vendor is the only one from whom the item/service can be provided. Best Price alone cannot be used for sole source. If the item/service is available from more than one source of supply, best price must be determined through the competitive bid process.

A. Sole Source Vendor Company Name: OpenAI OpCo, LLC

Contact Person: Chad Pasha

Address: 1455 3rd Street San Francisco, California 94158

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: cpasha@openai.com

B. Describe in lay language, what the item/service is and how it is to be used in your area of research. (cont. P2)

OpenAI is the creator and owner of their frontier models. They build the models that we would like access to. Additionally, they provide ChatGPT Education Pro seats that provide AI capabilities for the top researchers and faculty power users who need more capacity and higher limits. Those seats can be obtained only through a direct relationship with OpenAI and are not available through a reseller. Resellers do not have the SKU for the Pro seats.

C. What feature or special condition of this commodity/service is unique and cannot be obtained from any other source? Why are these features or special conditions important to the research? (cont. P2)

OpenAI is the creator and owner of their frontier models. They build the models that we would like access to. Additionally, they provide ChatGPT Education Pro seats that provide AI capabilities for the top researchers and faculty power users who need more capacity and higher limits. Those seats can be obtained only through a direct relationship with OpenAI and are not available through a reseller. Resellers do not have the SKU for the Pro seats.

D. Is this product being purchased directly from the manufacturer? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If No, is it available from more than one dealer? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, it is available from more than one dealer, why can this item not be bid? (cont. P2)

E. Prior to submitting this requisition, did you investigate other possible sources? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes: 1) Did you obtain quotes from the other sources? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes, attach copies.

2) Is this Vendor's price lower than the other sources? ☒ Yes ☐ No If No, justify the additional cost below.

OpenAI is providing us an academic discount on the credits. They are proposing a $0.04 per credit compared to $0.05 per credit from CDW in addition to Pro licenses which CDW cannot provide. Our initial purchase is for 4,550,000 credits which means we will save $45,500 if we purchase directly from OpenAI. Additionally, the ChatGPT Education Pro seats that OpenAI is offering will be necessary for the power users such as faculty and researchers who need higher capacity that credit-based seats. These Pro seats can be used for high impact research and based on adoption, we will scale them out to other others by obtaining more Pro seats from OpenAI. The Pro seats cannot be obtained through a resellers. Because of their high capacity and limits, they are only available through OpenAI directly.

F. What efforts have been made to obtain the best price possible? Why do you feel this price is fair and reasonable? (cont. P2)

We negotiated an academic pricing for UF campus to include a discount while maintaining no model training on UF data and data residency in the US.

I / We, the undersigned, certify the above to be true and correct to the best of my / our knowledge and belief and the user and / or undersigned does not have a financial interest in the above named vendor.

DEPARTMENT APPROVAL	PURCHASING APPROVAL
I hereby certify the validity of the information and feel confident the Sole Source Certification will meet University criteria and would withstand any audit or vendor protest.	This acquisition is approved as a non-competitive purchase.
Mehdi Ramdane Digitally signed by Mehdi Ramdane Date: 2026.11.09 15:29:19 -05'00'	11/9/26
Principal Investigator's Signature Date	Purchasing Coordinator Signature Date
FAILURE TO FILE A PROTEST IN ACCORDANCE WITH BOARD OF GOVERNORS (BOG) REGULATION 18.002 OR FAILURE TO POST THE BOND OR OTHER SECURITY AS REQUIRED IN THE BOG REGULATION 18.002 AND 18.003(3) SHALL CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF PROTEST PROCEEDING.	N.J. Heredia 11-9-2026
	Purchasing Authorized Signature Date

Sole Source Certification (Continued)

Please use the following sections to continue documentation if needed.

B. continued

C. continued

D. continued

E. continued

F. continued

Cert. Posted Jeff Hendel

Digitally signed by Cert. Posted Jeff Hendel
Date: 2026.11.09 16:18:19 -05'00'

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