



**County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

425 Shatto Place, Los Angeles, California 90020
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PHILIP L. BROWNING
Director

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March 22, 2012

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
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Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Philip L. Browning
Director

NOTICE OF INTENT TO NEGOTIATE A TOTAL OF SEVEN SOLE SOURCE CONTRACTS WITH LOCAL UNIVERSITIES FOR STAFF TRAINING AND MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK INTERNSHIP PROGRAM SERVICES

This is to notify your Board that the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) intends to negotiate sole source contracts with two private universities and five public universities that offer Master of Social Work (MSW) Programs within Los Angeles County for the provision of DCFS staff training and MSW Internship Program services.

The two accredited private universities are:

1. University of Southern California (USC)
2. Azusa Pacific University (APU)

DCFS currently contracts with USC and has requested the State's approval to procure by negotiation with USC and APU for a three-year term contract, effective July 1, 2012, or date of execution, whichever is later, through June 30, 2015. According to State regulations, counties must obtain written approval for the following: 1) contract with a sole source provider, and 2) procurement by negotiation which results in a contract period longer than one year.

We also wish to notify your Board that DCFS will concurrently negotiate sole source contracts with five other currently contracted accredited public universities as follows:

1. California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH)
2. California State University, Long Beach (CSULB)
3. California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA)
4. California State University, Northridge (CSUN)
5. University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

According to Board policy, departments intending to negotiate sole source services contracts of \$250,000 or greater must provide advance written notice to the Board. State regulations permit departments to enter into Procurement by Negotiation for sole source contracts with public educational institutions for a term of no more than three-years.

Upon approval by the State, should negotiations with the two private universities, USC and APU, result in a contract with one or both, they will join the five accredited public universities in a partnership entitled the Inter-University Consortium (IUC). USC is currently an IUC partner with the five public universities, and they each have a contract procured by negotiation due to expire on June 30, 2012. The IUC is not a legal entity, but participating universities collaborate and coordinate activities to provide consistent program services under separate contracts.

The IUC offers MSW program and training services within the County of Los Angeles. The MSW program includes professional in-service training and advanced instructional programs in the field of child welfare services. The training integrates Federal, State, and local ordinances, DCFS policies and procedures, governmental training mandates, and ongoing updates of child welfare-related policies that might affect training deliverables. In addition, the IUC provides in-service training that is specifically designed for DCFS employees.

By negotiating contracts with the seven public and private universities, the County can enhance its training opportunities and continue to meet the need for MSW interns available for placement with DCFS. Following the negotiation process, DCFS reserves the right to contract only with those universities that can best meet our training needs. DCFS will proceed with the contract negotiation two weeks from the date of this notice unless otherwise instructed by a Board office.

The total projected amount for the contracted services with seven contractors is \$8,761,000 annually. The total cost of the contracts for the three-year period is \$26,283,000 and will be funded by 75% Federal funds (\$19,712,250), 17.5% State funds (\$4,599,525) and 7.5% net County cost (\$1,971,225), with an estimated in-kind match of \$7,245,993 from the five public contractors, CSUDH, CSULB, CSULA, CSUN and UCLA. The total estimated amount being spent on the contracted services for the three-year contract term is \$33,528,993.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me or your staff may contract Aldo Marin, Board Liaison, at (213) 351-5530.

PLB:CMM
KAF:fc:ew

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors