

STATE OF HAWAII 05 FEB 17 A7:59

# REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM CHAPTER 103D, HRS

TO: Chief Procurement Officer

STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE  
STATE OF HAWAII

FROM: **DHS/VRSBD/SSO**

(Department/Division/Agency)

Pursuant to § 103D-102(b)(4), HRS, and Chapter 3-120, HAR, the Department requests a procurement exemption to purchase the following:

Description of goods, services, or construction:

**Equip the Workforce Development Division One-Stop Centers with assistive technology devices for individuals with significant disabilities to access services that they need, but do not presently have available.**

Name of Vendor: **ENABLEMART**  
Address: **4210 East 4<sup>th</sup> Plain Blvd.  
Vancouver, WA 98661**

Cost: **\$102,690.00**

Term of Contract: From: **01/01/05** To: **06/30/05**

*upon CPO approval*

Prior Exemption Ref. No. (if applicable)  
**05-46-C**

Explanation describing how procurement by competitive means is either not practicable or not advantageous to the State:

**The Department of Human Services Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind Division is resubmitting a request for an exemption from normal procurement practices to purchase \$102,690.00 of assistive technology for 14 employment and training One-Stop Centers. A copy of the previous request (P.E. No. 05-46-C) is attached.**

- 1. Unspent Federal funds from this two year (beginning July 1, 2003) competitive award will lapse to the United States Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ ETA) on July 1, 2005.**

**(CONTINUED IN BACK)**

Details of the process or procedure to be followed in selecting the vendor to ensure maximum fair and open competition as practicable:

**We believe EnableMart is the most advantageous to the State for its responsiveness, low price and training offer at no cost.**

2. **It is not possible to acquire a no-cost extension for this grant (pre-award condition).**
3. **There is insufficient time to procure the assistive technology and meet the terms of the Federal agreement with the State of Hawaii, which ends June 30, 2005. The procurement of the assistive technology must be accomplished by February 28, 2005 to leave sufficient time for the installation and training on the assistive technology in the 14 One-Stop Centers statewide during March and April 2005 in accordance with the project's implementation schedule. March is also the when the grantor will conduct its federal monitoring and expects the acquisition of the assistive technology equipment. The project evaluation will be conducted in May of 2005. June 2005 is reserved for the "close-out" of the project, reporting, and transferring the assistive technology inventory from the Department of Human Services, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DHS/DVR) to the Depart of Labor and Industrial Relations, Workforce Development Division.**
4. **Staff from DHS/DVR solicited price quotations from five vendors for assistive technology from the attached list. The following responses were received:**
  - a. **Island Computer Access Now (ICAN) provided quotes on 4 items on the list.**
  - b. **Island Skills Gathering (ISG) also provided 4 quotes.**
  - c. **Sterling Kryslar was unable to bid for the other products but referred us to other local vendors.**
  - d. **PACMED did not return any phone calls.**
  - e. **Enable Mart has provided assistive technology for Work Incentive Grantees in several states on the mainland. They are the only vendor that was able to provide everything on the list. To make themselves competitive, Enable Mart said they would not charge for mileage, mainland and inter-island airfare, or a desk aid about the assistive technology products. The two local vendors would charge extra for mileage and airfare and did not provide desk aids.**

**For all of the reasons above, we are requesting an exemption from the normal procurement process so that Federal funds will not be lost and the terms of the agreement can be met. Please have your staff call Guy Tagomori at 692-7729 if you have questions.**

A description of the agency's internal controls and approval requirements for the exempted procurement:

**The Vocational Rehabilitation Administrators and Project Coordinator determine the appropriateness of the anticipated services.**

A list of agency personnel, by position title, who will be involved in the approval process and administration of the contract:

**John L. Noland, Vocational Rehabilitation Interim Administrator**

Direct questions to:

**Guy Tagomori, Vocational Rehabilitation Staff Specialist**

Phone Number:

**692-7729**

This exemption should be considered for list of exemptions attached to Chapter 3-120, HAR: Yes  No

**I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, TRUE AND CORRECT.**

**FEB 16 2005**

Department Head or Designee

Date

For Director

Title (If other than Department Head)

Chief Procurement Officer's Comments:

The DHS should have proceeded to issue a solicitation upon receipt of their first disapproved request. The fact that there has been no new substantial information offered and there is less time to issue the solicitation does not affect our reasons for the first disapproval.

Please ensure adherence to applicable administrative requirements.

APPROVED

DISAPPROVED

Chief Procurement Officer

**2/28/05**

Date

cc: Administrator,  
State Procurement Office