

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Contract Approval for Learning Management System RFP

Request: The State Board of Community Colleges is asked to approve this report of information on the competitive process to award a Learning Management System (LMS) as directed by Session Law 2025-62, which resulted in a contract awarded in December 2025 to Instructure Inc. (Canvas) for a term of three years with two one-year options to renew for a cost not to exceed \$12,466,496.72.

Background: In March 2010, the State Board approved two LMS for the fifty-eight (58) community colleges: Blackboard® Learn and Moodle®. The two LMS solutions provide standardized online course delivery services, platform training for community colleges, and local community college branding for the two online instruction solutions.

The System Office Blackboard and Open LMS (Moodle) hosting contracts support an environment for course development for the Virtual Learning Community (VLC), other curriculum improvement projects (CIP), and program alignment projects. Community colleges download these courses for use at their institutions.

During the May 17, 2024, meeting, the State Board directed the System Office to competitively solicit a new LMS contract. The solicitation project was initiated in June 2024 with the NC Department of Information Technology (NCDIT). The solicitation was issued on the State Procurement website on April 23, 2025, and closed for proposals on May 22, 2025. The Request for Proposal (RFP) evaluation team, composed of System Office and college representatives, reviewed the proposals, and selected three proposals for vendor presentations. The evaluation team conducted a comprehensive analysis using a standard evaluation rubric and unanimously recommended one vendor. However, after submitting the recommendation to NCDIT for approval, NCDIT deemed the recommended vendor as non-responsive because of a missing document. Due to NCDIT's determination, the evaluation team unanimously voted to recommend canceling the RFP based on a lack of viable vendors to recommend. The evaluation team recommended reposting the LMS RFP.

[SL 2025-62](#) was enacted on July 3, 2025, which reads:

PART I. COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

SECTION 1.(a) The State Board of Community Colleges shall conduct a competitive solicitation, including a request for information or a request for proposals, to provide a learning management system to all community colleges. The competitive solicitation shall be completed by December 31, 2025, and the transition to the new learning management system shall be completed by December 31, 2027. Answers to the competitive solicitation shall include information on how the learning management system would align with the learning management systems (i) offered by the Department of Public Instruction to local school administrative units and (ii) used by the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina.

SECTION 1.(b) By December 31, 2025, the State Board shall report to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Education/Higher Education, the House Appropriations Committee on Education, and the Fiscal Research Division on the information received.

On July 18, 2025, the State Board subsequently voted to amend its earlier May 17, 2024 directive to competitively solicit for a new LMS contract that aligns and is in use by the Department of Public Instruction and by constituent University of North Carolina institutions. This amendment provides clarification for compliance with the new law. The issuance of a new LMS RFP included guidance based on this directive and language in the new Session Law.

A revised RFP was issued on September 22, 2025, and closed on October 3, 2025. An evaluation team of Community College voting members and System Office non-voting members reviewed the proposals, selected finalists for vendor demos, and selected a final vendor to recommend to the State Board.

The State Board approved an award to Instructure Inc. (Canvas) on November 21, 2025. The contract award is for three years with two options to renew for a total cost of \$12,466,496.72.

On December 22, 2025, at the conclusion of contract negotiations and legal review, President Jeff Cox signed the contract and notified the fifty-eight (58) community colleges of the RFP award. The goal is to transition all colleges to the awarded solution by Dec. 31, 2027.

Contract Amount and Time Period: The contract period will be from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2031, for an amount not to exceed \$12,466,496.72.

Fund Source and Availability: Funding is contingent on FY 2026-27 State General Fund appropriation.

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