

## **Delaware Department of Education Contract**

DOE RFP#2015-18

This Agreement ("Agreement") is effective only upon the execution of a State of Delaware Purchase Order and will end on June 30, 2016, by and between the State of Delaware, Department of Education, hereafter referred to as DDOE, and Research in Action, hereafter referred to as VENDOR.

WHEREAS, DDOE desires to obtain certain services to assist the department with the management, execution and continuous improvement of the measures within the student improvement component of the Delaware Performance Appraisal System-II (DPAS-II); and

WHEREAS, Research in Action desires to provide such services to DDOE on the terms set forth below;

WHEREAS, DDOE and Research in Action represent and warrant that each party has full right, power and authority to enter into and perform under this Agreement;

FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION OF the premises and mutual agreements herein, DDOE and Research in Action agree as follows:

### **1. Services.**

1.1 Research in Action shall perform for DDOE the services specified in the Appendices to this Agreement, attached hereto and made a part hereof.

1.2 Any conflict or inconsistency between the provisions of the following documents shall be resolved by giving precedence to such documents in the following order: (a) this Agreement (including any amendments or modifications thereto); (b) DDOE's request for proposals, attached hereto as Appendix C; and (c) Research in Action's response to the request for proposals, attached hereto as Appendix D. The aforementioned documents are specifically incorporated into this Agreement and made a part hereof.

1.3 DDOE may, at any time, by written order, make changes in the scope of this Agreement and in the services or work to be performed. No services for which additional compensation may be charged by Research in Action shall be furnished without the written authorization of DDOE. When DDOE desires any addition or deletion to the deliverables or a change in the Services to be provided under this Agreement, it shall notify Research in Action, who shall then submit to DDOE a "Change Order" for approval authorizing said change. The Change Order shall state whether the change shall cause an alteration in the price or the time required by Research in Action for any aspect of its performance under this Agreement. Pricing of changes shall be consistent with those established within this Agreement.

1.4 Research in Action will not be required to make changes to its scope of work that result in Research in Action's costs exceeding the current unencumbered budgeted appropriations for the services. Any claim of either party for an adjustment under Section 1 of this Agreement shall be asserted in the manner specified in the writing that authorizes the adjustment.

## **2. Payment for Services and Expenses.**

2.1 The term of the initial contract shall be from the execution of this agreement and a State of Delaware Purchase Order through June 30, 2016, with 4 possible extensions for a period of 1 year for each extension.

2.2 DDOE will pay Research in Action for the performance of services described in Appendix A, Statement of Work. The fee will be paid in accordance with the payment schedule attached hereto as part of Appendix B.

2.3 DDOE's obligation to pay Research in Action for the performance of services described in Appendix A, Statement of Work will not exceed the fixed fee amount of \$181,117.62. It is expressly understood that the work defined in the appendices to this Agreement must be completed by Research in Action and it shall be Research in Action's responsibility to ensure that hours and tasks are properly budgeted so that all services are completed for the agreed upon fixed fee. DDOE's total liability for all charges for services that may become due under this Agreement is limited to the total maximum expenditure(s) authorized in DDOE's purchase order(s) to \$181,117.62.

2.4 Research in Action shall submit monthly invoices to DDOE in sufficient detail to support the services provided during the previous month. DDOE agrees to pay those invoices within thirty (30) days of receipt. In the event DDOE disputes a portion of an invoice, DDOE agrees to pay the undisputed portion of the invoice within thirty (30) days of receipt and to provide Research in Action a detailed statement of DDOE's position on the disputed portion of the invoice within thirty (30) days of receipt. DDOE's failure to pay any amount of an invoice that is not the subject of a good-faith dispute within thirty (30) days of receipt shall entitle Research in Action to charge interest on the overdue portion at no more than 1.0% per month or 12% per annum. All payments should be sent to Research in Action, 16407 Highland Club Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70817.

2.5 Unless provided otherwise in an Appendix, all expenses incurred in the performance of the services are to be paid by Research in Action. If an Appendix specifically provides for expense reimbursement, Research in Action shall be reimbursed only for reasonable expenses incurred by Research in Action in the performance of the services, including, but not necessarily limited to, travel and lodging expenses, communications charges, and computer time and supplies.

2.6 DDOE is a sovereign entity, and shall not be liable for the payment of federal, state and local sales, use and excise taxes, including any interest and penalties from any related deficiency, which may become due and payable as a consequence of this Agreement.

2.7 DDOE shall subtract from any payment made to Research in Action all damages, costs and expenses caused by Research in Action's negligence, resulting from or arising out of errors or omissions in Research in Action's work products, which have not been previously paid to Research in Action.

2.8 Invoices shall be submitted to: Research in Action  
16407 Highland Club Ave.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70817

### **3. Responsibilities of Research in Action.**

3.1 Research in Action shall be responsible for the professional quality, technical accuracy, timely completion, and coordination of all services furnished by Research in Action, its subcontractors and its and their principals, officers, employees and agents under this Agreement. In performing the specified services, Research in Action shall follow practices consistent with generally accepted professional and technical standards. Research in Action shall be responsible for ensuring that all services, products and deliverables furnished pursuant to this Agreement comply with the standards promulgated by the Department of Technology and Information ("DTI") published at <http://dti.delaware.gov/>, and as modified from time to time by DTI during the term of this Agreement. If any service, product or deliverable furnished pursuant to this Agreement does not conform with DTI standards, Research in Action shall, at its expense and option either (1) replace it with a conforming equivalent or (2) modify it to conform with DTI standards. Research in Action shall be and remain liable in accordance with the terms of this Agreement and applicable law for all damages to DDOE caused by Research in Action's failure to ensure compliance with DTI standards.

3.2 It shall be the duty of the Research in Action to assure that all products of its effort are technically sound and in conformance with all pertinent Federal, State and Local statutes, codes, ordinances, resolutions and other regulations. Research in Action will not produce a work product that violates or infringes on any copyright or patent rights. Research in Action shall, without additional compensation, correct or revise any errors or omissions in its work products.

3.3 Permitted or required approval by DDOE of any products or services furnished by Research in Action shall not in any way relieve Research in Action of responsibility for the professional and technical accuracy and adequacy of its work. DDOE's review, approval, acceptance, or payment for any of Research in Action's

services herein shall not be construed to operate as a waiver of any rights under this Agreement or of any cause of action arising out of the performance of this Agreement, and Research in Action shall be and remain liable in accordance with the terms of this Agreement and applicable law for all damages to DDOE caused by Research in Action's performance or failure to perform under this Agreement.

3.4 Research in Action shall appoint a Project Manager who will manage the performance of services. All of the services specified by this Agreement shall be performed by the Project Manager, or by Research in Action's associates and employees under the personal supervision of the Project Manager. The positions anticipated include:

Project	Team	Title	% of Project Involvement
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3.5 Designation of persons for each position is subject to review and approval by DDOE. Should the staff need to be diverted off the project for what are now unforeseeable circumstances, Research in Action will notify DDOE immediately and work out a transition plan that is acceptable to both parties, as well as agree to an acceptable replacement plan to fill or complete the work assigned to this project staff position. Replacement staff persons are subject to review and approval by DDOE. If Research in Action fails to make a required replacement within 30 days, DDOE may terminate this Agreement for default. Upon receipt of written notice from DDOE that an employee of Research in Action is unsuitable to DDOE for good cause, Research in Action shall remove such employee from the performance of services and substitute in his/her place a suitable employee.

3.6 Research in Action shall furnish to DDOE's designated representative copies of all correspondence to regulatory agencies for review prior to mailing such correspondence.

3.7 Research in Action agrees that its officers and employees will cooperate with DDOE in the performance of services under this Agreement and will be available for consultation with DDOE at such reasonable times with advance notice as to not conflict with their other responsibilities.

3.8 Research in Action has or will retain such employees as it may need to perform the services required by this Agreement. Such employees shall not be employed by the State of Delaware or any other political subdivision of the State.

3.9 Research in Action will not use DDOE's name, either express or implied, in any of its advertising or sales materials without DDOE's express written consent.

3.10 The rights and remedies of DDOE provided for in this Agreement are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law.

**4. Time Schedule.**

4.1 A project schedule is included in Appendix A.

4.2 Any delay of services or change in sequence of tasks must be approved in writing by DDOE.

4.3 In the event that Research in Action fails to complete the project or any phase thereof within the time specified in the Contract, or with such additional time as may be granted in writing by DDOE, or fails to prosecute the work, or any separable part thereof, with such diligence as will insure its completion within the time specified in this Agreement or any extensions thereof, DDOE shall suspend the payments scheduled as set forth in Appendix B.

**5. State Responsibilities.**

5.1 In connection with Research in Action's provision of the Services, DDOE shall perform those tasks and fulfill those responsibilities specified in the appropriate Appendices.

5.2 DDOE agrees that its officers and employees will cooperate with Research in Action in the performance of services under this Agreement and will be available for consultation with Research in Action at such reasonable times with advance notice as to not conflict with their other responsibilities.

5.3 The services performed by Research in Action under this Agreement shall be subject to review for compliance with the terms of this Agreement by DDOE's designated representatives. DDOE representatives may delegate any or all responsibilities under the Agreement to appropriate staff members, and shall so inform Research in Action by written notice before the effective date of each such delegation.

5.4 The review comments of DDOE's designated representatives may be reported in writing as needed to Research in Action. It is understood that DDOE's representatives' review comments do not relieve Research in Action from the responsibility for the professional and technical accuracy of all work delivered under this Agreement.

5.5 DDOE shall, without charge, furnish to or make available for examination or use by Research in Action as it may request, any data which DDOE has available, including as examples only and not as a limitation:

- a. Copies of reports, surveys, records, and other pertinent documents;
- b. Copies of previously prepared reports, job specifications, surveys, records, ordinances, codes, regulations, other document, and

information related to the services specified by this Agreement.

Research in Action shall return any original data provided by DDOE.

5.6 DDOE shall assist Research in Action in obtaining data on documents from public officers or agencies and from private citizens and business firms whenever such material is necessary for the completion of the services specified by this Agreement.

5.7 Research in Action will not be responsible for accuracy of information or data supplied by DDOE or other sources to the extent such information or data would be relied upon by a reasonably prudent contractor.

5.8 DDOE agrees not to use Research in Action's name, either express or implied, in any of its advertising or sales materials. Research in Action reserves the right to reuse the nonproprietary data and the analysis of industry-related information in its continuing analysis of the industries covered.

## **6. Work Product.**

6.1 All materials, information, documents, and reports, whether finished, unfinished, or draft, developed, prepared, completed, or acquired by Research in Action for DDOE relating to the services to be performed hereunder shall become the property of DDOE and shall be delivered to DDOE's designated representative upon completion or termination of this Agreement, whichever comes first. Research in Action shall not be liable for damages, claims, and losses arising out of any reuse of any work products on any other project conducted by DDOE. DDOE shall have the right to reproduce all documentation supplied pursuant to this Agreement.

6.2 Research in Action retains all title and interest to the data it furnished and/or generated pursuant to this Agreement. Retention of such title and interest does not conflict with DDOE's rights to the materials, information and documents developed in performing the project. Upon final payment, DDOE shall have a perpetual, nontransferable, non-exclusive paid-up right and license to use, copy, modify and prepare derivative works of all materials in which Research in Action retains title, whether individually by Research in Action or jointly with DDOE. Any and all source code developed in connection with the services provided will be provided to DDOE, and the aforementioned right and license shall apply to source code. The parties will cooperate with each other and execute such other documents as may be reasonably deemed necessary to achieve the objectives of this Section.

6.3 In no event shall Research in Action be precluded from developing for itself, or for others, materials that are competitive with the Deliverables, irrespective of

their similarity to the Deliverables. In addition, Research in Action shall be free to use its general knowledge, skills and experience, and any ideas, concepts, know-how, and techniques within the scope of its consulting practice that are used in the course of providing the services.

6.4 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein or in any attachment hereto, any and all intellectual property or other proprietary data owned by Research in Action prior to the effective date of this Agreement (“Preexisting Information”) shall remain the exclusive property of Research in Action even if such Preexisting Information is embedded or otherwise incorporated into materials or products first produced as a result of this Agreement or used to develop such materials or products. DDOE’s rights under this section shall not apply to any Preexisting Information or any component thereof regardless of form or media.

**7. Confidential Information.**

To the extent permissible under 29 *Del. C.* § 10001, et seq., the parties to this Agreement shall preserve in strict confidence any information, reports or documents obtained, assembled or prepared in connection with the performance of this Agreement.

**8. Warranty.**

8.1 Research in Action warrants that its services will be performed in a good and workmanlike manner. Research in Action agrees to re-perform any work not in compliance with this warranty brought to its attention within a reasonable time after that work is performed.

8.2 Third-party products within the scope of this Agreement are warranted solely under the terms and conditions of the licenses or other agreements by which such products are governed. With respect to all third-party products and services purchased by Research in Action for DDOE in connection with the provision of the Services, Research in Action shall pass through or assign to DDOE the rights Research in Action obtains from the manufacturers and/or vendors of such products and services (including warranty and indemnification rights), all to the extent that such rights are assignable.

**9. Indemnification; Limitation of Liability.**

9.1 Research in Action shall indemnify and hold harmless the State, its agents and employees, from any and all liability, suits, actions or claims, together with all reasonable costs and expenses (including attorneys’ fees) directly arising out of (A) the negligence or other wrongful conduct of the Research in Action, its agents or

employees, or (B) Research in Action's breach of any material provision of this Agreement not cured after due notice and opportunity to cure, provided as to (A) or (B) that (i) Research in Action shall have been notified promptly in writing by DDOE of any notice of such claim; and (ii) Research in Action shall have the sole control of the defense of any action on such claim and all negotiations for its settlement or compromise.

9.2 If DDOE promptly notifies Research in Action in writing of a third party claim against DDOE that any Deliverable infringes a copyright or a trade secret of any third party, Research in Action will defend such claim at its expense and will pay any costs or damages that may be finally awarded against DDOE. Research in Action will not indemnify DDOE, however, if the claim of infringement is caused by (1) DDOE's misuse or modification of the Deliverable; (2) DDOE's failure to use corrections or enhancements made available by Research in Action; (3) DDOE's use of the Deliverable in combination with any product or information not owned or developed by Research in Action; (4) DDOE's distribution, marketing or use for the benefit of third parties of the Deliverable or (5) information, direction, specification or materials provided by Client or any third party. If any Deliverable is, or in Research in Action's opinion is likely to be, held to be infringing, Research in Action shall at its expense and option either (a) procure the right for DDOE to continue using it, (b) replace it with a noninfringing equivalent, (c) modify it to make it noninfringing. The foregoing remedies constitute DDOE's sole and exclusive remedies and Research in Action's entire liability with respect to infringement.

9.3 DDOE agrees that Research in Action's total liability to DDOE for any and all damages whatsoever arising out of or in any way related to this Agreement from any cause, including but not limited to contract liability or Research in Action negligence, errors, omissions, strict liability, breach of contract or breach of warranty shall not, in the aggregate, exceed fees paid to Research in Action.

In no event shall Research in Action be liable for special, indirect, incidental, economic, consequential or punitive damages, including but not limited to lost revenue, lost profits, replacement goods, loss of technology rights or services, loss of data, or interruption or loss of use of software or any portion thereof regardless of the legal theory under which such damages are sought, and even if Research in Action has been advised of the likelihood of such damages.

## **10. Employees.**

10.1 Research in Action has and shall retain the right to exercise full control over the employment, direction, compensation and discharge of all persons employed by Research in Action in the performance of the services hereunder; provided, however, that it will, subject to scheduling and staffing considerations, attempt to honor DDOE's request for specific individuals.

10.2 Except as the other party expressly authorizes in writing in advance, neither party shall solicit, offer work to, employ, or contract with, whether as a partner, employee or independent contractor, directly or indirectly, any of the other party's Personnel during their participation in the services or during the twelve (12) months thereafter. For purposes of this Section 10.2, "Personnel" includes any individual or company a party employs as a partner, employee or independent contractor and with which a party comes into direct contact in the course of the services.

10.3 Possession of a Security Clearance, as issued by the Delaware Department of Public Safety, may be required of any employee of Research in Action who will be assigned to this project.

## **11. Independent Contractor.**

11.1 It is understood that in the performance of the services herein provided for, Research in Action shall be, and is, an independent contractor, and is not an agent or employee of DDOE and shall furnish such services in its own manner and method except as required by this Agreement. Research in Action shall be solely responsible for, and shall indemnify, defend and save DDOE harmless from all matters relating to the payment of its employees, including compliance with social security, withholding and all other wages, salaries, benefits, taxes, exactions, and regulations of any nature whatsoever.

11.2 Research in Action acknowledges that Research in Action and any subcontractors, agents or employees employed by Research in Action shall not, under any circumstances, be considered employees of DDOE, and that they shall not be entitled to any of the benefits or rights afforded employees of DDOE, including, but not limited to, sick leave, vacation leave, holiday pay, Public Employees Retirement System benefits, or health, life, dental, long-term disability or workers' compensation insurance benefits. DDOE will not provide or pay for any liability or medical insurance, retirement contributions or any other benefits for or on behalf of DDOE or any of its officers, employees or other agents.

11.3 Research in Action shall be responsible for providing liability insurance for its personnel.

11.4 As an independent contractor, Research in Action has no authority to bind or commit DDOE. Nothing herein shall be deemed or construed to create a joint venture, partnership, fiduciary or agency relationship between the parties for any purpose.

## **12. Suspension.**

12.1 DDOE may suspend performance by Research in Action under this

Agreement for such period of time as DDOE, at its sole discretion, may prescribe by providing written notice to Research in Action at least 30 working days prior to the date on which DDOE wishes to suspend. Upon such suspension, DDOE shall pay Research in Action its compensation, based on the percentage of the project completed and earned until the effective date of suspension, less all previous payments. Research in Action shall not perform further work under this Agreement after the effective date of suspension. Research in Action shall not perform further work under this Agreement after the effective date of suspension until receipt of written notice from DDOE to resume performance.

12.2 In the event DDOE suspends performance by Research in Action for any cause other than the error or omission of the Research in Action, for an aggregate period in excess of 30 days, Research in Action shall be entitled to an equitable adjustment of the compensation payable to Research in Action under this Agreement to reimburse Research in Action for additional costs occasioned as a result of such suspension of performance by DDOE based on appropriated funds and approval by DDOE.

### **13. Termination.**

13.1 This Agreement may be terminated in whole or in part by either party in the event of substantial failure of the other party to fulfill its obligations under this Agreement through no fault of the terminating party; but only after the other party is given:

- a. Not less than 30 calendar days written notice of intent to terminate; and
- b. An opportunity for consultation with the terminating party prior to termination.

13.2 This Agreement may be terminated in whole or in part by DDOE for its convenience, but only after Research in Action is given:

- a. Not less than 30 calendar days written notice of intent to terminate; and
- b. An opportunity for consultation with DDOE prior to termination.

13.3 If termination for default is effected by DDOE, DDOE will pay Research in Action that portion of the compensation which has been earned as of the effective date of termination but:

- a. No amount shall be allowed for anticipated profit on performed or unperformed services or other work, and
- b. Any payment due to Research in Action at the time of termination may be adjusted to the extent of any additional costs occasioned to

- DDOE by reason of Research in Action's default.
- c. Upon termination for default, DDOE may take over the work and prosecute the same to completion by agreement with another party or otherwise. In the event Research in Action shall cease conducting business, DDOE shall have the right to make an unsolicited offer of employment to any employees of Research in Action assigned to the performance of the Agreement, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 10.2.

13.4 If after termination for failure of Research in Action to fulfill contractual obligations it is determined that Research in Action has not so failed, the termination shall be deemed to have been effected for the convenience of DDOE.

13.5 The rights and remedies of DDOE and Research in Action provided in this section are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Agreement.

#### 13.6 Gratuities.

- 13.6.1 DDOE may, by written notice to Research in Action, terminate this Agreement if it is found after notice and hearing by DDOE that gratuities (in the form of entertainment, gifts, or otherwise) were offered or given by Research in Action or any agent or representative of Research in Action to any officer or employee of DDOE with a view toward securing a contract or securing favorable treatment with respect to the awarding or amending or making of any determinations with respect to the performance of this Agreement.
- 13.6.2 In the event this Agreement is terminated as provided in 13.6.1 hereof, DDOE shall be entitled to pursue the same remedies against Research in Action it could pursue in the event of a breach of this Agreement by Research in Action.
- 13.6.3 The rights and remedies of DDOE provided in Section 13.6 shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Agreement.

#### **14. Severability.**

If any term or provision of this Agreement is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, illegal or otherwise unenforceable, the same shall not affect the other terms or provisions hereof or the whole of this Agreement, but such term or provision shall be deemed modified to the extent necessary in the court's opinion to render such term or provision enforceable, and the rights and obligations

of the parties shall be construed and enforced accordingly, preserving to the fullest permissible extent the intent and agreements of the parties herein set forth.

**15. Assignment; Subcontracts.**

15.1 Any attempt by Research in Action to assign or otherwise transfer any interest in this Agreement without the prior written consent of DDOE shall be void. Such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

15.2 Services specified by this Agreement shall not be subcontracted by Research in Action, without prior written approval of DDOE.

15.3 Approval by DDOE of Research in Action's request to subcontract or acceptance of or payment for subcontracted work by DDOE shall not in any way relieve Research in Action of responsibility for the professional and technical accuracy and adequacy of the work. All subcontractors shall adhere to all applicable provisions of this Agreement.

15.4 Research in Action shall be and remain liable for all damages to DDOE caused by negligent performance or non-performance of work under this Agreement by Research in Action, its subcontractor or its sub-subcontractor.

15.5 The compensation due shall not be affected by DDOE's approval of Research in Action's request to subcontract.

**16. Force Majeure.**

Neither party shall be liable for any delays or failures in performance due to circumstances beyond its reasonable control.

**17. Non-Appropriation of Funds.**

17.1 Validity and enforcement of this Agreement is subject to appropriations by the General Assembly of the specific funds necessary for contract performance. Should such funds not be so appropriated DDOE may immediately terminate this Agreement, and absent such action this Agreement shall be terminated as to any obligation of the State requiring the expenditure of money for which no specific appropriation is available, at the end of the last fiscal year for which no appropriation is available or upon the exhaustion of funds.

17.2 Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Agreement, this Agreement shall terminate and DDOE's obligations under it shall be extinguished at the end of the fiscal year in which the State of Delaware fails to appropriate monies for the ensuing fiscal year sufficient for the payment of all amounts which will then become due.

**18. State of Delaware Business License.**

Research in Action and all subcontractors represent that they are properly licensed and authorized to transact business in the State of Delaware as provided in 30 *Del. C.* § 2301.

**19. Complete Agreement.**

19.1 This agreement and its Appendices shall constitute the entire agreement between DDOE and Research in Action with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement and shall not be modified or changed without the express written consent of the parties. The provisions of this agreement supersede all prior oral and written quotations, communications, agreements and understandings of the parties with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement.

19.2 If the scope of any provision of this Agreement is too broad in any respect whatsoever to permit enforcement to its full extent, then such provision shall be enforced to the maximum extent permitted by law, and the parties hereto consent and agree that such scope may be judicially modified accordingly and that the whole of such provisions of the Agreement shall not thereby fail, but the scope of such provision shall be curtailed only to the extent necessary to conform to the law.

19.3 Research in Action may not order any product requiring a purchase order prior to DDOE's issuance of such order. Each Appendix, except as its terms otherwise expressly provide, shall be a complete statement of its subject matter and shall supplement and modify the terms and conditions of this Agreement for the purposes of that engagement only. No other agreements, representations, warranties or other matters, whether oral or written, shall be deemed to bind the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof.

**20. Miscellaneous Provisions.**

20.1 In performance of this Agreement, Research in Action shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, codes and regulations. Research in Action shall solely bear the costs of permits and other relevant costs required in the performance of this Agreement.

20.2 Neither this Agreement nor any appendix may be modified or amended except by the mutual written agreement of the parties. No waiver of any provision of this Agreement shall be effective unless it is in writing and signed by the party against which it is sought to be enforced.

20.3 The delay or failure by either party to exercise or enforce any of its rights under this Agreement shall not constitute or be deemed a waiver of that party's right

thereafter to enforce those rights, nor shall any single or partial exercise of any such right preclude any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right.

20.4 Research in Action covenants that it presently has no interest and that it will not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of services required to be performed under this Agreement. Research in Action further covenants, to its knowledge and ability, that in the performance of said services no person having any such interest shall be employed.

20.5 Research in Action acknowledges that DDOE has an obligation to ensure that public funds are not used to subsidize private discrimination. Research in Action recognizes that if they refuse to hire or do business with an individual or company due to reasons of race, color, gender, ethnicity, disability, national origin, age, or any other protected status, DDOE may declare Research in Action in breach of the Agreement, terminate the Agreement, and designate Research in Action as non-responsible.

20.6 Research in Action warrants that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure this Agreement upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, or a percentage, brokerage or contingent fee. For breach or violation of this warranty, DDOE shall have the right to annul this contract without liability or at its discretion deduct from the contract price or otherwise recover the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee.

20.7 This Agreement was drafted with the joint participation of both parties and shall be construed neither against nor in favor of either, but rather in accordance with the fair meaning thereof.

20.8 Research in Action shall maintain all public records, as defined by 29 *Del. C.* § 502(7), relating to this Agreement and its deliverables for the time and in the manner specified by the Delaware Division of Archives, pursuant to the Delaware Public Records Law, 29 *Del. C.* Ch. 5. During the term of this Agreement, authorized representatives of DDOE may inspect or audit Research in Action's performance and records pertaining to this Agreement at the Research in Action business office during normal business hours.

## **21. Insurance.**

21.1 Research in Action shall maintain the following insurance during the term of this Agreement:

- A. Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance in accordance with applicable law, **and**

- B. Comprehensive General Liability - \$1,000,000.00 per person/\$3,000,000 per occurrence, **and**
- C. Medical/Professional Liability - \$1,000,000.00 per person/\$3,000,000 per occurrence; or
- D. Miscellaneous Errors and Omissions - \$1,000,000.00 per person/\$3,000,000 per occurrence, or
- E. Automotive Liability Insurance covering all automotive units used in the work with limits of not less than \$100,000 each person and \$300,000 each accident as to bodily injury and \$25,000 as to property damage to others.

21.2. Research in Action shall provide forty-five (45) days written notice of cancellation or material change of any policies.

21.3. Before any work is done pursuant to this Agreement, the Certificate of Insurance and/or copies of the insurance policies, referencing the contract number stated herein, shall be filed with the State. The certificate holder is as follows:

Delaware Department of Education  
401 Federal Street, Suite 2  
Dover, DE 19901

21.4. In no event shall the State of Delaware be named as an additional insured on any policy required under this agreement.

**22. Assignment of Antitrust Claims.**

As consideration for the award and execution of this contract by the State, Research in Action hereby grants, conveys, sells, assigns, and transfers to DDOE all of its right, title and interest in and to all known or unknown causes of action it presently has or may now or hereafter acquire under the antitrust laws of the United States and the State of Delaware, relating to the particular goods or services purchased or acquired by the State pursuant to this contract.

**23. Surviving Clauses**

The following clauses survive the termination of this Contract: Section 9.

**24. Governing Law.**

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Delaware, except where Federal Law has precedence. Research in Action consents to jurisdiction venue in the State of Delaware.

**25. Notices.**

Any and all notices required by the provisions of this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be mailed, certified or registered mail, return receipt requested. All notices shall be sent to the following addresses:

**CONTRACTOR:** Research in Action,  
Dr. John Paul Beaudoin  
16407 Highland Club Ave.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70817  
(225) 571-2408

**DDOE:** David Blowman  
Deputy Secretary  
Delaware Department of Education  
John G. Townsend Building  
401 Federal Street, Suite 2  
Dover, DE 19901  
Phone No. (302) 735-4040  
Fax No. (302) 739-7768

DOE Certificated Staff coordinating activity:

Laura Schneider

Next Page for Signatures.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be duly executed as of the date and year first above written.

Research in Action

Delaware Department of Education

(Official of Vendor)  
Project Manager

David Blowman  
Deputy Secretary

9/3/15

9/3/15

Date

Date

Initial Finance Director

(Official of Vendor)  
Principal Investigator

Branch Associate Secretary

9/3/15

8/27/2015

Date

Date

Initial Work Group  
Director

## APPENDIX A: PROCESS MANAGEMENT AND ASSESSMENT: ANNOTATED SCOPE OF WORK

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### I. SCOPE OF WORK (\$181,117.62)

KPI I - Measure B & C (State) - \$107,778.33

a. *Refining Internal Measure B assessments and Measure C Growth Goals*

- i. Research in Action (“RIA”) will guide, refine, and give feedback on all Measure B documents (standard [deliverable: 26] and ad-hoc [deliverable: 12] and review, design, and develop all Measure C Growth Goals (standard [deliverable: 2] and hybrid [deliverable: 16]) to the Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) from the execution of this contract and subsequent purchase order through June 30, 2016.
- ii. RIA will provide technical assistance to project participants, track receipt of all items received, and give strategic guidance on refinement of assessments of all types. RIA will use a Liaison or Primary contact, as needed from the execution of this contract and subsequent purchase order through June 30, 2016.
- iii. Disposition Log, Tracker, is sent to DDOE at the end of every business week. DDOE will also receive annotated copies of the *Refinement Control Checklist*, a tool that tracks the progression of each individual assessment throughout the stages of the assessment creation process. This tool is updated as the assessment is refined.
- iv. With a standard Measure B, as the assessment is submitted, it is immediately logged into the Tracker. RIA conducts a screening of the assessment materials to ensure that all materials needed (administrative guidelines, pre-test, pre-test scoring matrix, post-test, post-test scoring matrix, and specification tables/blueprint) have been submitted by the client. These are then formatted in a consistent and professional manner. DDOE receives the assessment and an annotated preliminary screening copy of the *Refinement Control Checklist*. After updating the assessment materials, the client re-submits them to RIA for the finalization stage. RIA conducts a final screening and read-through of the updated materials. RIA identifies and corrects any issues within the updated material. All changes made to the materials are annotated on the *Refinement Control Checklist*. The checklist is then submitted back to the client, along with the finalized version of the assessment materials.
- v. With the standard Measure C, as the Growth Goal is submitted it is immediately logged in to the Tracker. RIA uses the *Growth Goal Checklist* to ensure that the growth goals are aligned to the S.M.A.R.T criteria. Growth Goals are reviewed thoroughly before they are re-submitted to the client for use.
- vi. RIA will provide a quarterly invoice to the DDOE based on how many assessments are reviewed.

KPI II- Measure B (Local) - \$40,958.63

- a. *Alternative (Local) Assessments: Technical Assistance, Review, Process Development*
  - i. Research in Action (“RIA”) will guide, refine, and give feedback on all Alt Measure B documents [deliverable: 12] to the Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) from the execution of this contract and subsequent purchase order through June 30, 2016.
  - ii. RIA will provide technical assistance will track receipt of all items received, and will give strategic guidance on design of assessments to applicable LEAs.
  - iii. Disposition Log, Tracker, is sent to DDOE at the end of every business week. DDOE will also receive annotated copies of the *Refinement Control Checklist*, a tool that tracks the progression of each individual assessment throughout the stages of the assessment creation process. This tool is updated as the assessment is refined.
  - iv. RIA will provide evaluative feedback to local districts creating Alternate Measure B assessments in a manner that parallels that used in State Measure B.
  - v. RIA will provide a quarterly invoice to the DDOE based on how many assessments are reviewed.

KPI III- Measure B (External) – \$11,682.84

- a. *Evaluation Available “External” Assessments*
  - i. Upon request from partnering districts Research in Action (“RIA”) will review formal assessments (Vendor-owned/made Alt Measure B) [deliverable: 3] Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) from the execution of this contract and subsequent purchase order through June 30, 2016.
  - ii. RIA will use a two-stage process of a preliminary review and final recommendation. RIA will track receipt of all items submitted including maintaining a log of submitted assessments.
  - iii. With an external Measure B, as the assessment is submitted it is immediately logged into the Tracker. RIA conducts a screening of the assessment materials to ensure that all materials needed have been submitted by the client. RIA analyses the external Measure B and evaluates them using the Student Achievement Measures- Externally Developed (*SAM-E*). *SAM-E* is designed to examine the quality characteristics of vendor-made (external) assessments. The rubric is comprised of several technical requirements organized into eight (8) strands. Each requirement is rated on a Likert-type scale ranging from zero (not addressed) to one (fully addressed).
  - iv. RIA will provide a quarterly invoice the DDOE based on how many assessments are reviewed.

KPI IV- Delaware Technical Advisory Group (DETAG) - \$20,697.82

a. *Delaware Technical Advisory Group*

- i. Research in Action (“RIA”) will serve as primary contact with members of the Delaware Technical Advisory Group (DETAG) meeting logistics [deliverable: 2 meetings] working with the Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) from the execution of this contract and subsequent purchase order through June 30, 2016.
- ii. RIA will manage the project as well as lead the recruitment of members, as needed. RIA will use several process management tools to maintain both programmatic and fiscal accountability. These include maintaining the sign-in sheets for participants, contact rosters for all active members, member confirmation trackers, reimbursement forms, honorarium forms, and other documents. Our internal quality control checklist, managed by RIA’s administrative lead, will provide additional safeguards to ensure meetings are conducted with limited interruptions.
- iii. The RIA liaison will provide the following services: Facilitate and assist in coordinating of all meetings, both phone and on-site; co-develop and disseminate the agenda, support materials, contact list, and other information needed to support the DETAG; coordinate the location of the meetings in Delaware and provide one (1) lunch meal and one (1) light snack, as well as drinks; review the minutes and all notes taken during the meeting for accuracy collect, codify, and finalize all DETAG recommendations.
- iv. RIA will provide an invoice to the DDOE within 30 days of each meeting.

3.4 Research in Action shall appoint a Project Manager who will manage the performance of services. All of the services specified by this Agreement shall be performed by the Project Manager, or by Research in Action’s associates and employees under the personal supervision of the Project Manager. The positions anticipated include:

<b>Project</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>% of Project Involvement</b>
KPI I-III	John Paul Beaudoin	Project Supervisor/CEO	50%
KPI I-III	Leah Arceneaux	Project Liaison/POC	50%
KPI IV	John Paul Beaudoin	National Expert	100%

**APPENDIX B: PROCESS MANAGEMENT AND ASSESSMENT —INITIATIVE EVALUATION PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

The fixed rate fee totaling \$181,117.61 will consist of the following payment schedule, pending DDOE approval.

<i>Item</i>	<i>Deliverable</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Payment</i>
<b>Phase I/Q3: August-September 2015</b>			
<b>Measure B-State</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technical assistance to assessment <i>designers</i> [2 days of support designing Measure B].</li> <li>Managing project documents and communications for assessments on-cycle [3 days distributed across Phase I].</li> <li>Review and feedback on all assessment <i>design</i> (Measure B) documents [26 blueprints and specification tables].</li> </ul>	9/30/2015 9/30/2015 9/30/2015	
<b>Measure C-State</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review developed of Measure C Growth Goals [1 unit]</li> </ul>	9/25/2015	
<b>Alt Measure B-Local</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic guidance on design of assessments of all types [1 day, in aggregate, for all LEAs submitting Alt. Measure B in the fall 2015].</li> <li>Managing project documents and communications on-cycle [1.5 days distributed across the bi-weekly check-in as documented in the <i>Task Tracker</i>].</li> <li>Review and feedback on <i>design</i> of all assessment (Alt Measure B) documents [4 units].</li> </ul>	9/11/2015 9/30/2015 9/30/2015	\$31,430.59
<b>Alt Measure B-Vendor</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of formal assessments (Vendor-owned/made Alt Measure B) that are designed and administered through a third-party assessment vendors [1 unit evaluated in the fall].</li> <li>Tracking of submitted assessments, including their status in the review process, and any next steps by the vendor/district and track the exchange and receipt of files [1 day].</li> </ul>	9/11/2015 9/30/2015	

<i>Item</i>	<i>Deliverable</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Payment</i>
<b>Phase II/Q4: October-December 2015</b>			
<b>Measure B-State</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic guidance on refinement of assessments of all types [1 day, in aggregate, for submitting Measure B and Hybrid C in the fall 2015].</li> <li>Managing project documents and communications for assessments on-cycle [2.5 days distributed across the bi-weekly check-in as documented in the <i>Task Tracker</i>].</li> </ul>	11/13/2015 12/18/2015	
<b>Measure C-State</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluation of Measure C (Hybrid), technical corrections using a three-stage process: <i>Preliminary Screening</i> including corrective actions [16 units].</li> </ul>	12/18/2015	
<b>Measure B-State</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Preliminary Screening</i> and feedback on developed assessments (Measure B) documents [26 units].</li> <li><i>Evaluation</i> of Measure B (state) for minor corrections (out-of-cycle), apply corrective actions [4 units].</li> </ul>	12/18/2015 10/30/2015	\$30,696.13
<b>DETAG</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fall DETAG preparation and on-site November 11, 2015 [Beaudoin] supporting members of the Delaware Technical Advisory Group (DETAG).</li> <li>Meeting Logistics: Meals, Snacks, Misc. [Fall 2015 meeting in Delaware].</li> <li>Member reimbursement: Airfare, hotel, auto rental, mileage, tolls, etc. [6 traveling members].</li> <li>Project management with logistical support, fiscal agent [Fall 2015 meeting in Delaware].</li> </ul>	11/13/2015 11/13/2015 11/13/2015 11/13/2015	

<i>Item</i>	<i>Deliverable</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Payment</i>
	<b>Phase III/Q1: January-March 2016</b>		
Measure C-State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic guidance on refinement of assessments of all types associated with Hybrid Measure C [1 day, in aggregate, for submitting Hybrid C in the spring 2016].</li> <li>Evaluation of Measure C (Hybrid), technical corrections using a three-stage process: <i>Assessment Item Guidance and Examination</i>, including corrective actions [16 units].</li> </ul>	3/25/2016 3/31/2016	
Measure B-State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technical assistance to assessment developers [2 days of support designing Measure B].</li> <li>Managing project documents and communications for assessments on-cycle [2.5 days distributed across the bi-weekly check-in as documented in the <i>Task Tracker</i>].</li> <li>Initial evaluation and feedback on developed assessments (Measure B) documents [26 units].</li> </ul>	3/25/2016 3/31/2016 3/25/2016	
Alt Measure B-Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Managing project documents and communications on-cycle submitted by LEAs [2.5 days distributed across the bi-weekly check-the <i>Task Tracker</i>].</li> <li>Managing project documents and communications on-cycle (Alt Measure B) documents [4 units].</li> </ul>	3/31/2016 3/25/2016	\$57,814.52
Alt Measure B-Vendor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of formal assessments (Vendor-owned/made Alt Measure B) that are designed and administered through a third-party assessment vendors [1 unit evaluated in the spring].</li> </ul>	3/31/2016	
DETAG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spring DETAG preparation and on-site Spring [Beaudoin] supporting members of the DETAG.</li> <li>Meeting Logistics: Meals, Snacks, Misc. [Spring 2016 meeting in Delaware].</li> <li>Member reimbursement: Airfare, hotel, auto rental, mileage, tolls, etc. [6 traveling members].</li> <li>Project management with logistical support, fiscal agent [Spring 2016 meeting in Delaware].</li> </ul>	2/26/2016 2/26/2016 2/26/2016 2/26/2016	

<i>Item</i>	<i>Deliverable</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Payment</i>
	<b>Phase IV/Q2: April-June 2016</b>		
Measure B-State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Managing project documents and communications for assessments on-cycle [2.5 days distributed across the bi-weekly check-in as documented in the <i>Task Tracker</i>].</li> <li>Final evaluation of developed assessments (Measure B) documents [26 units].</li> <li>Evaluation of Measure B (state) for minor corrections (out-of-cycle), apply corrective actions [4 units].</li> </ul>	6/12/2016 4/29/2016 5/13/2016	
Measure C-State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review developed of Measure C Growth Goals [1 unit].</li> <li>Evaluation of Measure C (Hybrid), technical corrections using a three-stage process: <i>Finalization</i>, including editorial corrective actions [16 units].</li> </ul>	6/12/2016 6/12/2016	
Alt Measure B-Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Managing project documents and communications on-cycle submitted by LEAs [2.0 days distributed across submitted materials as documented in the <i>Task Tracker</i>].</li> <li>Review and feedback on design of all assessment (Alt Measure B) documents [4 units].</li> </ul>	6/12/2016	\$61,176.36
Alt-Measure B-Vendor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalization of submitted assessments, including their status in the review process, updating master Alt-Measure B-Vendor listing [1 day].</li> </ul>		
DETAG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summer DETAG preparation and on-site Summer [Beaudoin] supporting members of the DETAG.</li> <li>Meeting Logistics: Meals, Snacks, Misc. [Summer 2016 meeting in Delaware].</li> <li>Member reimbursement: Airfare, hotel, auto rental, mileage, tolls, etc. [6 traveling members].</li> <li>Project management with logistical support, fiscal agent [Summer 2016 meeting in Delaware].</li> </ul>		