

Notice of Intent to Certify Sole Source

To: Interested Parties

From: Craig P. Orgeron, CPM, Ph.D.

CC: ITS Project Number 49707

Date: 08/18/26

Re: Sole Source Certification Number 5016 to provide Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS) support and maintenance for the Mississippi State Hospital (MSH)

Contact Name: Mikayla Smith

Contact Phone Number: 601-432-8147

Contact E-mail Address: Mikayla.Smith@its.ms.gov

Sole Source Certification Award Details

Regarding Information Technology Services (ITS) Sole Source Certification Number 5016 for the Mississippi State Hospital (MSH), please be advised that ITS intends to award iPro Inc. dba Novarad South as the sole source provider of Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS) support and maintenance through August 31, 2029, in an amount not to exceed \$72,936.00. Please be advised that ITS will determine if additional products or services are within scope during the certification period and may increase the spending authority accordingly. Should iPro Inc. dba Novarad South change their name during this certification period, then ITS will determine if a recertification is necessary. For an explanation regarding Mississippi state law, policy and procedures for sole source procurements, refer to Attachment B: Sole Source Procurement Overview.

Sole Source Criteria

1. The product or services being purchased must perform a function for which no other product or source of services exists:

Novarad South is the sole source provider of maintenance and support for their proprietary NovaPACS system. Interfaces between MSH's Electronic Health Record (EHR) system and the NovaPACS system are established in a way that no other vendor can maintain or support. The system offers web-based technology with both thin-client and zero-client solutions that utilize high level streaming, imaging algorithms, and proprietary methods for distributing large data sets quickly.

2. The purchaser must be able to show specific business objectives that can be met only through the unique product or services:

PACS and Radiology Information System (RIS) are connected via custom interfaces so that MSH radiologists may view patient images remotely to provide timely interpretation. Without NovaPACS, MSH would not be able to deliver images to radiologists except by burning them to a disc and physically transporting them. Unique interfaces have been developed between NovaPACS and MSH's EHR system that can only be supported and maintained by Novarad South.

3. The product or services must be available only from the manufacturer and not through resellers who could submit competitive pricing for the product or services:

Novarad South, an unincorporated division of iPro, Inc., is the official distributor of Novarad Corporation for the southeastern United States including the state of Mississippi. Novarad South is the only authorized distributor for Novarad Corporation products, maintenance, and support for Mississippi State Hospital. The Vendor's sole source certification letter is included as Attachment A.

Schedule

Task	Date
First Advertisement Date	08/18/26
Second Advertisement Date	08/25/26
Response Deadline From Objectors	09/01/26 at 3:00 P.M. Central Time
Notice of Award/No Award Posted	Not before 09/02/26

Project Details

The Mississippi State Hospital (MSH) published a notice to bidders on January 20, 2010, for a Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS). The Office of Purchasing and Travel at the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration approved awarding the contract to the lowest bidder, Novarad South, for a three-year term. The original contract included three years of annual maintenance, and an additional one-year maintenance extension was approved in 2014. In August 2015, ITS began issuing Notice of Intent to Certify Sole Source for the maintenance and support. No objections have been received to date. MSH has spent \$371,469.05 on these products.

Submission Instructions and Format of Response from Objecting Parties

Interested parties who have reason to believe that the Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS) support and maintenance should not be certified as a sole source should provide information in the following format for the state to use in determining whether or not to proceed with awarding the Sole Source contract to iPro Inc. d/b/a Novarad South.

1.1 Interested Party Information

1.1.1 Contact Name, Phone Number and email address

1.1.2 Company Website URL, if applicable

1.2 Objection to Sole Source Certification

1.2.1 Interested parties must present specific objections to the Sole Source certification using the criteria listed above.

1.2.2 A statement regarding the Interested Party's capabilities as related to this Sole Source Certification Request.

1.3 Comments will be accepted at any time prior to Tuesday, September 01, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. (Central Time) to Mikayla Smith at Mikayla.Smith@its.ms.gov or at the Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services, 3771 Eastwood Drive, Jackson, Mississippi 39211. Responses may be delivered by hand, via regular mail, overnight delivery, e-mail or by fax. Fax number is (601) 713-6380. ITS WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DELAYS IN THE DELIVERY OF RESPONSES. It is solely the responsibility of the Interested Parties that responses reach ITS on time. Interested Parties may contact Mikayla Smith to verify the receipt of their Responses. Responses received after the deadline will be rejected.

1.4 Interested Party responses should include the following information:

SUBMITTED IN RESPONSE TO Sole Source Certification No. 5016-49707 Accepted until September 01, 2026 @ 3:00 p.m., ATTENTION: Mikayla Smith
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If you have any questions concerning the information above or if we can be of further assistance, please contact Mikayla Smith at 601-432-8147 or via email at Mikayla.Smith@its.ms.gov.

Attachment A: Vendor Correspondence

Attachment B: Sole Source Procurement Overview



July 17, 2026

Mississippi State Hospital
3550 Highway 468 W
PO Box 157 A
Whitfield, MS 39193

This letter is to confirm that Novarad South, an unincorporated division of iPro Inc., a Georgia Corporation having its principal place of business at 401 South Wall Street, Suite 201, Calhoun Georgia 30701 is the official distributor of Novarad Corporation for the southeastern United States including the state of Mississippi. Novarad South is the only authorized distributor for Novarad Corporation products, maintenance, and support for Mississippi State Hospital.

Blair Knight

Blair Knight

Executive Vice President of Sales

NOVARAD®

O: 801.642.1001 • C: 801.631.5846

www.novarad.net • blair.knight@novarad.net



3152 N University Ave, Suite 200
Provo, Utah 84604



801-642-1001
877-668-2723



info@novarad.net



www.novarad.net

Attachment B

The acquisition of information technology for all state agencies and institutions of higher learning (IHLs) is within the scope of the ITS law, found in Mississippi Code Section 25-53-1, et seq., and the policies and procedures established in accordance with this statute, found in the ITS Procurement Handbook posted on the ITS website (www.its.ms.gov).

ITS enabling legislation requires that information technology hardware, software and services be acquired in a manner that insures the maximum of competition among all manufacturers and suppliers of such equipment and services. Accordingly, ITS promotes full and open competition through the issuance of open specifications and the objective evaluation of Interested Party proposals to determine the lowest and best offering to meet an agency's or public university's business requirements. True competition protects the integrity and credibility of purchasing in the public sector and is essential in providing best value and adequate contractual protection for the purchasing entity. In certain limited situations, information technology acquisitions may be sole-sourced.

ITS utilizes the provisions of Public Purchasing Law for Sole Source and Emergency procurements of information technology. Mississippi Public Purchasing Law (Mississippi Code Section 31-7-13) specifies that noncompetitive items available from one source only be exempted from bid requirements (sole-sourced). ITS statute, in Section 25-53-5 (p), permits ITS to utilize provisions in Public Purchasing Law or regulations, when applicable.

Per Public Purchasing law, acquisitions must meet the following criteria to be authorized as sole source:

1. The product or services being purchased must perform a function for which no other product or source of services exists,
2. The purchaser must be able to show specific business objectives that can be met only through the unique product or services, AND
3. The product or services must be available only from the manufacturer and NOT through resellers who could submit competitive pricing for the product or services. The vendor's correspondence regarding this criterion for this project is included as Attachment A.

By policy as documented in the ITS Procurement Handbook, acquisitions of IT services must include the following information to be authorized as sole source:

1. An explanation about why the amount to be expended is reasonable, and
2. An explanation regarding the efforts by the purchaser to obtain the best possible price.

For state agencies, approval of all technology purchases with a lifecycle cost of \$5,000 or less, including sole source purchases, has been delegated to the agency. The ITS Procurement Limits Policies for Agencies (a section in the ITS Procurement Handbook) require a minimum of two competitive written bids or proposals for technology purchases with a lifecycle cost over \$5,000 but not over \$75,000 (not over \$25,000 for projects funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act). Since, for single source items, the procuring agency will be unable to obtain two written bids, ITS must certify all sole source acquisitions of information technology with a lifecycle cost greater than \$5,000.

Institutions of Higher Learning (IHLs) or public universities have been delegated the authority to certify sole source procurements up to \$250,000 lifecycle cost under the ITS Procurement Limits Policies for IHLs (a section in the ITS Procurement Handbook). For the certification of sole source procurements delegated to the CIOs at public universities, the public university must follow ITS' Sole Source Procedure, including advertisement of the intent to award as sole source. Institutions certifying a sole source purchase must ensure the criteria listed above are met and documented in writing by the institution and the Interested Party prior to certifying a product or service as sole source. Sole source documentation must be reviewed and approved by the IHL's CIO for any sole-source certification above \$5,000. All sole source documentation should be retained in the public university's procurement file. Sole source requests above \$250,000 lifecycle cost require ITS approval.

Other than the delegations outlined above, all sole source technology procurements must be certified by ITS.

ITS thoroughly reviews Sole Source Certification Requests, determining if competing products and/or services exist. If so, ITS conducts a competitive procurement. If ITS' review confirms the sole source, then a Sole Source advertisement is issued, giving other Interested Parties an opportunity to identify competing products and/or services. Based upon the results of the Sole Source advertisement, ITS will either certify the request as a sole source or conduct a competitive procurement.