



Brownsville Independent School District

Agenda Category: General Function Board of Education Meeting: 10/06/2026

Item Title: Ascend Learning/National X Action
Healthcareer Association Information
Discussion

BACKGROUND:

The Career & Technical Education (CTE) Department requests approval to utilize Ascend Learning/National Healthcareer Association (NHA), a sole-source provider of Health Science curriculum and certification materials, for the 2026–2027 school year based on district needs and available funding. NHA provides curriculum, certification materials, and nationally recognized industry credentials supporting eight Health Science certification pathways for BISD students.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

Categorical Funds (CTE) not to exceed \$80,000.00.

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approval to use Ascend Learning/National Healthcareer Association, a provider, for curriculum, certification materials, and nationally recognized industry credentials for the 2026–2027 school year, based on district needs and available funding. Sole Source.

Approved for Submission to Board of Education:

Adrian Dorsett 
Submitted by: Principal/Program Director

Dr. Norma Ibarra-Cantu 
Recommended by: Executive Director

Dr. Alma Rubio 
Approved by: Assistant Superintendent


Dr. Timothy E. Cuff, Superintendent

When Necessary, Additional Background May Follow This.

APPROVED
DATE 9/14/2026



AN EARLY COLLEGE DISTRICT
BROWNSVILLE
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
REQUEST FOR SOLE SOURCE AFFIDAVIT

For a claim of sole source, the requesting vendor must provide the information below and affirm by signature, that the item being offered meets the requirements of the law. For questions or clarification of the sole source process, call the Procurement Services Department at 956-548-8361. The Brownsville Independent School District Procurement Services Department shall be the sole determinant as to applicability and approval of an application and the item(s) offered. The document must be notarized to be considered. By acceptance and approval of a vendor's sole source affidavit by the District does not guarantee nor create a promise that the District will purchase the product during the approval period. Affidavit expires on the one-year anniversary date from Subscribed and Sworn date noted below.

Vendor Justification and Affirmation

Sole Source Vendor Contact Information

Company National Healthcare Association Contact Person Nigora McGill Account Manager
Address 11161 Overbrook Road Phone 913-904-7824
City Leawood State KS Zip Code 66211-2295 Fax # 913-661-6206
Email nigora.mcgill@nhanow.com Web Site www.nhanow.com

The items described below meet the sole source criteria:

CCMA - Exam and Prep Materials (Copyright: TX0001990082); CENRS - Exam and Prep Materials (Copyright: TX0007736202);
CBCS - Exam and Prep Materials (Copyright: TX0007736106; TX0008037531)
CET - Exam and Prep Materials (Copyright: TX000262579(2017); CCMA - Exam and Prep Materials (Copyright: TX0001990084)
CPTA - Exam and Prep Materials (Copyright: TX000262579(2018); CPT - Exam and Prep Materials (Copyright: TX000262579(2017);
Pharmacy Technician (E-CPT) Exam and Prep Materials (Copyright: TX000262579(2017); TX0006264321)

Check the appropriate box - failure to check one will disqualify the application

- ☒ An item for which competition is precluded due to the existence of a patent, copyright, secret process, or monopoly;
Patent#: see items list for copyrights Copyright/ Patent Year: _____
☐ A film, manuscript, or book;
☐ A utility service, including electricity, gas, or water and
☐ A captive replacement part of component for equipment

I have carefully reviewed the Texas Education Code, Section 44.031 and hereby certify that our company meets and complies with Section (j) of the above-mentioned code for the sale of the item(s) described above.

By signature below, I, am a authorized representative of the company listed above, affirm that the is/are no other like item(s) available for Purchase that would serve the same purpose or function, and there is only one source for the above named item(s) due to exclusive distribution or marketing rights. I also understand that by falsifying the claim of sole source will remove my company from the Brownsville ISD vendor list for a period not to exceed three (3) years. We further certify that pricing offered to the Brownsville ISD is the lowest pricing available to similar customers.

Tyson Schmidt
Authorized Signature Tyson Schmidt

VP Customer Operations
Title

8/14/2026
Date

Notary Public Requirement

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me on the 14th day of Aug 2026
Notary Public, State of KS county of Johnson Date Commission Expires: 4-2-28

Janet Berry
Notary Signature
Janet Berry
Notary Printed Name

JANET BERRY
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF KANSAS
MY COMM. EXPIRES 04-02-2028

Notice: A person commits a felony if she/he knowingly makes a false entry in a governmental record.
Texas Penal Code, Section 37.10