



# IOWA

## Department of Education


Ryan M. Wise, Director

Kim Reynolds, Governor  
Adam Gregg, Lt. Governor

January 27, 2020

Jim Kurtenbach, Director  
Iowa Dept. of Administrative Services  
Hoover Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Des Moines, IA 50319

Approved based on the reasons provided herein.

  
James M. Kurtenbach Date: January 28, 2020

Dear Director Kurtenbach:

The Iowa Department of Education requests a waiver under DAS Administrative Rule 11-118.16(8A) of the application of DAS Administrative Rule 11-118.11(3) concerning the duration of service contracts. The latter rule states "A service contract, including all optional renewals, shall not exceed a term of six years, unless a waiver of this provision is granted pursuant to rule 11-118.16(8A)." The Iowa Department of Education is requesting a waiver with respect to the following agreement:

Contract number 18M-12 between Nevada Contractors Registry, Inc/curriQunet and the State of Iowa Department of Education. The original contract was executed on September 1, 2011. The latest amendment to the contract was executed on January 1, 2017 and goes through January 31, 2020. We are requesting a waiver to extend the contract through January 31, 2021. The Department of Administrative Services conducted a solicitation on behalf of the Iowa Department of Education to award a new contract for these services. A new contract was awarded and signed on January 31, 2019 for this service. Due to unforeseen legal issues, the new vendor has not yet been able put the new system into place.

The Iowa Department of Education seeks to avoid disruption of Iowa's Community College Program and Common Course Management System by requesting an additional one-year extension as the transition process to the new vendor has not been fully completed.

The system provides a one-stop place for the public to access information about community college offerings. Supported by thousands of instructors and academic administrators as well as state staff, the system is crucial for institutional academic governance processes and state oversight and approval processes. The current system, CurricUNET, is slated to shutdown January 31, 2020. Up until very recently, the Department was expecting only a very brief blackout period of perhaps 30-60 days between the two systems. However, we now expect the new system (Curriculog) to not be in place until January 2021, due to factors beyond the vendor's control. A one-year service disruption is not tenable for the public, community colleges, or the state and we are now in crisis.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request for waiver.

Sincerely,



Ryan M. Wise, Ed.L.D.  
Director

RMW/car

Cc: Jeremy Varner, Administrator, Division of CC and Workforce Preparation, IDOE

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