

**APPROVE PAYMENT TO NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION (NCA)
FOR ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL ACCREDITATION DUES**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Approve payment of annual accreditation dues to North Central Association for 70 high schools for the 2001-2002 school year at a cost of \$35,450.00. The North Central Association has been the accrediting agency for the Chicago Public high schools for the past 100 plus years. Continued membership is required for accreditation and is affected by payment of the annual membership fee. Therefore, no written agreement is required for payment of annual accreditation dues. Pertinent information is stated below.

Specifications No.: 01-250260

VENDOR: North Central Association
Arizona State University
P.O. Box 873011
Tempe, AZ 85287-3011
(800) 525-9517
Vendor # 28574

USER: Office of Accountability
125 South Clark Street, 11th Floor
Chicago, IL 60603
Adalbert Kouba
(773) 553-2335

DESCRIPTION OF ACCREDITATION: The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools is an independent accreditation and evaluation organization that provides assurance that schools are meeting minimal standards of quality that have been established, enforced, and continually updated by educators for over 100 years. NCA has quantitative standards that describe the resources and staff training needed to offer a quality instructional program for students. It also imposes both input and process standards and provides a high quality of school improvement model, a network for peer support and staff development materials.

DESCRIPTION OF PURCHASE: Membership dues are \$500.00 per school and for the 2001-2002 school year there are 70 Chicago Public High Schools that are NCA members. Two new high schools were added at \$450 each plus a \$250 application fee. Payment provides that each high school is included in the accreditation and evaluation process which indicates that each school must meet agreed upon standards established by the seventeen states involved in the association. The dues paid will cover the 70 high schools that currently issue diplomas in the name of the school and cover the accreditation for the period from July 1, 2001 through June 30 2002.

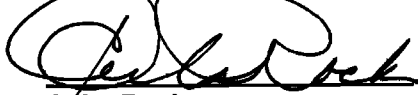
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: The Waiver Review Committee recommends that a full waiver of the participation goals for this contract that include: 35% total MBE, 22% total African American, 10% total Hispanic, 2% total Asian and 5% total WBE as required by the Revised Remedial Plan for Minority and Women Business Enterprise Contract Participation (M/WBE Plan) be waived because the contract scope is not further divisible.

LSC REVIEW: Local School Council approval is not applicable to this report.

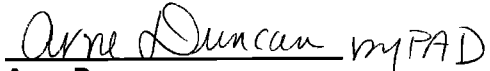
FINANCIAL: Charge to the Office of Accountability \$35,450.00
Budget Classification: 0920-210-000-7081-5420

Fiscal Year 2002
Source of Funds: Gen. Ed Fund

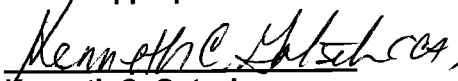
Approved for Consideration:


Anita Rocha
Acting Chief Purchasing Officer

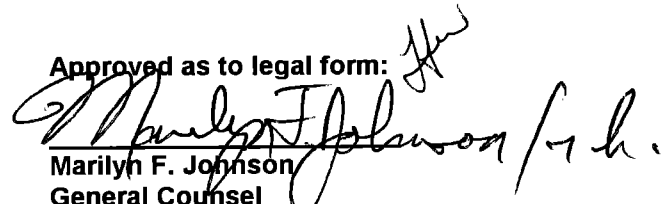
Approved:


Arne Duncan myPAD
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:


Kenneth C. Gotsch
Chief Fiscal Officer

Approved as to legal form:


Marilyn F. Johnson
General Counsel