

Solicitation Snapshot

Short-Form Learning Partnership RFP

Solicitation Number: 3295839

Solicitation Type: RFP

Date Released: September 15, 2026

Closing Time and Date: as listed in the Euna Procurement (ION WAVE) eSourcing tool

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Product/Service Category: Education/ Training/Continuing Education

Agency: The University of Kansas ("KU")
1450 Jayhawk Blvd. Room 232
Lawrence, KS 66045

Period of Contract: TBD

Overarching Program Scope

The University of Kansas (KU) seeks a qualified partner to provide high-quality, non-credit, short-form learning opportunities for adults, professional workforce, and organizational learners. The partnership should be scalable, financially sustainable, accessible, and responsive to emerging workforce needs. This new partner will augment, not replace, the learning opportunities already offered by KU – please see <https://www.enrole.com/kupce/jsp/index.jsp>

- **Before responding to this solicitation**, please review the following documents located in the Attachments tab within KU's EUNA (Ion Wave) eSourcing system. These documents serve as a comprehensive guide for navigating the platform and establish the protocols and requirements applicable throughout the solicitation period.

- **Detailed Project Scope Section:** For a detailed description of the goals, objectives, and requirements of this solicitation please refer to the **Detailed Project Scope section below**.
- **Solicitation Responses:** All proposals are required to be submitted electronically through the KU eBid system, **Euna Procurement** powered by **Ion Wave**, no later than the deadline specified within the system. RFP participants must respond to the “Attributes” sections of the solicitation and attach the required/necessary documents.

RFP Clarifying Questions: Participants may submit written questions via the **Euna Procurement** tool until the deadline specified in the system. All written questions received will be answered by KU and shared with all bidders via the **Euna Procurement** tool. The identity of the company submitting the question will be omitted.

RFP Addendum: Any changes to this Solicitation will be made **only through a written addendum**; verbal communications are not binding. An addendum may be issued if questions raised during the call or submitted in writing require KU to modify the Solicitation or provide additional information to enable bidders to submit a complete response. The **Euna Procurement** eBid system will notify the email address(es) on file if an addendum is published.

Disclaimers: Failure to notify the Procurement Officer of any conflicts or ambiguities in this Solicitation may result in resolution in the best interest of the University.

Anticipated Timeline after RFP closes

KU reserves the right to modify the proposed RFP timeline below as necessary to accommodate internal requirements or scheduling conflicts. Any changes to the schedule will be communicated to bidders through the eSourcing system.

RFP Closes	Date listed in the system
Initial evaluation and short-list of qualified bidders	From closing through end of October, 2026
Platform Demo - short-listed bidders - Virtual	First week of November
Desired Launch date.	Early January 2027

Evaluation Criteria:

The Solicitation award shall be made in the best interest of the University as determined by the KU Procurement Negotiation Committee (“PNC”). Consideration may focus toward but is not limited to:

1. Business Model and Partnership Approach

- The extent to which the vendor's business model, commercial structure, and partnership approach align with the University's objectives and long-term goals.
- 2. **Content Flexibility and Curation**
 - The vendor's ability to support selective adoption and curation of content, enabling the University to incorporate content that best complements its existing offerings.
- 3. **Breadth and Quality of Content Offerings**
 - The range, relevance, and quality of available course offerings and learning content, including the ability to supplement and enhance the University's current portfolio.
- 4. **Relevant Higher Education Experience**
 - Demonstrated experience successfully supporting institutions of similar size, complexity, and mission, particularly large public research universities Customer satisfaction validated via reference calls.
- 5. **Credentials and Recognition**
 - Availability of industry-recognized credentials, certificates, badges, or other mechanisms for recognizing learner achievement and skill development.
- 6. **Platform Capabilities and Value-Added Services**
 - The overall functionality of the platform, implementation approach, support model, innovation, and any additional services or capabilities that enhance the value of the proposed solution.
- 7. **Accessibility and Responsible Technology Practices**
 - The degree to which the platform meets accessibility standards and demonstrates appropriate governance, transparency, and responsible use of technologies, including artificial intelligence where applicable.

Detailed Project Scope – Short-Form Learning Partnership

1. Purpose

The University of Kansas (KU) seeks a qualified partner to provide high-quality, non-credit, short-form learning opportunities for adults, professional workforce, and organizational learners. The partnership should be scalable, financially sustainable, accessible, and responsive to emerging workforce needs. This new partner will augment, not replace, the learning opportunities already offered by KU – please see <https://www.enrole.com/kupce/jsp/index.jsp>

2. Scope of Services

The selected provider shall provide both the content and Platform, **Vendor Qualifications, Business Model & Pricing:** A partnership model that is financially sustainable, non-exclusive, scalable, and capable of supporting multiple audiences and use cases.

Content & Curriculum: A broad portfolio of high-quality short-form courses addressing current and emerging professional, technical, and workforce needs.

Curation & Learning Pathways: Tools to create KU-branded courses, collections, learning pathways, and programs aligned with learner and employer needs.

Credentials: Certificates, digital badges, micro credentials, or other meaningful recognition of completed learning and demonstrated skills.

Platform & Learner Experience: A modern, intuitive, mobile-friendly, and accessible platform supporting course discovery, enrollment, learning, completion, and credentialing.

Accessibility: Compliance with applicable accessibility requirements and support for equitable access to content and technology.

Administration & Reporting: Administrative tools, dashboards, and data to monitor enrollment, engagement, completion, learner outcomes, financial performance, and program effectiveness.

Privacy, Security & AI: Appropriate safeguards for KU and learner data, including transparency regarding the use of artificial intelligence.

Marketing & Organizational Sales: Support for marketing to individual learners, employers, agencies, associations, and other organizations.

Implementation & Support: Implementation, training, technical support, learner support, account management, and ongoing partnership management.

Quality Assurance: Ongoing review of content, technology, accessibility, learner experience, and overall partnership performance.

Transition & Renewal: Appropriate renewal, termination, data, credential, and transition provisions to ensure continuity for learners.

3. Demonstration and Evaluation

Shortlisted respondents shall provide a live demonstration of the proposed solution. KU may also request temporary access to a demonstration environment.

The demonstration should include:

- Learner experience from discovery through completion.
- Course search and catalog functionality.
- Provide a sample of actual course content.
- Demonstrate Learning pathway creation and management.
- Demonstrate how to implement KU branding and the level of customization available
- Organizational and cohort management functions
- Administrative dashboards and reporting capabilities.

- Samples of credentials and digital badges.
- Describe the platform's Accessibility features (ADA compliance)
- Mobile experience, if applicable. Discuss Integration and API capabilities, as applicable.

Respondents should assume that preference will be given to proposals that provide clear evidence of current capabilities, measurable outcomes from comparable institutional partnerships, transparent pricing, and well-defined implementation and support models. Once shortlisted, KU will conduct reference calls with provider's current partners to assess client satisfaction with the provider's services, program delivery, support model, and overall partnership experience.

4. Expected Outcome

The partnership should provide KU with a flexible and scalable short-form learning solution that expands access to professional and workforce education, supports meaningful learner credentials, creates opportunities to serve organizational customers, and provides measurable educational and financial outcomes. Potential Partners must describe the metrics they will use to measure success, provide baseline assumptions, and propose target outcomes for enrollment growth, completion rates, credential attainment, employer engagement, learner satisfaction, and revenue generation.