

**NOTICE OF INTENDED DECISION  
TO ENTER INTO A SINGLE SOURCE CONTRACT  
(PUR 7778)**

This Notice of Intended Decision to Enter into a Single Source Contract is posted in accordance with Rule 60A-1.045, Florida Administrative Code, and section 287.057(3), Florida Statutes.

AGENCY: Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County

TITLE: Summer Boost enrichment at Zoo Tampa

Short description of the commodity or service desired: Provide free family admission to Zoo Tampa and their Early Childhood Education Center for children in the Summer Boost program.

CONTACT

Name: Gary Meyer

Address: 6302 East Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Suite 100, Tampa, FL 33619

Telephone: 813-906-2942

Email: gmeyer@elchc.org

Internal tracking number, if any: N/A

DMS Single Source number, if applicable:

**Date posted: 6/22/2024    Time posted:**

Commodity or Contractual Service (commodity or United Nation Standard Products and Services Code (UNSPSC), manufacturer, model, and description, as appropriate):  
family membership to zoo and early childhood education center

Requestor (division, bureau, office, individual, as appropriate):  
Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County

Performance and/or Design Requirements (intended use, function or application, compatibility, requirements; reference to policy, rule, statute or other act of the Legislature, as appropriate):  
No other cultural facility in Tampa Bay offers a full-time licensed Early Childhood Education Center that specializes in outdoor nature play, empathy and social emotional learning activities, in addition to kindergarten readiness and literacy, while including family involvement in this curriculum.

School Readiness support programs include:

- Literacy enrichment program through ZooTampa’s partnership with Tampa-Hillsborough Public Library: Literacy Resources are grouped thematically to complement many of the themes visitors might encounter during the day at the zoo.
- “Zoo Site Word Seek and Find” which was created by a Zoo School Pre-K 4 teacher to identify the site words needed for kindergarten readiness.
- Toddler Tuesdays- Amazing Adventure through the Alphabet: A monthly event at the zoo with interactive activities, sing-a-longs, story time, and exclusive wildlife connections.

- Conservation Kids Club-Monthly Interactive science-based activities for families to connect at the zoo.

Intended Single Source:

Zoo Tampa

Price:

\$200,000

Justification for Single Source Purchase (what is necessary and unique about the commodity, contractual service, or source; steps taken to confirm unavailability of competition, as appropriate):

In 2001, ZooTampa at Lowry Park became the first AZA (Association of Zoos and Aquariums) accredited Zoo to open an Early Childhood Education Center for children 2-5 years of age. The “Zoo School” developed science, social and emotional learning around connecting children to nature through empathy-based curriculum and applied those fundamentals to the way we deliver programming at ZooTampa. Due to it’s popularity and educational benefit to the community, Zoo School has a two-year waiting list.

No other cultural facility in Tampa Bay offers a full-time licensed Early Childhood Education Center that specializes in outdoor nature play, empathy and social emotional learning activities, in addition to kindergarten readiness and literacy, while including family involvement in this curriculum.

Approved By (names & titles, as appropriate, e.g., requestor, requestor management, information systems, budget, purchasing):

Gary Meyer, Chief Financial Officer

**Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Section 120.57(3), Florida Statutes, or failure to file a bond or other security within the time allowed for filing a bond, shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under Chapter 120, Florida Statutes. Protests may be filed with the agency by:**

**Mail: Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County Attention: Gary Meyer 6302 East Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Suite 100, Tampa, FL 33619**

**Email: gmeyer@elchc.org**

**Fax: 813-435-2299**