

October 20, 2025

ADDENDUM IX

PURCHASE OF CREDIT MOBILITY SOLUTION RFP-2025-0075

I. In response to questions received:

- A. **Question:** Given that the RFP deadline has already been extended by five months from the original May 23rd date, could you please confirm whether the original deployment deadline of December 31, 2026, will also be adjusted? If so, what is the new target date?

Response: Section 1.B.3 on page 12 of the RFP solicitation states,

“The solution must be fully operational by no later than December 31, 2026.”

and is hereby replaced with,

“The solution must be fully operational by no later than March 1, 2027.”

- B. **Question:** When recommending transfer universities for students, what key factors are considered to ensure optimal academic alignment and student success?
Response: When recommending transfer universities for students, Alamo Colleges District considers the number of students transferring to that institution, pathways sought by students, whether the institution provides that pathway and the number of credits accepted in the 120 hours for a baccalaureate degree.
- C. **Question:** What format are the course catalogues and student transcripts available in (PDF, XML, API, database)?
Response: Course catalogues are available in .PDF format and Transcripts are available in .PDF format and through EDI.
- D. **Question:** How should changes in major be handled — through rule-based logic or probabilistic modelling?
Response: Changes in major should be through rule-based logic.
- E. **Question:** How do you evaluate the effectiveness of your transfer guides currently? Are there any KPIs followed?
Response: TAGs are evaluated by an outside / independent source.



- F. **Question:** Any other support that you are expecting in the application for ensuring digital content is accessible to people with disabilities. (Example : audio for visually impaired)?

Response: Alamo Colleges District is expecting the awarded offeror to ensure their proposed Credit Mobility Platform is and remains in compliance with [Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in programs or activities that receive federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Education.](#)

- G. **Question:** Is any payment / transaction support needed?

Response: No payment / transaction support is needed.

- H. **Question:** For the PCI DSS Applicability & Evidence, our solution will not collect, process, store, or transmit any payment-card data. Instead, it will run entirely on Microsoft Azure's PCI-Level 1 compliant infrastructure. To confirm this scoping, we propose to provide:

- A signed letter from our CTO/CISO stating that our application and data flows are out of scope for cardholder data environments (CDE).
- A completed SAQ-A (all CDE controls marked "N/A").
- Microsoft Azure's Attestation of Compliance (AOC) as a Level 1 PCI DSS v4.0 service provider (publicly available via the Microsoft Trust Center).

Under Section 8.5.2 of the RFP, will Alamo Colleges District accept a CISO scope exemption letter, SAQ-A, and Azure's AOC, in lieu of our own PCI DSS AOC?

If not, please clarify what additional evidence or certification you would require given that our application does not touch payment-card data.

Response: Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards ("PCI-DSS") does not apply to any goods or services provided pursuant to this RFP or subsequent Agreement so no evidence of PCI certification is required with vendor proposals.

- I. **Question:** The recently received Addendum IV states: *"If applicable, Contractor shall provide Alamo Colleges District a current certificate of PCI compliance upon award and annually thereafter for the duration of this Agreement."*

While we understand the general compliance requirement, the phrase "if applicable" does not provide sufficient clarity regarding:

- Whether our application's out-of-scope status exempts us from PCI DSS certification requirements
- If alternative documentation demonstrating non-applicability would satisfy contractual obligations



- What specific evidence would be required for applications that do not handle payment card data.

Response Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards ("PCI-DSS") does not apply to any goods or services provided pursuant to this RFP or subsequent Agreement, so no evidence of PCI certification is required with vendor proposals.

- J. **Question:** Is there a retention percentage held until final acceptance? What guarantee mechanisms (bank guarantee, performance bond) are required and for how long after go-live?

Response: Alamo Colleges District reserves the right to specify a retention percentage during the negotiation of the final Agreement with the awarded Offeror.

- K. **Question:** Could you detail the conditions under which ACD may terminate early and the associated penalties (e.g., repayment of fees, liquidated damages)?

Response: Alamo Colleges District might exercise a termination for convenience clause to end a contract when doing so is in the best interest of the Alamo Colleges District. Any associated fees would be determined during the negotiation of the final Agreement with the awarded Offeror.

- II. Please acknowledge receipt of this Addendum IX, with your proposal.

REMINDER:

The deadline to submit a proposal for this project is no later than 2:00 p.m. (CT), Tuesday, October 28, 2025.