

PRELIMINARY MARKET CONSULTATION IAVE/001/2023

Consultancy services within the project of dematerialization of external learning assessment tests.

Legal disclaimer:

This presentation is only a preliminary version of the intended project, shared for general informational purposes only and cannot be considered a final or binding version. The information contained in this document may be subject to changes, without commitment or obligation from the Instituto de Avaliação Educativa, I.P., hereinafter referred to as IAVE, I.P.

I. CONTEXT

IAVE, I.P. is the entity responsible for external assessment in Portugal. It is a public institute with special regime and endowed with pedagogical, scientific, administrative, and financial autonomy. It is legally recognized for its technical and professional independence in carrying out its functions.

Currently, IAVE, I.P. is developing the project of dematerialization of external learning assessment tests, known as the Dematerialization of External Assessment (hereinafter referred to as the DAVE project). This project is part of the Recovery and Resilience Plan (PRR) and aims to transition from paper-based external assessment tests to electronic support.

II. OBJECTIVE

Within this project, IAVE, I.P. intends to be accompanied by an entity with consolidated experience in electronic-based external assessment. The objective is to plan the digital transition process of external assessment in Portugal, redefine and adapt the test development processes carried out by IAVE teams, adapt them to electronic platforms, establish the best ways of administering and conducting tests electronically for students, and define the characteristics of the most suitable electronic grading and supervision processes for the external assessment system in Portugal.

In this framework, the services to be acquired should encompass the following areas to be developed within a two-year timeframe:

1. Support for the development and implementation of DAVE

This includes conducting studies, analyses, and other strategic and/or functional services in the following areas:

- Participation in the overall operationalization of the project;

- Information dissemination methods: public disclosure of exams and production of result reports;
- Periodic meetings and monitoring reports with development proposals.

2. Construction of external assessment instruments

This includes conducting studies, analyses, and other theoretical and/or functional services in the following areas:

- Development of frameworks and matrices based on the curriculum;
- Theoretical construct of item construction in CBA: item taxonomy and classification, levels of complexity, and use of supports;
- Construction of interactive items for assessment situations involving problem-solving and simulation of experimental activities.

3. Item classification and grading

This includes conducting studies, analyses, and other theoretical and/or functional services in the following areas:

- Classification and grading of constructed-response items, including the development and improvement of item grading criteria, including those with interactive digital tasks or simulations, the definition of cutoff scores (Standard Setting), and the technical options to be adopted in this domain.

4. Statistical analysis

This includes conducting studies, analyses, and other theoretical and/or functional services in the following areas:

- Psychometric analysis of digital format items, including their calibration, also within the framework of Item Response Theory (IRT);
- Statistical analysis of results.

The aim is to collect technical, methodological, and financial information so that IAVE, I.P. can use the results to develop the procurement documents, establish the base price, and determine the most suitable type of procurement procedure.

III. INFORMATION PROVIDED BY ECONOMIC OPERATORS

Economic operators interested in providing contributions within this Preliminary Market Consultation should send an email to dsae.geral@iave.pt by July 26, 2023, clearly indicating the reference "Preliminary Market Consultation N.º. IAVE/001/2023 - Consultancy Services within the project of dematerialization of external learning assessment tests" in the email subject. Clarifications can be requested by emailing dsae.geral@iave.pt until 5:00 PM on July 20, 2023. The respective responses will also be made available on the public website of IAVE, I.P. at www.iave.pt.

IV. REQUESTED INFORMATION

The information voluntarily provided by economic operators, in addition to what they consider appropriate and relevant, should address the following aspects:

- Details of the economic operator: name, address, website (if applicable), contacts;
- Areas of expertise and activity;
- Information from their portfolio that is considered relevant to the subject of the preliminary consultation;
- Presentation of the proposed solution;
- Identification of the executing team that will be assigned to the service provision;
- Execution period and work program with respective scheduling;
- Descriptive and justifying memorandum of the execution methodology and procedures regarding service provision;
- Operational and financial details, particularly for the establishment of the base price of the procurement procedure;
- Any other relevant information.

V. ENTITIES TO BE CONSULTED

ACER - Australian Council for Educational Research: <https://www.acer.org/gb> (Dr. Catherine McClellan, catherine.mcclellan@acer.org)

ETS - Educational Testing Service: <https://www.ets.org/> (Dr. Eugenio Gonzalez, EGonzalez@ETS.ORG)

CITO Educational Assessment: International@cito.nl

Pearson Assessments: <https://www.pearsonassessments.com/contact-us.html>

VI. TRANSPARENCY

It is imperative that the preliminary market consultation be conducted with transparency and without unequal treatment of economic operators, as stipulated in Article 35-A of the Public Contracts Code. In pursuit of these principles, the following measures will be adopted:

- a. All information related to the preliminary consultation will be exclusively publicized on the public website of IAVE, I.P., including the information contained in this document, at: www.iave.pt.
- b. Communication of all pertinent information exchanged with other candidates or competitors participating in the preparation of the contract procedure will be provided, including such information in the procurement documents to be developed.