

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVAL OF PURCHASE IN EXCESS OF \$2,000,000

BOARD APPROVED  
APRIL 14, 2023

Cindy Ream  
Corporate Secretary

**Vendor:** Huron Consulting Group

**Item:** Electronic Research Administration System - Huron Research Suite and Professional Services Contract

**Amount:** \$6,814,362

**Department:** Office of Research

**Source of Funds:** Operating Funds

**Remarks:**

The Office of Research is seeking to award an estimated \$6.8 million, 5-year contract to Huron Consulting Group (Huron) for a new Electronic Research Administration System (eRA) . The Huron Research Suite will replace existing, outdated research administration systems. Intended to serve all Purdue campuses and affiliated organizations, this next generation eRA system will facilitate the link between all research processes, including pre-award, negotiations, post-award, regulatory and compliance and research security activities.

Purdue University currently provides research administration services and support without the benefit of an integrated eRA. Purdue’s Offices of Sponsored Program Services, Research Regulatory Affairs, and Ethics and Compliance utilize multiple purchased systems, licensed products and homegrown applications connected to our enterprise solutions for finance (SAP), human resources (Success Factors), and document retention (Perceptive Content) to manage our electronic research needs.

By automating the processes to apply for research grants, manage research funding and perform regulatory, ethics, training and compliance, the Office of Research will be better able to support its researchers, faculty and staff and help them operate more efficiently.

Working with the Huron Consulting Group, the phased rollout will begin this summer and be completed by late 2025. The total project investment is expected to be approximately \$9.9 million over a 28-month project schedule. This budget includes Huron subscription fees, professional services fees and internal costs for staffing and managing the project.

**Additional Detail:**

**Subscription Fees for 5 years: \$4,678,031.99\***

Year1: \$497,235 (includes 50% discount for Year1, plus 15% discount for full suite)

Year2: \$1,014,360.52

Year3: \$1,034,647.73

Year4: \$1,055,340.69

Year5: \$1,076,447.50

\*Licensing fees will adjust in accordance to when specific modules go-live.

**Professional Services Fees for Implementation: \$2,136,330**

This is based off the total number of services hours per module.

**Selection Process**

Huron Consulting Group was selected through an RFP process involving five (5) other vendors. A cross-functional team from SPS, faculty, research, IT, finance, and executive departments, was established to review and analyze each proposed solution. This review included two sets of 2-day demonstrations to fully vet the vendor and their solution. It was unanimously decided by all stakeholder groups that Huron Consulting Group provided the best solution to meet Purdue's needs and requirements.