



**Purchasing Service Agreement
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 32
AGENDA DATE: Thu 03/03/2005
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SUBJECT: Authorize negotiation and execution of a 12-month interlocal agreement with the UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN GRADUATE SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND KINESIOLOGY, Austin, TX, for a 14-week remedial strength training research program for the Austin Fire Department Training Academy in an amount not to exceed \$30,018, with two 12-month extension options in an amount not to exceed \$30,018 per extension option, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$90,054.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding in the amount of \$17,510 is available in the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Approved Operating Budget of the Austin Fire Department. Funding for the remaining five months of the original contract period and extension options is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

FISCAL NOTE: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

REQUESTING Purchasing
DEPARTMENT:for Fire;

DIRECTOR'S
AUTHORIZATION: Vickie Schubert

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Vikie DeLuyck, MSW, Buyer II/974-2003

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: N/A

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: N/A

PURCHASING: Interlocal Agreement

MBE / WBE: N/A

This interlocal agreement with the University of Texas Graduate School of Health and Kinesiology will provide remedial strength training for the Austin Fire Department Training Academy's annual Fire Cadet Class. Once a year, candidates may elect to participate in a 14-week training program designed to enhance their physiological and psychological performance to increase their likelihood to pass the physical ability testing (CPAT) portion of the Austin Fire Department (AFD) hiring process.

Firefighting is one of the most hazardous and physically demanding occupations, requiring both lower and upper body strength, physical power, high energy, psychological stamina, and tolerance to heat stress. Historically, candidates who are lacking in physical strength have not performed well on the CPAT portion. In December of 2001, an RCA was approved for an interlocal agreement with the University of Texas to conduct a research project to evaluate the effect of remedial strength training for candidates of the Austin Fire Department Training Academy. There were 15 female candidates and 8 participated in the study program. Of those 8, 5 females passed the CPAT, representing a 63% success rate. While the program was open to small stature males, none volunteered to participate in the program.

Training programs will be scheduled to coincide with the firefighter recruiting process to provide applicants with the necessary time to train for the CPAT. The University of Texas Graduate School of Health and Kinesiology staff will continue to collect statistics from each class for analysis and feedback to improve the training for each annual 14-week class.