

**ILLINOIS STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

**BOARD OF  
TRUSTEES**

**Resolution No. 2023.07/36  
Authorization for  
Adobe Creative Cloud Software**

**Resolution**

Whereas, Illinois State University is committed to offering premier undergraduate and graduate programs that integrate emerging and innovative ideas with traditional knowledge and methods, and

Whereas, the University pursues opportunities to partner with other State of Illinois higher education institutions to consolidate software contract services where appropriate and achieve cost savings through collaboration, and

Whereas, the University has utilized Adobe Creative software for instructional and administrative use for over two decades, and

Whereas, representatives of multiple Illinois Universities have cooperated in negotiations for state-wide volume-based higher education pricing for Adobe Software access, and

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees authorizes the University to enter into a three-year agreement, (August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2026), for Adobe Software administered through the reseller at a total cost not to exceed \$1,026,000.

Board Action on: \_\_\_\_\_  
Motion by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Second by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote:           Yeas: \_\_\_\_\_ Nays: \_\_\_\_\_

Postpone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Amend: \_\_\_\_\_  
Disapprove: \_\_\_\_\_  
Approve: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: Board Action, \_\_\_\_\_ July 28, 2023

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary / Chairperson

**Board of Trustees  
Illinois State University  
Authorization for Adobe Creative Cloud Software**

Adobe’s Creative Cloud Suite is recognized as a leader in business and creative software solutions. The University has used Adobe products in some form or another for nearly two decades. Part of this long history has included Illinois State University being named an Adobe Creative Campus, dedicated to fostering digital literacy, access, and equity for students. The University currently purchases the Adobe Creative Cloud suite through an annual agreement from software reseller, Dell Corporation. FY2023’s annual contract costs for Adobe Creative Cloud Suite software is estimated at approximately \$440,000.

Over the past several years, Adobe licensing models have changed from perpetual, single-software, single-use licenses to named-user, subscription-based suite licensing. This suite-based licensing allows users access to a host of software programs ranging from PDF creation to video editing. These newer licensing models are more costly than older licensing models given greater access to multiple Adobe software products.

In numerous discussions over the past several months, chief information officers/chief technology officers from Illinois public higher education institutions identified Adobe as a software services provider whereby a consolidated volume-based pricing could be executed where each participating Illinois public higher education institution could gain access to all available Adobe Creative Cloud Suite products in a more cost-effective manner.

Collective discussions by the Universities and Adobe for the last year have resulted in the creation of a flat-rate model for all Illinois schools. This volume-based rate is significantly lower than the rate available to each institution when working on an individual basis. Each university will maintain their own agreement and be invoiced annually.

Each university will also maintain administration of their user access. This model would utilize a three-year agreement. Estimated effective dates for the agreement are August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2026.

Under the existing ISU – Adobe Agreement, the annual price for the most current FY24 one-year agreement is estimated to be approximately \$444,000 for the contract period February 21, 2023 through February 20, 2024. This new three-year agreement would terminate the existing one-year agreement and transfer credit for the unused time over to the new agreement beginning August 1, 2023.

Projected annual contract costs in the state-centralized model are as follows,

	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>
<b>Annual Licensing and Support</b>	\$342,000	\$342,000	\$342,000
	<b>3-year total</b>		<b>\$1,026,000</b>

Participation in this program is expected to save the University approximately \$100,000 annually (\$300,000 total term) over non-participation. Should this program be successful, it is believed a similar model will be applied to other commonly used products across the state universities.

The not to exceed amount of \$1,026,000 includes a 3.5% contingency for any additional service counts needed to be added during that term due to growth in enrollment or usage.

**Source of Funds:** General Revenue Funds and Student Academic Enhancement Fees – Not to Exceed \$1,026,000