

NEW

Business Operations

SUBJECT: PROCUREMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES

Purchasing Authority

The District's purchasing activities will be part of the responsibilities of the Business Office, under the general supervision of the Purchasing Agent designated by the Board. The Purchasing Agent is authorized to enter into cooperative bidding and cooperative purchasing arrangements to meet the various needs of the District. No contracts for goods and services shall be made by individuals or organizations in the school that involve expenditures without first securing approval for such contract from the Purchasing Agent.

Except as authorized by law, no Board member or employee of the District shall have an interest in any contract entered into by the School District.

Purchasing Process

The Board recognizes its responsibility to ensure the development of procedures for the procurement of goods and services not required by law to be made in accordance with competitive bidding requirements. These goods and services will be procured in a manner so as to:

- a) Assure the prudent and economical use of public moneys in the best interest of the taxpayer;
- b) Facilitate the acquisition of goods and services of maximum quality at the lowest possible cost under the circumstances; and
- c) Guard against favoritism, improvidence, extravagance, fraud and corruption.

These procedures shall contain, at a minimum, provisions which:

- a) Prescribe a process for determining whether a procurement of goods and services is subject to competitive bidding and if it is not, documenting the basis for such determination;
- b) With certain exceptions, provide that alternative proposals or quotations for goods and services shall be secured by use of written request for proposals, written quotations, verbal quotations or any other method of procurement which furthers the purposes of General Municipal Law Section 104-b;
- c) Set forth when each method of procurement will be utilized;
- d) Require adequate documentation of actions taken with each method of procurement;
- e) Require justification and documentation of any contract awarded to other than the lowest responsible dollar offer, stating the reasons;

(Continued)

SUBJECT: PROCUREMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES (Cont'd.)

- f) Set forth any circumstances when, or the types of procurement for which, the solicitation of alternative proposals or quotations will not be in the best interest of the District; and
- g) Identify the individual or individuals responsible for purchasing and their respective titles. Such information shall be updated biennially.

Any unintentional failure to fully comply with these provisions shall not be grounds to void action taken or give rise to a cause of action against the District or any District employee.

Professional Services

Professional services are generally those services that require specialized skills, training, professional judgment, expertise, and creativity. Examples include attorneys, architects, and engineers. The procurement of professional services falls within an exception to competitive bidding. In order to procure professional services, the District will use the request for proposals (RFP) process as set forth in General Municipal Law in order to protect the District's interests and to avoid the appearance of favoritism or impropriety. Although not necessarily bound to select the lowest bidder in response to its RFP, the District will adequately document its selection process to demonstrate its economical and prudent use of public monies and to ensure fair competition.

Conflict of Interest

No Homer CSD officer or employee will have an interest in any contract with the Homer CSD when such employee has the authority or the responsibility to negotiate, prepare, authorize or approve a contract or authorize or approve its payment, audit bills or claims, or appoint an officer or employee who has any of these responsibilities. Any officer or employee who has or acquires an interest in any actual or proposed contract with the Homer CSD shall publicly disclose the nature and extent of such interest in writing. This written disclosure will be kept on file.

Federally Funded Purchasing Conflict of Interest Statement:

No employee, officer or agent may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a Federal award if there is a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer or agent, or any member of his or her immediate family, partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract. The officers, employees or agents can neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts. Disciplinary actions will be applied for violations of such standards.

(Continued)

SUBJECT: PROCUREMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES (Cont'd.)

Procurement Using Federal Funds

Projects must operate under the jurisdiction of the local board of education or other appropriate governing body and are subject to at least the same degree of accountability as all other expenditures of the local agency. The local board of education or other appropriate governing body is responsible for the proper disbursement of, and accounting for, project funds. Written agency policy concerning wages, mileage and travel allowances, overtime compensation, or fringe benefits, as well as State rules pertaining to competitive bidding, safety regulations, and inventory control must be followed. Supporting or source documents are required for all grant related transactions entered into the local agency's recordkeeping system. Source documents that authorize the disbursement of grant funds consist of purchase orders, contracts, time & effort records, delivery receipts, vendor invoices, travel documentation and payment documents, including check stubs. Inventory and Tracking of items purchased with Federal Funds will follow policy #5620. Disposal or Surplus of items purchased with Federal Funds will follow policy #5250.

The District will develop administrative regulations to establish procedures for the procurement of goods and services.

Education Law Sections 1604, 1709, 1950, 2503, 2554 and 3602
General Municipal Law Articles 5-A and 18
General Municipal Law Section 119-o

NOTE: Refer also to Policies #5400 -- Purchasing: Competitive Bidding and Offering
#5412 -- Alternative Formats for Instructional Materials

Adopted: 5/27/14
Revised: 3/28/17, 5/10/18

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#5412 -- Alternative Formats for Instructional Materials

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