

# Are you ready to outsource one or more of your financial aid services but not looking forward to the RFP process? **We have a solution – cooperative buying.**

Your state allows for cooperative buying also known as piggybacking on another valid contract. Contracts that have been competitively bid by another public higher education institution (in-state or out-of-state) can in some instances be utilized by another college or university assuming the secondary institution follows the same terms as the original contract.

### Consider the Advantages

- **Competitive pricing.** Since the contract has already been competitively bid, you leverage the negotiating power of the original contract, which may be for a larger institution and more competitively priced than you are able to secure on your own.
- Eliminate the hassle of an RFP. RFPs take precious time and resources. You and others at your institution could spend hours writing the RFP document, holding vendor meetings, reviewing responses, negotiating contract and pricing terms, and selecting the right vendor.
- **Quicker startup.** Leveraging an existing contract saves time and allows you to implement the products and services much quicker than going through an entire RFP and contracting process.

We are here to help connect you with higher education institutions that have already competitively bid our services to take the worry out of the competitive bidding process for you because it has already been done. Taking advantage of this opportunity allows you to quickly implement our services and stay focused on what is important – your students and helping them succeed!

#### COLORADO

Colorado Revised Statutes Title 24 Government - State Article 110 Intergovernmental Relations

24-110-101: Definitions. As used in this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

"Cooperative purchasing" means procurement conducted by, or on behalf of, more than one public procurement unit or by a public procurement unit with an external procurement activity.

"External procurement activity" means any buying organization not located in this state which, if located in this state, would qualify as a public procurement unit. An agency of the United States is an external procurement activity.

Local public procurement unit" means any county, city, county and city, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state, any public agency of any such political subdivision, any public authority, any educational, health, or other institution, and, to the extent provided by law, any other entity which expends public funds for the procurement of supplies, services, and construction.

"Public procurement unit" means either a local public procurement unit or a state public procurement unit.

"State public procurement unit" means the department of personnel or any other purchasing agency of this state.

Continued on pg. 2

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24-110-201. Cooperative purchasing authorized.

Any public procurement unit may either participate in, sponsor, conduct, or administer a cooperative purchasing agreement for the procurement of any supplies, services, or construction with one or more public procurement units, external procurement activities, or procurement consortiums which include as members tax-exempt organizations as defined by section 501 (c)(3) of the federal "Internal Revenue Code of 1986", as amended, in accordance with an agreement entered into between the participants. Such cooperative purchasing may include, but is not limited to, joint or multiparty contracts between public procurement units and open-ended state public procurement unit contracts which are made available to local public procurement units.

## Get Started Now

Contact your business development partner, call 888.529.2028 or email <u>InceptiaCS@inceptia.org</u> and we can help you get the most out of your contracting options with your purchasing department.

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