

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!

## **PUERTO RICO**

§ 8661. Public policy

It shall be the public policy of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico that its agencies, instrumentalities, public corporations and other institutional bodies shall promote that their goods and services procurement processes be within the framework of procurement conditions and mechanisms that allow the local industry to offer their goods and services under flexible, fair and highly participatory circumstances.

By virtue thereof, it is hereby declared as the public policy of the Commonwealth within the regulatory framework of the procurement processes of all its entities, to consider and include the multiple award contract mechanism as one of the additional procurement instruments to be utilized, thus allowing its adoption and use when the circumstances of the adjudication and the best interests of the adjudicating entity recommend its use and implementation.

§ 8663. General Services Administration—Duties

For purposes of use and implementation, it shall be the duty of the General Services Administration to:

(a) Adopt, with the assistance and advice of the Industrial Development Company, the model contracts that shall be the reference and operational guidelines for the public entities in the use and implementation of this procurement mechanism.

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- (b) Adopt, with the assistance and advice of the Industrial Development Company, the Office of Management and Budget, and any other public entities, the guidelines and parameters for the use of this mechanism so that its implementation protects the public resources used and the best interests of the Commonwealth, and which may be upheld in legal, ethical and administrative terms.
- (c) Adopt or modify the necessary regulations for faithful compliance with the duties imposed by this chapter.
- (d) Take all measures necessary or convenient to comply with the aforementioned duties and to enforce the remaining provisions of this chapter.
- § 8665. Procurement regulations of compelled public entities

It shall be the duty of the agencies, instrumentalities, public corporations and other entities compelled under the provisions of this chapter to adopt or modify their procurement regulations or other regulatory provisions necessary to temper their procurement processes to the mandate consigned under this chapter.

## **Get Started Now**

Contact your business development partner, call 888.529.2028 or email <a href="mailto:lnceptiaCS@inceptia.org">lnceptiaCS@inceptia.org</a> and we can help you get the most out of your contracting options with your purchasing department.

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