

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!

OREGON

Chapter 279A Public Contracting
General Provisions

279A.205 Cooperative procurements authorized

A contracting agency may participate in, sponsor, conduct or administer a cooperative procurement for the procurement of any goods, services or public improvements.

279A.220 Interstate cooperative procurements

(1) A contracting agency may establish contract or price agreement through an interstate cooperative procurement only if:

(a) The administering contracting agency's solicitation and award process for the original contract is an open and impartial competitive process and uses source selection methods substantially equivalent to those specified in ORS 279B.055 or 279B.060;

(b) The administering contracting agency's solicitation and the original contract allows other governmental bodies to establish contracts or price agreements under the terms, conditions and prices of the original contract; and

(c) The administering contracting agency permits the contractor to extend the use of the terms, conditions and prices of the original contract to the purchasing contracting agency.

(2) In addition to the requirements in subsection (1) of this section:

Continued on pg. 2

Continued

(a) The purchasing contracting agency, or the cooperative procurement group of which the purchasing contracting agency is a member, must be listed in the solicitation of the administering contracting agency as a party that may establish contracts or price agreements under the terms, conditions and prices of the original contract, and the solicitation must be advertised in Oregon; or

(b)(A) The purchasing contracting agency, or the cooperative procurement group of which the purchasing contracting agency is a member, shall advertise a notice of intent to establish a contract or price agreement through an interstate cooperative procurement.

(B) The notice of intent must include:

(i) A description of the procurement;

(ii) An estimated amount of the procurement;

(iii) The name of the administering contracting agency; and

(iv) A time, place and date by which comments must be submitted to the purchasing contracting agency regarding the intent to establish a contract or price agreement through an interstate cooperative procurement.

(C) Public notice of the intent to establish a contract or price agreement through an interstate cooperative procurement must be given in the same manner as provided in ORS 279B.055 (4)(b) and (c).

(D) Unless otherwise specified in rules adopted under ORS 279A.070, the purchasing contracting agency shall give public notice at least seven days before the deadline for submission of comments regarding the intent to establish a contract or price agreement through an interstate cooperative procurement.

(3) If a purchasing contracting agency is required to provide notice of intent to establish a contract or price agreement through an interstate cooperative procurement under subsection (2) of this section:

(a) The purchasing contracting agency shall provide vendors who would otherwise be prospective bidders or proposers on the contract or price agreement, if the procurement were competitively procured under ORS chapter 279B, an opportunity to comment on the intent to establish a contract or price agreement through an interstate cooperative procurement.

(b) Vendors must submit comments within seven days after the notice of intent is published.

(c) And if the purchasing contracting agency receives comments on the intent to establish a contract or price agreement through an interstate cooperative procurement, before the purchasing contracting agency may establish a contract or price agreement through the interstate cooperative procurement, the purchasing contracting agency shall make a written determination that establishing a contract or price agreement through an interstate cooperative procurement is in the best interest of the purchasing contracting agency. The purchasing contracting agency shall provide a copy of the written determination to any vendor that submitted comments.

(4) For purposes of this section, an administering contracting agency may be any governmental body, domestic or foreign, authorized under its laws, rules or regulations to enter into contracts for the procurement of goods and services for use by a governmental body.

279A.200 Definitions for ORS 279A.200 to 279A.225

(1) As used in ORS 279A.200 to 279A.225:

(a) "Administering contracting agency" means a contracting agency that solicits and establishes the original contract for procurement of goods, services or public improvements in a cooperative procurement.

(b) "Cooperative procurement" means a procurement conducted by or on behalf of one or more contracting agencies. "Cooperative procurement" includes but is not limited to multiparty contracts and price agreements.

(c) "Cooperative procurement group" means a group of contracting agencies joined through an intergovernmental agreement for the purposes of facilitating cooperative procurements.

(d) "Interstate cooperative procurement" means a permissive cooperative procurement in which the administering contracting agency is a governmental body, domestic or foreign, that is authorized under the governmental body's laws, rules or regulations to enter into public contracts and in which one or more of the participating agencies are located outside this state.

Continued on pg. 3

Continued

(e) "Joint cooperative procurement" means a cooperative procurement in which the participating contracting agencies or the cooperative procurement group and the agencies' or group's contract requirements or estimated contract requirements for price agreements are identified.

(f) "Original contract" means the initial contract or price agreement solicited and awarded during a cooperative procurement by an administering contracting agency.

(g) "Permissive cooperative procurement" means a cooperative procurement in which the purchasing contracting agencies are not identified.

(h) "Purchasing contracting agency" means a contracting agency that procures goods, services or public improvements from a contractor based on the original contract established by an administering contracting agency.

(2) As used in ORS 279A.210 (1)(a), 279A.215 (1)(a) and 279A.220 (1)(a), an administering contracting agency's solicitation and award process uses source selection methods "substantially equivalent" to those identified in ORS 279B.055, 279B.060 or 279B.085 if the solicitation and award process:

(a) Calls for award of a contract on the basis of a lowest responsible bidder or a lowest and best bidder determination in the case of competitive bids, or on the basis of a determination of the proposer whose proposal is most advantageous based on evaluation factors set forth in the request for proposals in the case of competitive proposals;

(b) Does not permit the application of any geographic preference that is more favorable to bidders or proposers who reside in the jurisdiction or locality favored by the preference than the preferences provided in ORS 279A.120 (2); and

(c) Uses reasonably clear and precise specifications that promote suitability for the purposes intended and that reasonably encourage competition.

Get Started Now

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

Please understand the information provided in this flyer does not, and is not intended to, constitute legal advice; instead, all information, content, and references to statutory or regulatory law contained in this flyer are for general informational purposes only. Information in this flyer may not constitute the most up-to-date summation of the law in your state or summary of other information. You are encouraged to contact your purchasing department or attorney to obtain advice with respect to the availability and ability to qualify for cooperative buying or any other particular legal matter. Only your individual purchasing department or attorney can provide assurances that the information contained herein – and your interpretation of it – is applicable or appropriate to your particular situation. All liability with respect to actions taken or not taken based on the contents of this flyer are hereby expressly disclaimed.