

## 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!

#### TEXAS

Government Code  
Title 7. Intergovernmental Relations  
Chapter 791 Interlocal Cooperation Contracts  
Subchapter C. Specific Interlocal Contracting Authority

##### § 791.001 GOV'T. Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of local governments by authorizing them to contract, to the greatest possible extent, with one another and with agencies of the state.

##### § 791.003 GOV'T. Definitions

4) "Local government" means a:

- (A) county, municipality, special district, or other political subdivision of this state or another state; or
- (B) combination of two or more of those entities.

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SECTION 2. Section 791.011 GOV'T, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (g) to read as follows:

(b) A party to an interlocal contract may contract with a:

- (1) state agency, as that term is defined by Section 771.002; or
- (2) similar agency of another state.

(g) A governmental entity of this state or another state that makes purchases or provides purchasing services under an interlocal contract for a state agency, as that term is defined by Section 771.002, must comply with Chapter 2161 in making the purchases or providing the services.

§ 791.025 GOV'T. Contracts for Purchases

(a) A local government, including a council of governments, may agree with another local government or with the state or a state agency, including the General Services Commission, to purchase goods and services.

(b) A local government, including a council of governments, may agree with another local government, including a nonprofit corporation that is created and operated to provide one or more governmental functions and services, or with the state or a state agency, including the General Services Commission, to purchase goods and any services reasonably required for the installation, operation, or maintenance of the goods. This subsection does not apply to services provided by firefighters, police officers, or emergency medical personnel.

(c) A local government that purchases goods and services under this section satisfies the requirement of the local government to seek competitive bids for the purchase of the goods and services.

(d) In this section, "council of governments" means a regional planning commission created under Chapter 391, Local Government Code.

## Get Started Now

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

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