

DJE BIDDING / PURCHASING PROCEDURES

The Superintendent shall be responsible for all purchasing, contracting, competitive bidding, and receiving and processing of all bid protests, in accordance with the Arizona school district procurement rules, including A.A.C. [R7-2-1141](#) *et seq.* A contract shall not be awarded to an entity that does not verify employment eligibility of each employee through the E-verify program in compliance with A.R.S. [23-214](#) subsection A. Each contract shall contain the warranties required by A.R.S. [41-4401](#) relative to the E-verify requirements.

The Superintendent shall ensure that all aspects of bidding and purchasing procedures conform to federal and state laws, rules and regulations. Administrative regulations shall be established to assure the District is in full compliance, including contracting with small and minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms. (2 C.F.R. 200.321).

Purchases Not Requiring Bidding

Purchases of less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) may be made at the discretion of the Superintendent. Such procurements are not subject to competitive purchasing requirements, however reasonable judgment should be used to ensure the purchases are advantageous to the District.

Written price quotations will be requested from at least three (3) vendors for transactions of at least ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) and less than the current bid threshold per A.R.S. [15-213](#) and [41-2535](#). If three (3) written price quotations cannot be obtained, documentation showing the vendors contacted that did not offer written price quotations, or explaining why written price quotations were not obtained, shall be maintained on file in the District office.

The District is not required to engage in competitive bidding in order to place a student in a private school that provides special education services if such placement is prescribed in the student's individualized education program and the private school has been approved by the Department of Education Division of Special Education pursuant to A.R.S. [15-765](#). The placement is not subject to rules adopted by the State Board of Education before November 24, 2009 pursuant to A.R.S. [15-213](#).

The District may, without competitive bidding, purchase or contract for any products, materials and services directly from Arizona Industries for the Blind, certified nonprofit agencies that serve individuals with disabilities and Arizona Correctional Industries if the delivery and quality of the goods, materials or services meet the District's reasonable requirements.

Intergovernmental agreements and contracts between school districts or between the District and other governing bodies as provided in A.R.S. [11-952](#) are exempt from competitive bidding under the procurement rules adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to A.R.S. [15-213](#).

The District is not required to engage in competitive bidding to make a decision to participate in insurance programs authorized by A.R.S. [15-382](#).

The District is not required to obtain bid security for the construction- manager-at-risk method of project delivery.

Unless otherwise provided by law, contracts for materials or services and contracts for job-order-contracting construction services may be entered into if the duration of the contract and the conditions of renewal or extension, if any, are included in the invitation for bids or the request for proposals and if monies are available for the first fiscal period at the time the contract is executed. The duration of contracts for materials or services and contracts for job-order-contracting construction services shall be limited to no more than five (5) years unless the Board determines that a contract of longer duration would be advantageous to the District. Once determined, the decision should be memorialized in meeting minutes and in the contract/bid file. Payment and performance obligations for succeeding fiscal periods are subject to the availability and appropriation of monies. The maximum dollar amount of an individual job order for a job-order-contracting construction service shall be one million dollars (\$1,000,000) or as determined by the Board.

Online Bidding

Until such time as the State Board of Education adopts rules for the procurement of goods and information services by school districts and charter schools using electronic, online bidding, the District may procure goods and information services pursuant to A.R.S. [41-2671](#) through [2673](#) using the rules adopted by the Department of Administration in implementing [41-2671](#) through [2673](#).

Purchases Requiring Bidding

Sealed bids and proposals shall be requested for transactions to purchase construction, materials, or services costing more than the current bid threshold per A.R.S. [15-213](#) and [41-2535](#). All transactions must comply with the requirements of the Arizona Administrative Code and the Uniform System of Financial Records.

Public Inspection and Rationale for Awarding a Contract

The Governing Board shall make available, for public inspection, all information, all bids, proposals and qualifications submitted, and all findings and other information considered in determining whose bid conforms to the District's invitation for bids. Documentation provided will include information regarding the most advantageous, with respect to price, conformity to the specifications, and other factors, or whose proposal for qualifications are to be used to select and

award the bid. Included in this information will be the rationale for awarding a contract for any specified professional services, construction, construction service or materials to an entity selected from a qualified select bidders list or through a school purchasing cooperative. The invitation for bids, request for proposals or request for qualifications shall include a notice that all information and bids, proposals and qualifications submitted will be made available for public inspection after Governing Board Award.

Registered Sex Offender Prohibition

All purchase orders, agreements to purchase, and contracts for services to be provided by personnel other than District employees must include the following statement on the document:

Registered Sex Offender Restriction. Pursuant to this order, the named vendor agrees by acceptance of this order that no employee or subcontractor of the vendor, who is required to register as a sex offender, pursuant to A.R.S. [13-3821](#), will perform work on District premises or equipment at any time when District students are, or are reasonably expected to be, present. The vendor further agrees by acceptance of this order that a violation of this condition shall be considered a material breach and may result in a cancellation of the order at the District's discretion.

LEGAL -REF.:

A.R.S.

[11-952](#)

[15-213](#)

[15-213.01](#)

[15-213.02](#)

[15-239](#)

[15-323](#)

[15-342](#)

[15-382](#)

[15-765](#)

[15-910.02](#)

[23-214](#)

[34-101](#) et seq.

[35-391](#) et seq.

[35-393](#) et seq.

[38-503](#)

[38-511](#)

[39-121](#)

[41-2632](#)

[41-2636](#)

[41-4401](#)

A.A.C.

[R7-2-1001](#) et seq.

A.G.O.
I83-136
I87-035
I06-002
USFR: VI-G-8 *et seq.*
2 C.F.R. 200.321

CROSS REF.:

[BCB](#) - Board Member Conflict of Interest

[DJ](#) - Purchasing

[DJG](#) - Vendor/Contractor Relations

[GBEAA](#) - Staff Conflict of Interest

[JLIF](#) - Sex Offender Notification

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EXHIBIT

BIDDING / PURCHASING PROCEDURES

Cancellation of Contracts

Within three (3) years after the execution of any contract made by the District, the District may cancel such contract if any person significantly involved in initiating, negotiating, securing, drafting, or creating the contract on behalf of the District is, at any time while the contract or any extension of the contract is in effect, an employee or agent of any other party to the contract in any capacity or a consultant to any other party of the contract with respect to the subject matter of the contract.

Such cancellation by the District shall be effective when written notice from the Board is received by all other parties to the contract unless the notice specifies a later time.

In addition to the right to cancel a contract, as provided above, the District may recoup any fee or commission paid or due any person significantly involved in initiating, negotiating, securing, drafting, or creating the contract on behalf of the District from any other party to the contract arising as the result of the contract.

Notice of this provision shall be included in every contract to which the District is a party. Such notice could read:

In accordance with A.R.S. [38-511](#), if a person significantly involved in a District contract becomes an employee, agent, or consultant to any other party of the contract with respect to the subject matter of the contract, the District may cancel the contract within three (3) years of execution and recoup any fee or commission paid to such person.

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REGULATION

BIDDING / PURCHASING PROCEDURES

All District purchases shall be in accordance with the relevant sections of the Arizona Revised Statutes (including, but not limited to [15-213](#), [15-323](#), and [38-503](#)), the Arizona school district procurement rules set out in A.A.C. [R7-2-1001](#) through [1195](#), and with the following.

Requesting Quotations

Requests for price quotations are to include adequate details and be issued with sufficient lead time to enable vendors to effectively respond. When a contract is to be awarded on the basis of price and additional factors those factors are to be included in the request for quotations. Such factors should include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. Submittal requirements including:
 1. Date and time due;
 2. Type and manner by which quotations may be received (e.g., telephone, written, fax, e-mail, prepared form);
 3. Physical or digital address to which quotations are to be delivered.
- B. Specific information the quotation must include.
- C. Whether or not negotiations may be held.
- D. Options that may be made pursuant to a purchase contract, i.e., extensions and renewals.
- E. Contracts for job-order-contracting services shall be limited to no more than five (5) years unless the Board determines that a contract of longer duration would be advantageous to the District and has provided for such duration as a part of bid documents and conditions of renewal or extension within contract language. Such determination should be memorialized in writing and kept in the meeting minutes and contract/bid file.
- F. Uniform terms and conditions included in the request by text or reference.
- G. Such additional terms, conditions, and instructions as are applicable to the purchase under consideration.

All requests for written quotations shall be at the direction of the Superintendent or a person designated by the Superintendent.

When a vendor is selected on the basis of factors other than lowest price, the reasons shall be documented and filed with the price quotations. Documentation of the quotations process and details including vendor names, persons contacted, telephone numbers and identification of other communication procedures, price results, and determinations are to be documented and retained by the District in a procurement file that includes the pertinent requisition form and purchase order.

A written contract or purchase order must be approved prior to a purchase being made.

Cumulative and Like Item Purchases

An analysis shall be performed annually to determine the extent of the District need to purchase like items. Prior year purchases and applicable demographic, program, and planning data are to be utilized for projecting quantity and cost of like items to fulfill the anticipated need. The outcomes of calculating the projected quantity and cost factors to acquire like items shall inform the determinations as to the appropriate procurement processes to be applied. The proper competitive purchasing strategies must be applied to assure District compliance with the procurement laws and rules. Splitting of orders or other purchasing practices devised to circumvent allowable procurement practices are prohibited. The cumulative costs of purchasing like items by any and all means of acquisition are to be tracked to assure that no purchases are permitted that will result in violation of Governing Board policies and lawful procurement practices.

Multiple Year Purchases Under Bid Threshold

The District may enter into contracts of less than the current bid threshold per A.R.S. [41-2534](#) and [15-213](#) for a period up to five (5) years, as follows:

- A. When the terms and conditions of renewal or extension are included in the solicitation for bids;
- B. When monies are available for the first fiscal year at the time of contracting;
- C. When the competitive purchasing method is appropriate to the projected cumulative cost over the term of the multiple year contract.

Multiple Year Purchases Over Bid Threshold

The District may enter into contracts for more than the current bid threshold for a period up to five (5) years, as follows:

- A. The Governing Board has determined in writing that:

1. The estimated requirements cover the contract period and are reasonable and continuing;
2. A multi-term contract will serve the District's best interest by encouraging competition or promoting economies in procurement;
3. If monies are not appropriated or available in future years the contract will be cancelled.

If multiple-year quotations are used, the District shall:

- A. Document the time period that the pricing is valid;
- B. Determine the vendor will honor the pricing for the multi-year period;
- C. Secure and maintain written affirmation with the vendor that, although it is the District's intent to purchase certain quantities, all purchases are subject to the availability of funds.

Multiple Awards to More Than One Contractor

Generally, the District should not use multiple awards allowing more than one (1) vendor to supply the same goods or service. However, there are instances in which the District may make multiple awards. If that instance arises, the request for proposals or invitation for bids should clearly state whether multiple awards may be used so bidders can consider that information when pricing their proposals or bids.

A multiple award to more than one (1) vendor should be made only when the District has determined and documented in writing that a single award is not advantageous to the District. The award should also be limited to the least number of suppliers necessary to meet the District's requirements.

Bidding Methods

Sealed bids or proposals will be requested when an award is to be made for a transaction to purchase construction, materials, or services costing more than the current bid threshold per A.R.S. [15-213](#) and [41-2534](#). The Superintendent must review the expenditure and make a recommendation to the Board for final action. The Board reserves the right to waive any informality in, or reject, any or all bids or any part of any bid. Any bid may be withdrawn prior to the scheduled time for the opening of bids.

The bidder to whom the award is made may be required to enter into a written contract with the District.

Pursuant to the procurement code, contracts can be let for a period not to exceed five (5) years.

Definitions

The definition of a term used in this regulation shall be interpreted as being synonymous with the definition of that term listed at [R7-2-1001](#).

Prospective Bidders' Lists

The District shall compile and maintain a prospective bidders' list. Inclusion of the name of a person shall not indicate whether the person is responsible concerning a particular procurement or otherwise capable of successfully performing a District contract.

Persons desiring to be included on the prospective bidders' list shall register on the District's e-procurement system at www.azpurchasing.org.

Prospective bidders lists shall be available for public inspection, unless the District makes a written determination that it is in the best interest of the District that they should be confidential or private and should not be open for inspection pursuant to A.R.S. [39-121](#).

Competitive Sealed Bidding

If the intended procurement is for construction to cost less than one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000), the rules established for the simplified school construction procurement program described at [R7-2-1033](#) may be followed. In all other cases, adequate public notice of the invitation for bids shall be given as provided in [R7-2-1022](#) or as provided in [R7-2-1024](#), which are outlined below, and shall indicate that any bid protest shall be filed with the District representative, who shall be named therein.

If notice is given pursuant to [R7-2-1024](#), notice also may be given as provided in [R7-2-1022](#). If fewer than five (5) prospective bidders are included on the bidders list, the notice must also be given as provided in [R7-2-1022](#). When the invitation for bids is for the procurement of services other than those described in [R7-2-1061](#) through [R7-2-1068](#) and [R7-2-1117](#) through [R7-2-1123](#), Specified Professional Services, notice also shall be given as provided in [R7-2-1022](#).

[R7-2-1022](#):

In the event there are four (4) or less prospective bidders on the bidders' list, the notice shall include publication in the official newspaper of the county within which the school district is located for two (2) publications which are not less than six (6) nor more than ten (10) days apart. The second publication shall not be less than two (2) weeks before bid opening. The time of publication may be altered if deemed necessary pursuant to [R7-2-1024](#).A.

R7-2-1024:

Invitation for bids shall be issued at least fourteen (14) days before the time and date set for bid opening in the invitation for bids unless a shorter time is deemed necessary for a particular procurement as determined by the school district.

The school district shall mail or otherwise furnish invitation for bids or notices of the availability of invitation for bids to all prospective bidders registered with the school district for the specific material, service or construction being bid.

The time and date at which a bid is called due shall be during regular working hours at a regular place of school business or during a public meeting of the Governing Board at its regular meeting place.

Invitations to bid will be sent to all vendors who have requested to bid or who have applied to be placed on a bid list appropriate to the items being sought.

A bid call relating to "construction projects" must describe the nature of the work to be performed and where complete plans, if necessary, may be obtained. Deposits may be required for plans and specifications in good order. A certified check, cashier's check, or surety bond for ten percent (10%) of the bid must accompany each bid, but will be returned to unsuccessful bidders. The successful bidder must present performance and payment bonds for one hundred percent (100%) of the bid within five (5) working days after notification of the award.

Each sealed bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope, addressed to the District, clearly marked on the outside of the envelope, "Sealed Bid for _____." The bids shall be opened publicly and read aloud at the time and place stated in the invitation. Awards shall be made with reasonable promptness to the lowest responsible, qualified vendor, taking into consideration all factors set forth in policy. Price shall not be the sole factor in making the bid award. When out-of-state bidders are not to pay sales/use tax, the amount of such tax shall not be a consideration in determining the low bidder. All proposed contracts for outside professional services in excess of the amount calculated by the State Board of Education and made applicable for the year in which the transaction will occur, may be reviewed by the attorney for the District prior to entering into the contract. The policies relating to outside professional services apply only to services required by law to be placed on bid, and even those policies may be set aside if a state of emergency is declared. If a state of emergency is declared, a memorandum will be issued justifying such a declaration, which will be filed in the District's records.

The use of bidding, contracting, or purchasing specifications that are in any way proprietary to one (1) supplier, distributor, or manufacturer is prohibited unless no other resource is practical for the protection of the public interest.

The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to accept the bid that appears to be in the best interest of the District. The Board reserves the right to waive informalities in any bid or to reject any bid, all bids, or any part of any bid. Any bids may be withdrawn prior to the scheduled time for the opening of the bids. Any bids received after the opening begins shall not be accepted. Opening of bids shall not be delayed to accommodate late bid responses. Submitted bids shall be honored for at least thirty (30) days or as otherwise stated in the invitation. All information relating to a bid shall be retained and made available for public inspection after the bids are awarded, and prospective bidders shall be notified of this in the invitation or specifications relating to the bid call.

Multistep Sealed Bidding

The multistep sealed bidding method may be used if the Governing Board determines that:

- A. Available specifications or purchase descriptions are not sufficiently complete to permit full competition without technical evaluations and discussions to ensure mutual understanding between each bidder and the District;
- B. Definite criteria exist for evaluation of technical offers;
- C. More than one (1) technically qualified source is expected to be available; and
- D. A fixed-price contract will be used.

The District may hold a conference with bidders before submission or at any time during the evaluation of the unpriced technical offers.

The multistep sealed bidding method may not be used for construction contracts.

When the multistep sealed bidding method is determined to be advantageous to the District, the procedures set out in [R7-2-1036](#) and [1037](#) shall be followed.

Competitive Sealed Proposals

If, pursuant to [R7-2-1041](#), the Governing Board determines in writing that the use of competitive sealed bidding is either not practicable or not advantageous to the District, a contract may be entered into by competitive sealed proposals. The Governing Board may make a class determination that it is either not practicable or not advantageous to the District to procure specified types of materials or services by competitive sealed bidding. The competitive sealed proposal method may not be used for construction contracts. The Governing Board may modify or revoke a class determination at any time.

If competitive sealed bidding is neither practicable or advantageous, competitive sealed proposals may be used if it is necessary to:

- A. Use a contract other than a fixed-price type;
- B. Conduct oral or written discussions with offerors concerning technical and price aspects of their proposals;
- C. Afford offerors an opportunity to revise their proposals;
- D. Compare the different price, quality, and contractual factors of the proposals submitted; or
- E. Award a contract in which price is not the determining factor.

Procedures to be applied subsequent to the issuance of an invitation for bids are to be consistent with the requirements set out in [R7-2-1025](#) through [1032](#).

Competitive sealed proposals shall be solicited through a request for proposals. The request for proposals shall set forth those factors listed above for competitive sealed bids that are applicable and shall also state:

- A. The type of services required and a description of the work involved;
- B. The type of contract to be used;
- C. An estimate of the duration the service will be required;
- D. That cost or pricing data is required;
- E. That offerors may designate as proprietary portions of the proposals;
- F. That discussions may be conducted with offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award;
- G. The minimum information that the proposal shall contain;
- H. The closing date and time of receipt of proposals; and
- I. The relative importance of price and other evaluation factors.

Procurement of information systems and telecommunications systems shall include, as criteria in the request for proposal, evaluation factors of the total life cycle cost and application benefits of the information systems or telecommunication systems.

Procurement of earth-moving, material-handling, road maintenance and construction equipment shall include, as criteria in the request for proposal,

evaluation factors of the total life cycle cost including residual value of the earth-moving, material-handling, road maintenance and construction equipment.

A request for proposals shall be issued at least fourteen (14) days before the closing date and time for receipt of proposals unless a shorter time is determined necessary by the District.

Notice of the request for proposals shall be issued in accordance with [R7-2-1022](#).

Before submission of initial proposals, amendments to requests for proposals shall be made in accordance with [R7-2-1026](#). After submission of proposals, amendments may be made in accordance with [R7-2-1036](#)(C).

Specified Professional Services and Construction Services

When the procurement of construction services or services to be provided by certain professionals are under consideration, designated District personnel shall become fully familiar with and informed on the requirements established in Arizona Revised Statutes Title 34. The assigned District personnel are to seek assistance from qualified consultants, attorneys, and bond counsel as is necessary and applicable to the projects being considered, including but not limited to determinations of the training, qualifications, experience, fitness, licensure, prior performance, and bonding of potential providers. Procurement activities, including securing the services of persons to assist District personnel as referenced above shall be in accordance with all relevant requirements prescribed by federal and state law and the rules of federal, state, county, and municipal agencies for the acquisition, performance and reporting of the services being sought and acquired.

Procurement of Services by Certain Other Classes of Providers

The purchase of services to be provided by clergy, certified public accountants, physicians, dentists, and legal counsel shall be as specified in [R7-2-1061](#) through [R7-2-1068](#). The procurement of services by an architect, engineer, land surveyor, assayer, geologist, or landscape architect is to be accomplished in compliance with [R7-2-1117](#) and [1118](#). Procurement procedures related to purchasing services from the professional providers are to conform to [R7-2-1119](#) through [1122](#).

Contract Requirements

Care is to be exercised to assure the District's procurement practices conform to the general contract requirements set out at [R7-2-1068](#) through [1086](#) and the accompanying conditions described in [R7-2-1091](#) through [1093](#).

Preparation of Specifications

Specifications for goods, services, and construction items are to be prepared in the manner prescribed by rules [R7-2-1101](#) through [1105](#).

Construction Procurement Procedures

Preparation for inviting bids for construction and the steps to be followed in the construction procurement process shall be guided by and consistent with [R7-2-1109](#) through [1116](#).

Emergency Purchases

An exception to the above procedures for price competition may be made in the event of an emergency involving the health, safety, or welfare of school personnel or students. In such an emergency, declared by the Superintendent, emergency purchase action may be taken without price competition, if necessary. Even under emergency conditions, price competition should be sought if it will not unacceptably delay the correction of the condition requiring emergency procedures. If emergency purchases are made without price competition, a complete written description of the circumstances pursuant to A.A.C. [R7-2-1055](#) shall be included in the procurement file and maintained in the District office.

Sole-Source Procurements

A contract may be awarded for a material, service, or construction item without competition if the Governing Board determines in writing that there is only one (1) source for the required material, service, or construction item. The District may require the submission of cost or pricing data in connection with an award pursuant to A.A.C. [R7-2-1053](#). Sole-source procurement shall be avoided, except when no reasonable alternative source exists. A copy of the written evidence and determination of the basis for the sole-source procurement shall be retained in the procurement file by the District.

The District shall, to the extent practicable, negotiate with the single supplier a contract advantageous to the District.

Cooperative Purchasing Agreements

Procurements in accordance with intergovernmental agreements and contracts between the District and other governing bodies as authorized by A.R.S. [15-952](#) are exempt from competitive bidding requirements under A.R.S. [15-213](#). Inspection of and payment for materials and services acquired under a cooperative purchasing agreement are the obligation of the District.

Due Diligence

The District is responsible for ensuring that all procurements are done in accordance with school district procurement rules whether the procurement is done independently or through a cooperative purchasing agreement. The District shall develop and follow a clear plan prescribing the purchasing practices to be followed. The plan will describe the elements of internal control and auditing to assure the District's procedures are sufficient to confirm the adequacy of the

procurements practices and that the accountability of all personnel engaged in procurement practices is regularly evaluated and corrective measures taken when necessary. The due diligence activities shall include the use of the applicable sections of the Uniform System of Financial Records (USFR) Compliance Questionnaire for school districts when assessing the quality of the procurements procedures and the competence of the persons performing the procedures. Day-to-day and periodic formal checks of due diligence performance are to be documented and retained in a procurement file.