

CHAPTER 7.00 – BUSINESS SERVICES

PURCHASING	AND	BIDDING
7.70*+		

The following procurement policy statement shall govern all purchasing activities that relate to any aspect of the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs. This statement is meant to provide guidance to our personnel and vendors on acceptable and / or required procurement practices. Our goal is to fully implement all required and recommended procurement rules, regulations and policies set forth in 7 CFR parts 210, 3016 and 3019, and by the State Agency.

The purchasing procedure to be followed shall be determined by the anticipated total annual expenditure on items related to the food service program:

- When the annual total for food service program related items **is less than \$50,000** per year (per procurement event or in aggregate purchases) this organization will follow the informal **Small Purchase Procedure**.
- When the annual total for food service program related items **is greater than \$50,000** per year (per procurement event or in aggregate purchases) this organization will follow the **Formal Competitive Solicitation Procedures**.

Procurement procedures apply to the purchasing of vended meals, equipment, food/groceries, and services (e.g., pest control). The purchasing threshold for public and charter schools is set at \$50,000 by State Board of Education rules.

Small Purchase Procedures

For purchases made below the small purchase threshold, a Small Purchase Procedures will be utilized to purchase necessary goods and services. When Small Purchase Procedures are used, this organization will take the following steps:

- 1) Contact a minimum of three potential vendors
- 2) Document each vendor's quoted price
- 3) Select the company that provides the lowest, most responsive, and responsible bid
- 4) Inform all bidding companies in writing of the final decision made by the sponsor
- 5) Write contract for meal service between the sponsor and the winning bidder.

Formal Competitive Solicitation Procedures

For purchases made in excess of the small purchase threshold, a Formal Competitive Solicitation will be conducted. When Formal Competitive Solicitation Procedures are used, this organization will take the following steps:

- 1) Prepare an IFB or RFP document specifically addressing the items to be procured

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- 2) Publicly announce and advertise the bid/proposal at least **14** calendar days prior to bid opening
 - a. Announcements will include the date, time and location in which bids will be opened
- 3) Determine the most responsive and responsible bid/proposal by using the selection criteria set forth in the bid/proposal document
 - a. Responsive bidders will be those whose bid/proposal conform to all of the terms, conditions and requirements of the IFB/RFP
- 4) Award the contract
 - a. Sponsors should award the contract to the most responsive and responsible bidder based on the criteria set forth in the IFB/RFP
 - b. The sponsor should award the contract at least two weeks before program operations begin
 - c. If a protest is received, it must be handled in accordance with Chapter 120.57(3), Florida Statutes
- 5) Retain all records pertaining to the formal competitive bid process for a period of five years plus the current year

Note: If the bid threshold established in the sponsor's procurement policy statement is less than \$150,000, the smaller bid threshold will govern.

This organization incorporates the following elements into the Procurement Policy Statement, as required by 7 CFR parts 210, 3016 and 3019.

- A. **Competition:** We shall demonstrate our goods and services are procured in an openly competitive manner.
- B. **Comparability:** We recognize for true competition to take place, we must maintain reasonable product specifications to adequately describe the products to be purchased and the volume of planned purchases based upon pre-planned menu cycles.
- C. **Documentation:** We shall maintain for the current year and the preceding three years all menus, production records, invitations to bid, bid results, bid tabulations or any other significant materials that will serve to document our policies and procedures.
- D. **Code of Conduct:** This program shall be governed by the attached Code of Conduct and it shall apply to all personnel, employees, directors, agents, officers, volunteers or any person(s) acting in any capacity concerning the food service procurement program.
- E. **Procurement Review Process:** This procurement plan shall receive an internal program review on an annual basis by a staff person who is not associated with food service

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procurement process. This review shall be summarized in written form and kept with the other required program documentation.

- F. **Contract Administration:** Purchases shall be checked or verified by designated staff to assure that all goods and services are received and prices verified. All invoices and receipts shall be signed, dated, and maintained in the documentation file.

G. **Duties of Food Service Supervisor:** (Optional)

1. To work with staff and clients in developing acceptable menus for breakfast and lunch.
2. To compile market orders or requisitions for purchases which accurately reflect the total quantities of required foods to be ordered per (day, week or month).
3. To place and confirm orders with vendors, or make plans to purchase the required items.
4. To keep program menus up to date by testing and using new products and seeking feedback from staff and clients.
5. To send out bid quotation forms to vendors who have expressed an interest in doing business with the sponsor.
6. To make procurement awards based on the lowest and best vendor's response as determined by quality, availability, service and price.
7. To work with vendors on a fair and equal basis.
8. To develop a list of acceptable brands.(multiple Brands per bid item when possible)
9. To conduct an in-house procurement review once per year using the FDACS instrument to ensure program compliance and to seek guidance or technical assistance when necessary.

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HISTORY:

ADOPTED:
04/10/2017