

Updated February 2023

Dear Prospective Vendor,

Public schools in Texas are required to follow specific guidelines when procuring goods or services. The most efficient method that we follow is by utilizing membership with purchasing cooperatives. The cooperatives to which the district current belongs are listed below:

- Allied States Cooperative/Region 19 Education Service Center Purchasing Cooperative - www.alliedstatescooperative.com / www.esc19.net
- BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing – www.buyboard.com
- Choice Partners/Harris County Dept of Education (HCDE) – www.choicepartners.org
- Central Texas Purchasing Alliance (CTPA) – www.txctpa.org
(An interlocal agreement between multiple school districts who share established contracts)
- E&I Cooperative Services – www.eandi.org
- Educational Purchasing Cooperative of North Texas (EPCNT) – www.epcnt.com
(An interlocal agreement between public school districts, charter schools, and Region Service Centers that reside within the geographical boundaries of Regions 10 and 11 to make accessible awarded bids)
- Equalis Group – www.equalisgroup.org
- GSA Advantage – www.gsaadvantage.gov
- H-GAC (Houston Galveston Area Council) – www.hgacbuy.org
- National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (NCPA) - www.ncpa.us
- OMNIA Partners - www.omniapartners.com
- PEPPM - www.peppm.org
- Region 6 ESC EPIC6 – www.esc6.net/epic6
- Region 7 Education Service Center Purchasing Cooperative – purchasing.esc7.net
- Region 10 ESC Multi-Region Purchasing Cooperative – www.region10.org
- Purchasing Cooperative of America (PCA) – www.pcamerica.org
- Sourcewell - www.sourcewell-mn.gov
- State of Texas TxSmartBuy CO-OP Program – www.txsmartbuy.com
- Tarrant County Cooperative Purchasing Program – www.tarrantcounty.com
- Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) – dir.texas.gov
- TIPS-USA – Region VIII – www.tips-usa.com

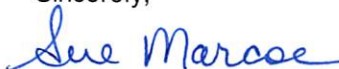
When a vendor has been awarded a contract from one of the above groups, then we may utilize that vendor for purchasing. If a prospective vendor has not been awarded a contract with one of the above groups, we may not utilize that vendor for purchasing unless awarded a bid through a Forney ISD competitive bid process. Certain sole source vendors are exempt from these requirements; however, there are very stringent requirements for consideration as a sole source vendor.

We encourage you to contact one or more of the above groups for a list of pending bids. In the event that you have received an award through a different public purchasing group or cooperative, then please advise us in writing of the name and location of the group for our consideration.

To participate in Forney ISD's bidding process, vendors are required to register in our e-Bidding System. Register at forneyisd.ionwave.net. Registration ensures that prospective vendors are notified of bid opportunities initiated internally by Forney ISD.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with Forney ISD.

Sincerely,



Sue Marcoe
Director of Purchasing & Accounts Payable