

Updated February 2021

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
- 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
- National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (NCPA) - www.ncpa.us
- OMNIA Partners - www.omniapartners.com
- PEPPM - www.peppm.org
- 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.

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

Sincerely,



John Chase
Chief Financial Officer