

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT
Region 8 Education Service Center
PENNSYLVANIA POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

(Public Authorities, educational institutions, area governments, and other local public procurement units)

PENNSYLVANIA POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

_____ - _____

Control Number (TIPS will Assign)

and

Region 8 Education Service Center
Pittsburg, Texas

225 - 950
Region 8 Texas County-District Number

The Texas Education Code §8.002 permits Regional Education Service Centers, at the direction of the Commissioner of Education, to provide services to assist school districts, colleges, and universities in improving student performance and increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of school, college and university financial operations.

Government Authority:

Authority for TIPS procurement is granted under Title 62, Chapter 19 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes which allows Pennsylvania Public Procurement Units, including political subdivisions and any other entity which expends public funds for the procurement of supplies, services, and construction, to participate in a cooperative purchasing agreement for the procurement of any supplies, services or constructions with an External Procurement Activity. TIPS qualifies as an External Procurement Activity because it is a buying organization not located in Pennsylvania, which if located in Pennsylvania would qualify as a Public Procurement Unit. Depending on the context, Texas statutes define Texas Regional Education Service Centers as both Political Subdivisions of Texas¹ and as Unit of State Government.² Furthermore, Title 62, Chapter 19 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes state that a Public Procurement Unit shall be deemed to have complied with its governing procurement requirements for supplies, services, and construction where the External Procurement Activity has complied with its governing procurement requirements.

Therefore, Pennsylvania law provides that Pennsylvania political subdivisions may enter into an agreement with TIPS for cooperative purchasing and that Pennsylvania political subdivisions have statutory authority to contract or agree with a Texas Regional Education Service Center for cooperative purchasing.

Vision:

TIPS will become the premier purchasing cooperative in North America through developing partnerships with quality vendors, school districts, universities, colleges, all governmental entities, and public and private industry.

¹ See TEX. EDUC. CODE § 8.001, et seq.

² See TEX. GOV'T CODE § 2260.001(4).

Purpose:

The purpose of this Agreement shall be to improve procurement process efficiencies and assist in achieving best value for the participating political subdivision through cooperative purchasing.

Duration:

This Agreement is effective immediately and shall be in effect for one (1) year and automatically renews for an additional year annually. The Agreement may be terminated without cause immediately if the Pennsylvania Political Subdivision provides written notice of termination to Region 8 Education Service Center or if Region 8 Education Service Center provides the Pennsylvania Political Subdivision Sixty (60) days prior written notice of termination.

Statement of Services to be Performed:

Region 8 Education Service Center, by this Agreement, agrees to provide cooperative purchasing services to the above-named public entity through a program known as the The Interlocal Purchasing System ("TIPS") Program.

Roles of the TIPS Purchasing Cooperative:

- Provide for the organizational structure of the program.
- Provide staff for efficient operation of the program.
- Promote marketing of the TIPS Program.
- Coordinate the Solicitation Process for all Vendor Awarded Contracts.
- Provide members with procedures for placing orders through TIPS PO System.
- Maintain filing system for Due Diligence Documentation.
- Collect fees from vendors as the method of financing this undertaking and supporting the operational costs of TIPS.

Role of the Public Entity:

- Commit to participate in the program by an authorized signature on membership forms.
- Designate a Primary Contact and Secondary Contact for entity.
- Commit to purchase products and services from TIPS Vendors when in the best interest of the entity.
- Submit Purchase Orders and/or Vendor Contracts through the TIPS PO System by emailing the pdf document to tipspo@tips-usa.com.
- Accept shipments of products ordered from Awarded Vendors.
- Process Payments to Awarded Vendors in a timely manner.

General Provisions:

The Parties agree to comply fully with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes, ordinances, rules, and regulations in connection with the programs contemplated under this Agreement. This Agreement is subject to all applicable present and future valid laws governing such programs.

No joint agency or joint real property ownership is created by this Agreement.

This Agreement shall be governed by the law of the State of Texas and venue shall be in the county in which the administrative offices of RESC 8 are located which is Camp County, Texas.

This Agreement contains the entire agreement of the Parties hereto with respect to the matters covered by its terms, and it may not be modified in any manner without the express written consent of the Parties.

If any term(s) or provision(s) of this Agreement are held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, the remainder of the provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

The Parties to this Agreement expressly acknowledge and agree that all monies paid pursuant to this Agreement shall be paid from legally appropriated and budgeted available funds for the current fiscal year of each such entity.

Before any party may resort to litigation, any claims, disputes or other matters in question between the Parties to this Agreement shall be submitted to nonbinding mediation. The site of the mediation shall be in Camp County, Texas or a site mutually agreed by the parties. The selection of the mediator shall be mutually agreed. The cost of mediation shall be shared equally.

No Party to this Agreement waives or relinquishes any immunity or defense on behalf of themselves, their directors, officers, employees, and agents as a result of its execution of this Agreement and performance of the functions and obligations described herein.

This Agreement may be negotiated and transmitted between the Parties by electronic means and the terms and conditions agreed to are binding upon the Parties.

Authorization:

Region 8 Education Service Center and The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS) Program have entered into an Agreement to provide cooperative purchasing opportunities to entities as outlined above through awarded vendor agreements procured by public solicitation in accordance with applicable Texas statutes.

This Interlocal Agreement process was approved by the governing boards of the respective parties at meetings that were posted and held in accordance with the respective state.

The individuals signing below are authorized to do so by the respective parties to this Agreement.

Membership Entity-

Region 8 Education Service Center

By: _____

Authorized Signature

By: _____

Authorized Signature

Title: _____

Title: Executive Director, Texas Region 8 ESC

Date _____

Date _____

Public Entity Contact Information

Primary Purchasing Person's Name

Primary Person's Email Address

Entity Address

City

State

Zip

Secondary Person's Name

Secondary Person's Email Address

Entity Phone Number

Entity Fax Number