

Policy BF-PGS-PO1

Best Value Procurement

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I. **General**

- A. Section 51.9335, [Education Code](#), authorizes institutions of higher education to use 'best value' procurement processes which provide greater autonomy and flexibility in the procurement of goods and services. This policy provides guidelines for 'best value' procurement.
- B. This policy impacts all employees who participate to any extent in the procurement of goods and services, including but not limited to accumulation of information, preparation of solicitation and related procurement documentation, and selection of goods or service providers.

II. **Policy Regarding Best Value Procurement**

- A. The University shall conduct all procurement activities in a manner which assures that each procurement of goods or services provides 'best value' to the institution. 'Best value' means the optimum combination of economy and quality that is the result of fair, efficient and practical procurement decision-making and which achieves the institution's procurement objectives. Each procurement of goods or services shall be made using a method which results in 'best value' to the institution, including but not limited to:

- 1. competitive biddings;
- 2. competitive sealed proposals;
- 3. catalogue purchase (i.e. qualified information system vendor [QISV] catalogue (ref. Chapter 2157, Government Code); or
- 4. group purchasing programs;

and shall be awarded based on those criteria which provide 'best value' to the institution. The procurement methods and selection criteria used in the solicitation and award of procurement transactions shall be determined by this institution's Office of Procurement Services in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations, the Regents' [Rules and Regulations](#), and best procurement practices.

- B. All procurements shall be made in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations, the Regents' *Rules and Regulations* and best procurement practices. Subject to the approval of the UT System Office of Academic or Health Affairs and Office of General Counsel and this institution's chief business officer, the institution's Office of Procurement Services shall establish and implement detailed procedures and guidelines for the solicitation and award of all procurements of goods and services to ensure compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations, the Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, and best procurement practices.
- C. All questions concerning this policy should be directed to the Office of Procurement Services.

References:

[Education Code](#), Section 51.9335

UT System Regents' [Rules and Regulations](#), Rule 20901

UT Arlington Fiscal Procedures, Procurement Services