

TEA 2020-2021 Approval of Region One ESC Request for Noncompetitive Procurement



Background

- ESCs are required under TEC Section 8.002 to (1) assist school districts in improving student performance, (2) enable school districts to operate more efficiently and economically, and (3) implement initiatives assigned by the legislature or the commissioner.
- November 30, 2017 TEA issued a News Bulletin: [*TEA Policy Under Federal Regulations*](#)
- Outlined more flexible options LEA's have to procure services with federal funds from ESCs under EDGAR regulations



2. TEA Authorizing ESC Services as Noncompetitive

- [2 CFR 200.320\(f\)\(3\)](#) allows TEA, as the pass-through entity, to authorize noncompetitive proposals in response to a written request, including contracted services from ESCs to LEAs

Option 2B

- Region One ESC requested, and received, authorization from TEA for all products and services to be considered a noncompetitive procurement proposal



DATE:	June 30, 2020
SUBJECT:	TEA Response to EDGAR Special Request for Federal Grant Program(s)
CATEGORY:	Action Required
NEXT STEPS:	Maintain as Documentation Proceed Accordingly with Grant Expenditures

Thank you for following TEA's procedures to request specific prior approval of various federal EDGAR grant requirements under Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations (2 CFR) 200.

Attached you will find my decision after careful review of your recent request. Please provide this information to both the program staff and the finance staff within your organization and maintain the attached signed form locally for audit and monitoring documentation.

The attached instruction document provides additional information on next steps. For questions, contact my staff at GrantSupport@tea.texas.gov.

Sincerely,



Cory Green, Associate Commissioner
Grant Compliance and Administration

C: Mike Meyer, Deputy Commissioner of Finance
Christina Villarreal, Senior Director of Grants Administration



Complete and submit this form to request prior approval for a noncompetitive procurement that is not a sole-source proposal. Limit one proposal per form.

Completion and submission of this form satisfies the requirement in 2 CFR 200.320(f).

Name of Federal Grant County-District Number

Name of Grantee

Description of Request

Describe the proposed noncompetitive procurement.

Products and services from Region One ESC to other ESCs and LEA's for the 2020-2021 school year.

Do you have a sole-source verification letter from the proposed vendor? Yes No

Provide a rationale for why TEA should allow this procurement as a noncompetitive procurement. Additional information may be attached. Additional information may be requested by TEA.

2 C.F.R. 200.320(f)(3) allows TEA, as the pass through entity, to authorize non-competitive proposals in response to a written request, including contracted services from ESC's to LEA's and/or other ESC's.

Region One Education Service Center is requesting, on behalf of all LEA's, authorization from TEA for all 2020-2021 products and services provided by Region One ESC to be considered noncompetitive procurements for LEA's.

Region One Education Service Center is requesting, on behalf of all ESC's, authorization from TEA for all 2020-2021 products and services provided by Region One ESC to be considered noncompetitive procurements for ESC's.

Certification

Name and Title of Authorized Official

Signature of Authorized Official and Date *Dr. Cornelio Gonzalez*

This form must be signed by the authorized official.

Email this signed form to TEA's Department of Contracts, Grants and Financial Administration (CGFA) at GrantSupport@tea.texas.gov.

For TEA Use

Request for prior written approval is approved as requested.

Request for prior written approval is approved with the following changes:

Request for prior written approval is denied.

Signature of CGFA Associate Commissioner and Date *CJPM* 06/25/2020



What does this mean?

- Allows LEA's the option to efficiently utilize programs and services offered by Region One ESC while complying with EDGAR regulations
- Provides Region One ESC the ability to:
 - Efficiently meet the needs of our LEA's
 - Carryout the objectives set forth in TEC §8.002
 - Assist TEA in meeting their current strategic plan and priorities



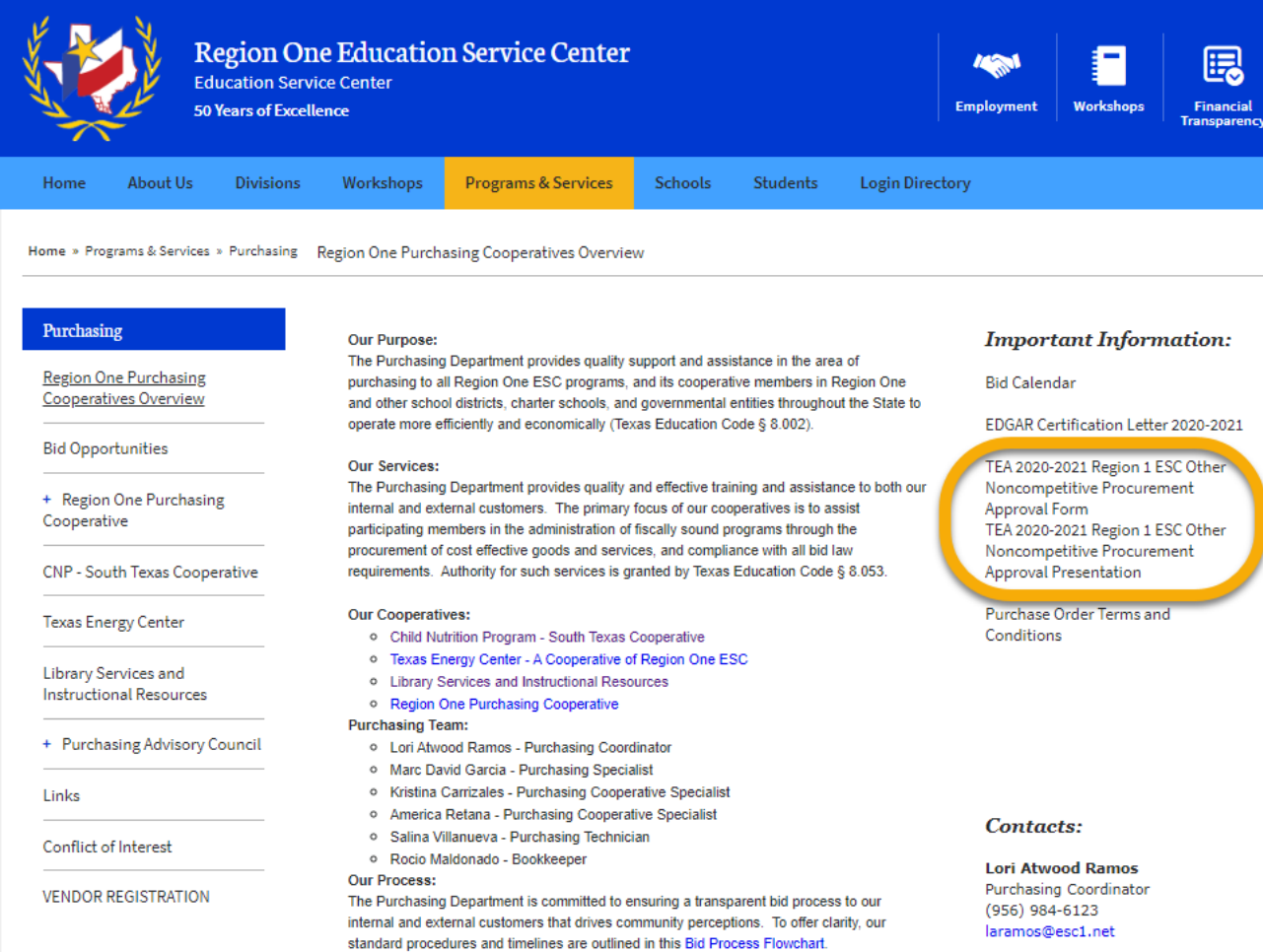
What can I do?

- Consider Region One ESC's products and services to meet your district's needs, and use the attached TEA authorization letter as part of your backup documentation to support a ***noncompetitive procurement method*** for the 2020-2021 school year, as applicable.
 - Does not require a competitive bid solicitation
 - Still requires documentation to ensure the purchase is reasonable, allowable, necessary and allocable (RANA)



Where can I find this information?

- You can find the TEA's approval of Region One ESC's request for Other Noncompetitive Procurement form and this presentation on the Region One ESC website under Important Information on the [Purchasing webpage](#):



Region One Education Service Center
Education Service Center
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Purchasing

[Region One Purchasing Cooperatives Overview](#)

Bid Opportunities

+ [Region One Purchasing Cooperative](#)

[CNP - South Texas Cooperative](#)

[Texas Energy Center](#)

[Library Services and Instructional Resources](#)

+ [Purchasing Advisory Council](#)

[Links](#)

[Conflict of Interest](#)

[VENDOR REGISTRATION](#)

Our Purpose:
The Purchasing Department provides quality support and assistance in the area of purchasing to all Region One ESC programs, and its cooperative members in Region One and other school districts, charter schools, and governmental entities throughout the State to operate more efficiently and economically (Texas Education Code § 8.002).

Our Services:
The Purchasing Department provides quality and effective training and assistance to both our internal and external customers. The primary focus of our cooperatives is to assist participating members in the administration of fiscally sound programs through the procurement of cost effective goods and services, and compliance with all bid law requirements. Authority for such services is granted by Texas Education Code § 8.053.

Our Cooperatives:

- Child Nutrition Program - South Texas Cooperative
- [Texas Energy Center - A Cooperative of Region One ESC](#)
- Library Services and Instructional Resources
- [Region One Purchasing Cooperative](#)

Purchasing Team:

- Lori Atwood Ramos - Purchasing Coordinator
- Marc David Garcia - Purchasing Specialist
- Kristina Carrizales - Purchasing Cooperative Specialist
- America Retana - Purchasing Cooperative Specialist
- Salina Villanueva - Purchasing Technician
- Rocio Maldonado - Bookkeeper

Our Process:
The Purchasing Department is committed to ensuring a transparent bid process to our internal and external customers that drives community perceptions. To offer clarity, our standard procedures and timelines are outlined in this [Bid Process Flowchart](#).

Important Information:

[Bid Calendar](#)

[EDGAR Certification Letter 2020-2021](#)

[TEA 2020-2021 Region 1 ESC Other Noncompetitive Procurement Approval Form](#)

[TEA 2020-2021 Region 1 ESC Other Noncompetitive Procurement Approval Presentation](#)

[Purchase Order Terms and Conditions](#)

Contacts:

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Purchasing Coordinator
(956) 984-6123
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What about next school year?

- Region One ESC will request a non-competitive procurement authorization approval from TEA for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Information will be disseminated via the various advisory councils and leadership networks.



