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Rhode Island Inter-local Cooperation Act

R.I. Gen Laws § 45-40-1 et seq.

NOTES

- **May purchase along with any federal agency or any state or subdivision.** Note that AG review and approval is necessary. Some examples of approved organizations:
 - USA Communities
 - Association of Educational Purchasing Agencies
 - US General Services Administration
 - National Intergovernmental Purchasing Alliance
 - National Joint Purchasing Alliance
 - Rhode Island Energy Aggregation Program (League of Cities & Towns)
 - The Cooperative Purchasing Network
 - Western State Contracting Alliance

- **Sequence for approval of a cooperative or joint purchasing arrangement.**

When utilizing cooperative purchasing arrangements enabled by R.I. Gen Laws §§ 45-40.1-1 et seq, the School Administration should follow the below sequence prior to engaging in such purchases:

1. Review Charter and School Committee bylaws for policy or ordinance prohibiting use of this statute.
2. Make sure a policy is in place to utilize the statute for collaborative bidding.
3. Identify appropriate cooperative purchasing entities with respect to purchasing needs of the District.

4. Seek written approval from the Superintendent of Schools, the Business Manager, School Committee.
 5. Prior to the School committee granting its approval, it should be provided with information related to the following:
 - a. The intended uses for the cooperative purchasing arrangement.
 - b. Reasonable assurances that the pricing provided through the cooperative arrangement are intended to maximize the purchasing value of public funds in procurement of goods and services.
 6. Any approved cooperative entity and agreement shall then be submitted to the Attorney General's Office pursuant to R.I. Gen Laws § 45-40.1-4 (f) (as applicable).
 7. The agreement is then be filed with the keeper of the local public records and with the R.I. Secretary of State.
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