



## ONE-STOP SHOP FOR PROCUREMENT

### WHAT BUYBOARD® CAN DO FOR YOU

Combining the purchase power of local governments provides members—big and small—the leverage to achieve better pricing on products, equipment, and services they use every day. There is power in numbers, and BuyBoard has delivered the vast economies of scale in purchasing products and services to members since 1998.

### VALUE AND CHOICE

With a wide range of contracts available, members will find almost everything needed to support their organization. The BuyBoard philosophy has always been that members know best which products they need, and the choice of vendor is their decision to make.

### MEMBER GOVERNED

The Cooperative is governed by an eight-member board of directors representing members from different parts of the country. The board's only function is to govern the Cooperative and award all the contracts directly with no delegation of authority to staff.

### EFFICIENCY AND COST SAVINGS

Because the competitive procurement process has been completed, members save time and resources that would have been spent preparing and conducting a formal RFP. Cost savings can be achieved through the competitive price of the product and the reduction of internal administrative time and effort.

### COMPLIANCE AND TRANSPARENCY

BuyBoard contracts have already been through a competitive procurement process, saving members the time and cost of preparing RFPs and bids. In many states, a purchasing cooperative enables public entities governed by competitive bidding requirements to take advantage of proposals awarded by a cooperative.

This provides members compliance with local and state procurement requirements and a documented audit trail. Transparency in the procurement process is treated with a high degree of focus and is of paramount importance. All vendors are treated on equal terms and are on the same plane of competition.

### REQUEST FOR QUOTES (RFQ) APPLICATION

BuyBoard's RFQ functionality allows members to request pricing on volume needs from multiple vendors. This convenient and efficient process can be finalized in a matter of days, versus weeks or months, for a typical formal bid/proposal.

### SUPPORT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

BuyBoard was created to support and serve public schools, municipalities, counties, and all types of local government agencies and nonprofits. That support and service is evidenced in the list of organizations that sponsor the BuyBoard and in turn support their respective membership. Purchasing through the BuyBoard means your agency is helping to support the statewide organizations that support you.



Contact David Ricketts to see how the  
BuyBoard can help you save money!  
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## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What California laws govern the use of cooperative contracts or 'piggybacking'?**

**A:** California law allows for the use of cooperative contracts as an alternative to a competitive bidding process under CHAPTER 5. Joint Exercise of Powers [6500 - 6599.3].

### **Does the BuyBoard meet the definition of a Public (Lead) Agency in California?**

**A: Yes.** Under California § 6500, as used in this article, "public agency" includes, but is not limited to, the federal government or any federal department or agency, this state, another state or any state department or agency, a county, county board of education, county superintendent of schools, city, public corporation, public district, regional transportation commission of this state or another state, or any joint powers authority formed pursuant to this article by any of these agencies. The National Purchasing Cooperative (BuyBoard) is a public agency created in accordance with Maryland state statutes, MD. Code Ann., State Fin. & Proc. §13-110 (West 2009). Its purpose is to obtain the benefits and efficiencies that can accrue to members of a cooperative, to comply with state bidding requirements, and to identify qualified vendors of commodities, goods and services.

### **What does it cost to become a BuyBoard member?**

**A:** There is no cost to join or use any of the contracts and is open to all types of local government agencies as well as non-profits. Revenue to operate the BuyBoard comes from a small service fee payable by participating contracted vendors and is generated only when a member makes a purchase.

### **How do I order products through the BuyBoard?**

**A:** All awarded items, services or catalogs will be posted on the BuyBoard website, so that cooperative members can search for and select items. The steps for making a purchase are listed below:

1. Select an Awarded BuyBoard Vendor
2. Request a Quote per the BuyBoard Contract
3. Issue and send the PO to the Vendor and List Contract Number
4. Email copy of the PO to [info@buyboard.com](mailto:info@buyboard.com)

### **How do I join and who should I reach out to if I have further questions?**

**A:** Membership is super easy. You can go to the [BuyBoard](http://BuyBoard) website, click on the National Tab and then "How to Join".

For questions - You can reach out to your BuyBoard contact, David Ricketts ([david.ricketts@buyboard.com](mailto:david.ricketts@buyboard.com)) at (913) 424-5758 for assistance or questions