

Procurement for Sponsored Projects

The purchase of supplies and equipment represent two major procurement categories for institutions of higher education. All awards that involve procurement of supplies and services must use one of the following methods described in 2 CFR 200.320, and abide by the guidelines described therein. In most situations described below, the University's Purchasing and Contracts Policies and Procedures have more stringent competitive procurement requirements. In those instances, the University's Policies and Procedures must be followed.*

- (a) Procurement by **micro-purchases** is the acquisition of supplies or services, the aggregate dollar amount of which does not to exceed the micro-purchase threshold of \$10,000 (OMB A-81, Federal Acquisition Regulations 48 CFR Subpart 2.1).
- (b) Procurement by **small purchases** are for those relatively simple and informal procurement methods for securing services, supplies, or other property that do not cost more than the Simple Acquisition Threshold of \$150,000 per Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) referenced at 48 CFR Subpart 2.1.
- (c) Procurement by **sealed bids** (formal advertising) for procurements that exceed the Small Purchase Threshold of \$150,000. The award is made to the responsible bidder whose bid, conforming with all the material terms and conditions of the bid invitation for bids, is the lowest in price. This is the preferred method for procuring construction if the conditions in 2 CFR 200.320 (c)(1) apply.
- (d) Procurement by **competitive proposals** for procurements that exceed the Small Purchase Threshold of \$150,000. The award is made to the bidder who provides the most advantage to the program with price and other factors considered.
- (e) Procurement by **non-competitive proposals (Sole Source)** for procurements from only a single source and exceed the Small Purchase Threshold of \$150,000.

Section 2CFR200, 317-326, of the Government's Regulatory information covers issues in purchasing. Use the following links below for more details, or to find the full list on [the GPO website](#).

- [Section 200.317 - Procurements by states](#)
- [Section 200.326 - Contract provisions](#)
- [Section 200.325 - Bonding requirements](#)
- [Section 200.324 - Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity review](#)
- [Section 200.323 - Contract cost and price](#)
- [Section 200.322 - Procurement of recovered materials](#)
- [Section 200.321 - Contracting with small and minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms](#)
- [Section 200.320 - Methods of procurement to be followed](#)
- [Section 200.319 - Competition](#)
- [Section 200.318 - General procurement standards](#)

***Contact the TTU Purchasing Department for additional information and guidance on matters related to purchasing, or visit the website at the link: <https://www.tntech.edu/planning-and-finance/purchasing/>**