Proprietary Purchases

Original Implementation: September, 1979
Last Revision: January 28, 2014

A proprietary situation occurs when competition is not available. When the specification requirement limits consideration to one manufacturer, one product, or one service provider, a written justification must be provided.

A sole product may be available from more than one source and is subject to best value procurement rules.

A sole source is a specific item that is available from only one source.

Along with the purchase requisition the department may be asked to submit a Sole Source/Product Justification Form. On the form only the applicable items must be answered and must provide sufficient explanation to address the following:

1. an explanation of the need for the proprietary specifications; i.e. which part or parts of the stated specification restricts the requisition to one manufacturer or provider; and
2. the reason competing products are not satisfactory.

Justification for proprietary purchases must be signed by the director of procurement and property services/HUB coordinator. Procurement will research the market to determine if the proprietary request is appropriate.

Cross Reference: Purchase Requisition (17.19)

Responsible for Implementation: Vice President for Finance and Administration

Contact for Revision: Director of Procurement and Property Services/HUB Coordinator

Forms: Purchase Requisition, Sole Source/Product Justification

Board Committee Assignment: Finance and Audit