



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



## Q What is NPPGov?

**A** NPPGov is a national cooperative procurement organization based in Seattle, WA offering publicly solicited contracts to government entities nationwide. Our contracts are created through a public solicitation and award process by a Lead Public Agency. Membership is free and there are no minimum purchasing obligations. NPPGov provides live contract support five days a week with a team dedicated to assisting members through all stages of the procurement process.

## Q How does the program work?

**A** NPPGov uses a Lead Public Agency to publicly solicit and award contracts through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process. Our members are eligible to access these contracts by signing an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the Lead Public Agency, thereby eliminating the need to complete their own RFP process. NPPGov staff and legal counsel facilitate this process and provide necessary documentation and support.

## Q Do I have to be a member?

**A** Yes, membership is required. As a cooperative procurement organization we rely on the strength of our membership to develop competitive contracts. Membership is free and joining is easy.

Eligible organizations include:

- **Government:** State and local, tax districts, K-12 public schools, higher education, etc
- **FireRescue GPO:** Fire agencies, districts, and departments, volunteer, EMS/Ambulance, etc
- **Law Enforcement GPO:** Police/sheriff departments, correctional facilities, emergency management.
- **Non-Profit:** All 501(c) 1-28 organizations that do not receive Medicaid funding.

To become an NPPGov Member:

1. Visit our website: [nppgov.com](http://nppgov.com)
2. Click "Join Now"
3. Complete the registration form and submit.
4. You will receive a welcome call and e-mail confirming your membership within 24-48 hours (usually the same day). The welcome email will include your username, password, and NPPGov member number. Vendor discount information can be accessed using your login credentials to log into [nppgov.com](http://nppgov.com).

## Q Can my entity purchase through NPPGov?

**A** Your state and local procurement laws and policies dictate the ability to use contracts available through NPPGov. In the vast majority of jurisdictions the answer is "yes!" NPPGov staff are available to answer questions about how our contracts are established to help determine eligibility. Virtually all 50 states have statutes in place that specifically allow the use of publicly solicited contracts even if the contract was created in another state. More information about state statutes can be found on our website ([www.nppgov.com/procurement-solutions/state-legal-statutes](http://www.nppgov.com/procurement-solutions/state-legal-statutes)). The only other requirement is you must be a member of NPPGov.

## Q What contracts are available through NPPGov?

**A** We have an extensive portfolio including contracts for office supplies and equipment, firefighting and rescue equipment, wireless and data communications, playground equipment, furniture, fire apparatus, tires, agricultural and construction equipment, law enforcement equipment, electric and lighting equipment, medical supplies, unmanned vehicles, safety equipment, MRO products, and more. A complete list of contracts and pricing is available on [nppgov.com](http://nppgov.com). After registering and logging into the website, click on the "Our Vendors" tab.

## Q I have to conduct an RFP process or at least have three quotes. How does NPPGov satisfy this requirement?

**A** NPPGov contracts were created through an RFP process meeting the requirements of all lower and upper purchasing threshold requirements. The process includes local and national print advertising as well as online internet services to post RFP solicitations. By piggybacking off the contract you are eliminating the need to conduct your own solicitation or collect three quotes. It is still your responsibility to verify our contracts meet your state and local requirements but our legal counsel is available for consultation during your analysis.

## Q Where do I find information on the products and price quotes offered through NPPGov contracts?

**A** Our website has a full list of all vendors/contracts as well as products and pricing. Vendors will provide quotes for the items of interest. Some information is only available to members who have logged in to the website: [www.nppgov.com](http://www.nppgov.com)

[more FAQs](#)

## Q What is the difference between NPPGov and other cooperatives?

A We can't speak to how other cooperatives conduct business but we know our members appreciate:

- Responsive customer service, including communications with our legal counsel.
- Our use of separate Lead Public Agencies to conduct RFPs on behalf of our members, which keeps the process fair and unbiased.
- Readily available access to all necessary RFP and contract documentation.
- Our revenue supports our non-profit hospital owners, funding critical healthcare initiatives such as autoimmune disease research.
- Fire/Rescue specific revenue supports the fire service through a revenue sharing program with fire chiefs associations nationwide.

## Q What process validated the product and services offered?

A NPPGov serves as a nationwide channel providing publicly awarded agreements to government entities. Our publicly solicited agreements have been awarded through an RFP issued by a Lead Public Agency. The agency is an independent government entity that carries out the advertising and solicitation procedures required by public contracting law.

NPPGov's contracts are established through the following process:

1. The Lead Public Agency prepares an RFP, incorporating the required cooperative purchasing (piggybacking) language that allows public entities across the nation to utilize the contract.
2. Suppliers respond to the RFP and the Lead Public Agency evaluates and awards the Master Price Agreement(s).
3. Contract documents are posted on our website under the "Our Vendors" tab. NPPGov members can review all documents online and access contract pricing by signing the Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Agreement (IGA).
4. Our public solicitation process is consistent with FEMA/AFG guidelines.

*Please consult your legal counsel for confirmation in your jurisdiction, or contact our legal counsel for further information at 877.329.8847*

## Q Where can I obtain copies of the legal documentation associated with each publicly solicited contract?

A Contracting documents including the RFP, Master Price Agreement, Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA), and Synopsis are available on our website under the vendor page and may be accessed by logging onto the website, [nppgov.com](http://nppgov.com)

## Q What are the terms of the contracts?

A Contract length varies by the public entity that conducted the solicitation but the initial term is typically between two to four years with the option of multi-year extensions.

## Q Do the contracts offer products to meet my organization's specific needs?

A Most contracts offer a full product line and many provide for various options and customized products. Review the specific contract you are interested in for further details. Both the vendor and our staff are available for consultation.

## Q What does it cost to join NPPGov?

A There are no membership fees, no purchasing obligations and no minimum purchasing requirements.

## Q How is NPPGov funded and where does the revenue go?

A We negotiate a small administrative fee with our vendors, which allows us to provide our service free of charge to our members. Revenue from our program goes to our non-profit hospital owners to fund critical healthcare initiatives such as autoimmune disease research.

## Q Where do I send the payments?

A Invoices and payments go directly through the vendor you are working with for the products of interest. NPPGov does not collect any payments from our members for products or services.

## Q How do I learn more about NPPGov?

A For more information about our program please visit our website: [nppgov.com](http://nppgov.com). If you need more information or would rather speak to someone please call or email: 877.329.8847/customer-service@nppgov.com

## NPPGov Programs:



FireRescue GPO is a national cooperative purchasing program offering publicly solicited contracts to fire departments nationwide. Our contracts were created through a public RFP process by a Lead Public Agency.

Membership is free with no purchasing obligations. Negotiated contracts are available for below threshold purchases and individual firefighter discounts. In addition to saving you money, the program generates revenue for the fire chiefs association where the purchase was made including the IAFC, IAFC Division Association and State Chief Associations.

*Those eligible for this program include: fire/rescue and EMS departments along with their members (including city, county, districts, state and federal).*



Law Enforcement GPO was created as a program of NPPGov to meet the procurement needs of the law enforcement community. Members have access to a broad range of publicly solicited contracts with discounted pricing and a customer service department that is dedicated to assist through all stages of the purchasing process.

*Those eligible for this program include: law enforcement agencies, sheriff departments, correctional facilities, emergency communications, and emergency management agencies and their employees.*