



Agenda Item: Discuss and Consider Approval Of Resolution And Application To Renew Membership In The Texas SmartBuy Purchasing Cooperative

Background: Government procurement can be a tedious process filled with red tape. Depending on the amount of the needed procurement, bid solicitation may be required, and if the procurement is \$50,000 or more, competitive bidding is required by state law. To become more efficient and streamline the process, the Park Board is a member of several purchasing cooperatives.

The purpose of purchasing cooperatives is to aggregate demand to get lower process from selected vendors and to simplify the procurement process. Purchasing Cooperatives are used frequently by governmental entities, since they are required to follow laws requiring competitive bidding above certain thresholds. This allows local and state governments to legally use contracts that were procured by another governmental entity without having to go through the bidding process. This saves time and money.

Created by legislation in 1979, the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts' (CPA) Texas SmartBuy Membership Program offers members a unique opportunity to make the most of their purchasing dollars and efforts by using the State of Texas volume buying power.

Texas SmartBuy membership is \$100 per year. To apply for membership, staff is seeking approval of the Texas SmartBuy Application and Resolution.

Funding Source: GF-60-5165 Memberships

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the resolution and application to renew membership in the Texas SmartBuy purchasing cooperative.



Texas SmartBuy Membership Program

What is the the Texas SmartBuy Membership Program?

Created by legislation in 1979, the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts' (CPA) Texas SmartBuy Membership Program offers members a unique opportunity to make the most of their purchasing dollars and efforts by using the State of Texas volume buying power.

Who can join?

- Local governments
- School Districts
- Utility Districts
- Appraisal Districts
- Junior Colleges
- MHMR community centers
- State-funded assistance organizations
- Housing and Transportation Authorities
- Assistance organizations

Sections 271.081-271.083, Local Government Code, and Sections 2155.202 and 2175.001(1), Government Code, provide the legal authority for the program.

Why should you join the Texas SmartBuy Membership Program?

- **Get Best Value for Your Purchases** – Our purchasers competitively bid and award hundreds of contracts in accordance with state purchasing statutes and competitive bidding requirements. You reap the savings for your organization and ultimately for the citizens of Texas.
- **Save Valuable Time and Effort** – No bidding, just order from hundreds of established state contracts.
- **Search Thousands of Vendors** – Looking for something not on one of our negotiated contracts? Use our Centralized Master Bidder's List to identify vendors from our database of over 9,000 companies (including HUBs). <https://comptroller.texas.gov/purchasing/vendor/cmbl/>
- **Post Bid and Award Notices on the Electronic State Business Daily** – As a member, set up FREE password access to the Electronic State Business Daily (ESBD) where you can post your entity's solicitations to increase vendor participation and provide public notice of awards. <http://www.txsmartbuy.com/sp/>
- **Save Money on Travel** – Qualified members may use the State Travel Management Program for discounted rates on rental cars, thousands of hotels and airline tickets.

If you have any questions or need more information about our program please feel free to e-mail members@cpa.texas.gov or call 512-463-3368.



Texas SmartBuy Membership Program

Accessing the Texas SmartBuy Membership Program on the Internet

Go to the Texas SmartBuy Membership web site: comptroller.texas.gov/purchasing/members/

- **Membership Forms:** Includes the application, name change form, proof of eligibility and school bus specifications.
- **TxSmartBuy.com:** The state's online ordering system, Texas SmartBuy, will generate a state purchase order on your behalf, forwarding a copy to you and to the vendor. The vendor will then ship the merchandise and invoice your entity directly. CPA has awarded contracts for many commodities and services, including:

- Vehicles
- Office Supplies
- Furniture
- Procurement Card Services
- Appliances
- Road and Highway Equipment
- Police Equipment
- Pharmaceuticals
- Cleaning Supplies
- Food

- **TXMAS Information:** Texas Multiple Award Schedules (TXMAS). TXMAS contracts feature the most favored customer pricing and the possibility of negotiation. TXMAS can be used as alternative volume contracts.

- **CMBL Search:** This feature enables you to access the state Centralized Master Bidders List (CMBL) to create a bid list by product/service code. You may narrow the search

by entering a county, city or zip code. This is a vendor list only. You should use this only as a vendor resource. You will need to follow your local bid requirements to purchase from these vendors.

- **State Travel Management Program:** Texas Government Code, Sections 2171.001-2171.055 extend the state travel management contracts to certain members of the Texas SmartBuy Membership program. Eligible entities include Municipalities, Counties, School Districts, Public Junior and Community Colleges, and Emergency Communication Districts, hospital districts and transit/transportation districts.

The screenshot shows the website for the Texas SmartBuy Membership Program. The header includes the text 'COMPTROLLER.TEXAS.GOV' and a navigation menu with links for HOME, TAXES, TRANSPARENCY, ECONOMY, PURCHASING, PROGRAMS, and ABOUT. A search bar is located below the navigation. The main content area features the 'Purchasing' logo and the 'TEXAS SMARTBUY MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM' title. Below the title, there is a brief description of the program, a 'Related Links' section with links for 'Established Buyer', 'New Members', 'Membership Forms', 'Active Participant Lists', 'Training Opportunities', and 'Texas SmartBuy Events'. There are also sections for 'Membership eProcurement' and 'Are You an Established Buyer in the Texas SmartBuy Membership Program?'.



Texas SmartBuy Membership Program

Texas SmartBuy Membership Application

Name of Authorized Individual

Name of Authorized Individual (secondary contact)

(NOTE: Please list 2 people who are authorized to sign for purchases and will receive all correspondence from CPA. Additional authorized signers or Agents of Record may be listed on the resolution with the signatures documented at the bottom of the resolution.)

Organization/Qualified Entity Name

Address

City, State, Zip Code

Primary Email Address

Secondary Email Address

Phone Numbers

Fax Number

The annual membership fee for participation in the Texas SmartBuy Membership Program is:
\$100.00 – FEE IS NON-REFUNDABLE

Please make checks payable to:

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

Please mail to:

**Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts
P.O. Box 13186
Austin, TX 78711**

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH PAYMENT
AND ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS AND SIGNATURES**

Questions? Contact the Texas SmartBuy Membership Program at 512-463-3368 or at members@cpa.texas.gov.



RESOLUTION

State of Texas
County of _____

Whereas, the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts is authorized to provide purchasing services for local governments pursuant to §§ 271.082 and 271.083 of the Local Government Code;

and **WHEREAS**, the _____
(e.g., Commissioner’s Court, City Council, School Board, Board of Directors)

of _____, is a: (Check one of the following.)
(Name of Qualified Entity)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> County | <input type="radio"/> Independent School District |
| <input type="radio"/> Municipality | <input type="radio"/> Junior College District |
| <input type="radio"/> Political Subdivision (Utility, Appraisal Districts) | <input type="radio"/> Mental Health and Mental Disability Community Center |
| <input type="radio"/> State-funded Assistance Organization | <input type="radio"/> Housing and Transportation Authority |

defined as an entity qualified to participate in the Texas SmartBuy Membership Program of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts pursuant to § 271.081 of the Local Government Code; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the requirements of 34 TAC §20.85 administrative rules, the Agent(s) of Record,
_____, _____
(Name of Person, primary contact) (Title)

(and _____, _____) is/are authorized to execute
(Name of Person, secondary contact) (Title)

any and all documentation for _____ pertaining to its participation in the Texas
(Entity Name)

Comptroller of Public Accounts Cooperative Purchasing Program; and

WHEREAS, _____ acknowledges its obligation to pay annual participation fees
(Entity Name)

established by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that request be made to the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts to approve
_____ for participation in the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Cooperative Purchasing Program.
(Entity Name)

Adopted this _____ day of _____, _____ by _____.
(Entity Name)

By: _____
(Signature of Chair)

(Signature of primary Agent of Record)

(Printed Name)

(Name/Title of primary Agent of Record)

(Title of Chair)

(Signature of secondary Agent of Record)

(Name/Title of secondary Agent of Record)



Texas SmartBuy Membership Program

Documents required for proof of eligibility

Submit all documentation required as proof of eligibility at the time you apply for membership in the program. All documentation must be on file with the Texas SmartBuy Membership Program BEFORE a determination of eligibility can be made.

Local Governments

County, Independent School District, Municipality, Jr. College District, Volunteer Fire Department

Documents required:

- ✓ Board approved resolution

MHMR Community Centers

Documents required:

- ✓ Board approved resolution

Special Districts or Other Legally Constituted Political Subdivisions of the State

Documents required:

- ✓ Board approved resolution
- ✓ Documentation evidencing creation of entity including statutory citation.
This can be in the form of:
 - a. Legislation in which the entity was created by name
 - b. A resolution passed by a city or a county stating that there is a need for the entity to exist and actually creating the entity

Assistance Organizations

Non-profit organizations that receive state funds **and** provide educational, health, or human services or provide assistance to homeless individuals

Documents required:

- ✓ Board approved resolution
- ✓ Articles of Incorporation and Certificate of Incorporation. A letter from the Secretary of State with the entity's charter number evidencing that the entity filed for incorporation will be accepted in lieu of a Certificate of Incorporation. **The State of Texas CO-OP cannot accept by-laws in lieu of Articles of Incorporation**
- ✓ Current contract or grant from a State agency to prove State funding. This document must show beginning and end dates for the current State of Texas Fiscal Year, and these dates must be valid at the time the application is reviewed.

Texas Rising Star Providers

Childcare providers certified as Texas Rising Star Providers by Texas Workforce Commission

Documents required:

- ✓ Board Approved Resolution