

# Cooperative Purchasing through Quality, Legal, Competitively Bid Contracts



Governmental entities need an entire sphere of legal contracts for products and services. Look to Choice Partners national cooperative for part or all of the purchasing solution.

# Save Time and Money

## *Procurement Made Easy*

Choice Partners cooperative offers quality, legal procurement and contract solutions to meet the purchasing needs of school districts and other governmental entities.

### Gold Standard

Choice Partners, a division of Harris County Department of Education, offers members what the industry calls the **Gold Standard** in cooperative purchasing by using its own contracts. Vendors are required to submit a proposal, which goes through a competitive, legal, evaluation process. If it is deemed best value, it is recommended to the HCDE governing board for an award.

Members can be confident that Choice Partners contracts stay up-to-date with legal requirements. For example, when the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) recently changed for K-12 funding, Choice Partners modified its process and began updating existing contracts to reflect the new regulations.



### Join for Free

**Schools, colleges and universities, municipalities, counties, other governmental organizations and nonprofits** can become members and use the HCDE awarded contracts available through Choice Partners, ultimately saving valuable time and expanding purchasing capabilities without adding staff.

### In Texas

1. Visit [www.choicepartners.org/members](http://www.choicepartners.org/members), select **Become a Member** and register.
2. Download the interlocal; complete and email to Choice Partners to place on governing board agenda for approval.
3. Mail signed agreement to Choice Partners, 6005 Westview Drive, Houston, TX 77055

### Outside Texas

1. Visit [www.choicepartners.org/members](http://www.choicepartners.org/members) and register.
2. Check box for out-of-state **IF** no interlocal contract is required.
3. Follow the appropriate state statutes, downloading and signing an interlocal agreement, **if necessary**.

For more information or help with signing up, call toll free:

**1-877-696-2122**

# Expand purchasing capabilities without adding staff

Our members gain immediate access to legal contracts, vendors and shared services solutions from the purchasing cooperative of Harris County Department of Education. The various contract categories are listed below:



## FACILITY SERVICES

- Athletic Surfaces
- Disaster Recovery/Restoration
- Electrical
- Elevator
- Energy: Electricity, Fuel
- Exterior Cleaning
- Flooring
- HVAC Equipment/Services
- Job Order Contracting / Construction
- Lawn Care Service/Equipment
- Modular Buildings
- Painting
- Playgrounds
- Plumbing
- Roofing and Waterproofing
- Trenchless Technology Rehab
- Tree Trimming
- Water Quality, Waste Management



## FOOD/CAFETERIA SUPPLIES

- Bread, Dairy, Frozen Desserts, Grocery, Produce
- Commodity Processing
- Food Supplies and Equipment
- Nutrition Software

## SERVICES

- Art Consulting
- Drug Testing
- Moving
- Printing
- Security Officers
- Temporary Staff



## SUPPLIES

- Books and Textbooks
- Educational/Instructional
- Furniture
- Janitorial
- Medical
- Office
- Supply Catalog\*

## TECHNOLOGY

- Audio Visual
- Equipment, Training, Service
- Hardware, Software, Supplies
- Infrastructure as a Service
- Software as a Service
- Security Systems

*\*Includes more than 1,100 competitively awarded line items, with new awards each April.*



## Facilities Planning Services

Need to improve efficiency, save money or develop effective facilities operations plans? The following are areas of the facilities team that are available to Choice Partners members:

- Operational Analysis — maintenance and operation efficiencies (preventative maintenance plans)
- Facility Trending Study
- Facility and Space Utilization Studies
- Training and Best Practices
- Job Order Contract (JOC) training and consulting



## Look for the Choice Partners seal

HCDE awards contracts to vendors based on competitive best value and published legal criteria. Vendors display the seal to signify that they have been awarded a Choice Partners government contract.

[info@choicepartners.org](mailto:info@choicepartners.org)

**MEMBERS SIGN-UP:** [www.choicepartners.org/members](http://www.choicepartners.org/members)



### **Lisa Charbonnet**

Library Director  
Pflugerville, Texas

*"We loved using Choice Partners. It saved us time and money – we think that's important."*

### **Cory Connor**

Public Works Director  
Sweet Grass County, Mont.

*"It was a very positive experience. It saved us a lot of money."*

### **Joe Russo**

Food Service Director  
Huffman ISD

*"They anticipate your needs. They provide you with information before you know you need it, they help you solve problems, and they're providing a great service. Every time I call I learn something new or get some added value."*

### **Sharon Kirkpatrick**

Construction Specialist  
University of North Texas

*"I use Choice Partners as much as I can, because I like that they have such a good pool of contractors, not just two or three."*



6005 Westview Dr. Houston, TX 77055 877.696.2122  
[www.ChoicePartners.org](http://www.ChoicePartners.org) | [www.ChoicePartnersEnergy.org](http://www.ChoicePartnersEnergy.org)

Find us on



Choice Partners is a division of Harris County Department of Education, a local government organization creating value, delivering opportunity and providing service to students and educators. Harris County Department of Education is located in Harris County and is not affiliated with the governmental entity of Harris County.