Recent Legislative Changes Affecting the Procurement of Goods and Services at UConn

University Business Services has worked with Government Relations and other state entities including UConn Health, Connecticut State Colleges and Universities system, and the Department of Administrative Services, to propose Bill SB1184 to increase to the State of Connecticut's public bid thresholds and simplify the prequalification process for construction contractors.

Effective October 1, 2023, the following changes will take effect:

Bid Thresholds

State of Connecticut Bid Thresholds				
Category	Range		Description	
	1999-2023	Effective 10/1/2023		
Micro Purchase	\$0-\$9,999.99	0-\$24,999.99	Threshold applies to the total value of the procurement transaction; 1 quote required, multiple encouraged.	
Informal Bid	\$10,000.00- \$49,999.99	\$25,000.00- \$99,999.99	Requires three quotes; stakeholder justifies the best value selection in writing if the lowest cost is not selected.	
Public Bid	\$50,000.00+	\$100,000.00+	Requires a publicly advertised solicitation process; Procurement support/management required.	

Please note that the micro purchase threshold for Uniform Guidance for purchasing with federal or sponsored research funds has also been adjusted as seen below.

Uniform Guidance Bid Thresholds				
Category	Range		Description	
	Prior to 10/1/2023	Effective 10/1/2023		
Micro Purchase	\$0-9,999.99	\$0-\$24,999.99	Threshold applies to the total value of the procurement transaction; 1 quote required, multiple encouraged.	
Informal Bid	\$10,000.00- \$249,999.99	\$25,000.00- \$249,999.99	Requires three quotes; stakeholder justifies the best value selection in writing if the lowest cost is not selected.	
Public Bid	\$250,000.00+	\$250,000.00+	Requires a publicly advertised solicitation process; Procurement support/management required.	

To support this change, UBS is in the process of updating relevant forms and information on its website and in HuskyBuy. As there are changes to the sourcing thresholds in HuskyBuy, UBS advises departments to wait until 10/1 to begin draft carts and submit requisitions to take advantage of these new rules. HuskyBuy will not be fully programmed for the new sourcing choices until 10/1.

Additionally, when determining the best strategy for acquiring goods and services, reach out to the procurement team appropriate for the commodity with UBS. There may already be existing contracts in place that will allow you to forgo the bidding process for a specific procurement.

<u>Pregualification Process/Bid Threshold Increase</u>

With respect to UConn capital projects, the law prior to 10/1/2023 requires UConn to separately prequalify contractors whose cost exceeds \$500,000. Effective 10/1/2023, new law (1) increases the threshold requiring separate prequalification to \$1 million and (2) allows the university to prequalify contractors for one year (rather than for each separate project) and renew the prequalification for up to two more years.

UBS anticipates that these changes will greatly ease the administrative burden on its customers, staff, and contractors. Additional announcements regarding other administrative and process changes resulting from recent legislation may be shared in forthcoming updates.