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U.S. Communities aggregates the purchasing power of more than 90,000 public agencies nationwide by offering Participating Public Agencies the ability to make purchases through existing, competitively solicited contracts between a supplier and a lead public agency.

- Each lead public agency awards its contract to a supplier after a competitive solicitation process designed to ensure that Participating Public Agencies receive the highest quality products and services at the lowest possible prices.
- Once the lead public agency has awarded a contract with the supplier, the lead
  public agency allows other Participating Public Agencies in need of similar
  products and services to make purchases through the existing contract
  through U.S. Communities. This ensures that all Participating Public Agencies
  have access to the same terms and conditions of the existing competitively
  solicited contract.
- U.S. Communities does not issue the solicitation for the contracts or
  participate in the bid selection process with suppliers. However, once the
  contract is in place it works with both the lead public agency and the supplier
  to ensure that the contract is administered properly through routine audits as
  well as additional oversight measures to ensure Participating Public Agencies
  are receiving the quality products and services of the highest quality and at the
  lowest prices.
- Through U.S. Communities, all contracts are available to state and local government agencies, public and private K-12 school districts and higher education organizations, and nonprofit businesses.

#### Authority to Use

When a Lead Public Agency issues a solicitation, it contains language based on the lead jurisdiction "Joint Powers Authority" or "Cooperative Procurement" program. Applying these competitive principles satisfies the competitive bid requirements for most state and local government agencies.

State statutes and, if applicable, local ordinances generally allow one government agency to purchase from contracts competitively solicited by another government agency. This requires the consent of the supplier, the Lead Public Agency and government agency purchasing from the Lead Public Agency contract. U.S. Communities contracts are established to meet both the competitive solicitation and consent requirements. Public agencies accessing U.S. Communities consent to a Master Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Agreement (MICPA).

#### No Cost to Use

Public agencies pay no costs and are charged no fees to participate. The suppliers pay a minimum administrative fee to participate through U.S. Communities. This pays for operating expenses and offsets costs incurred by national and state sponsors.

#### Best Government Pricing

U.S. Communities does not have a most favored customer requirement. Suppliers are required to match pricing lower than U.S. Communities only for agencies that would otherwise be eligible for lower pricing through another contract vehicle. This requirement ensures that agencies are offered the best government pricing through U.S. Communities. Contracts are non-exclusive and discretionary, so an agency can choose to use any contract that, in their sole discretion, is in their best interest.

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## Quick Start Guid

Are you registered with U.S. Communities, but need more information on the next step start saving with suppliers? V this detailed guide to learn more.

**Quick Start Guide** 

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# Setting the Standard for Procurement Resources and Solutions

U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance is a government purchasing cooperative that reduces the cost of goods and services by aggregating the purchasing power of public agencies nationwide. U.S. Communities provides world class procurement resources and solutions to local and state government agencies, school districts (K-12), higher education, and nonprofits. Our participants have access to a broad line of competitively solicited contracts with best in class national suppliers.

U.S. Communities' rigorous supplier commitments ensure our supplier partners offer their best supplier government pricing. Third party audits are performed on all contracts and benchmarking analyses ensure ongoing value. Most importantly, U.S. Communities adheres to a stringent competitive selection process for all contracts offered through the program.

### Our Commitment to the Industry We Serve

#### Vicinn

At U.S. Communities, we serve as a trailblazer to identify gaps and deliver solutions that benefit the community, while providing value, efficiency and product/service effectiveness.

#### Mission

We support public agencies' ability to deliver quality services by linking private sector expertise and a competitive marketplace for public benefit.

#### Values

We believe in:

- Delivering programs and solutions that best meet public sector needs, while adhering to the requirements of the law.
- Conducting ourselves with honesty, integrity and professionalism and observing proper standards of industry conduct by adhering to our employee code of ethics.
- Following the public agency competitive selection process which provides open access to competitive opportunities.
- · Delivering value, integrity and standards through supplier commitments.
- · Developing collaborative partnerships to meet public needs.

#### Social Responsibility

We support the efforts of public agencies' initiatives to be socially responsible, economically focused and environmentally accountable through adherence to our cooperative purchasing standards, supplier commitments, and commitment to our Go Green Program.

U.S. Communities Brochure



Today more than 55,000 registered agencies, educatic institutions and nonprofits utilize U.S. Communities contracts to procure more th 2.7 billion dollars in products and services annually.

Each month more than 600 r participants register their organization to simplify their procurement process. This continuing growth is fueled by the program's proven track record of delivering excellent procurement solutions.

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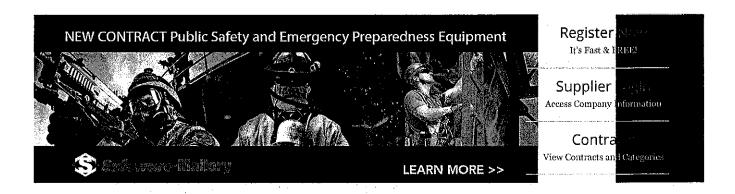
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**U.S. Communities** is the leading national cooperative purchasing program for:

K-12 School Districts
& Higher Education

State and Local Nonprofit Organizations

Public Agencies

Organizations

Housing Authorities

ROUP

PREMIER Panasonic

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Panasonic

Browse All Suppliers

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Still unsure? Browse our online Marketplace.

Join more than **55,000** government agencies, education institutions, and nonprofits.

See Who Uses U.S. Communities »

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U.S. Communities is the leading national cooperative purchasing program, providing world-class government procurement resources and solutions to local and state government agencies, school districts (K-12), higher education institutions, and nonprofits looking for the best overall supplier government pricing.

- · No User Fees no costs or fees to participate.
- Best Overall Supplier Government Pricing by combining the potential cooperative purchasing power of up to 90,000 public agencies, you are able to access the best overall supplier government pricing.
- Quality Brands thousands of the best brands in a wide variety of categories, services and solutions.
- Integrity and Experience unlike other government cooperative purchasing organizations, U.S. Communities national government purchasing cooperative is co-sponsored by over 90 state, city and regional organizations.
- Oversight by Public Purchasing Professionals Advisory Board of wellrespected public procurement professionals provides leadership, direction, and ensures adherence to our high standards.

Get started with U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Cooperative today! Register to participate with U.S. Communities government purchasing cooperative now – it's quick, easy and completely free – and learn how to purchase under any of our competitively solicited contracts.

# OMNIA PARTNERS

OMNIA Partners is the larges and most experienced organization dedicated to grupurchasing and supply chain management. Comprised of members and suppliers in bothe government and private sector, we bring together industry-leading buying powand world-class vendors to oan extensive portfolio of sourcing solutions and partnerships.

Through the economies of sc created by our four subsidiar National IPA, Prime Advantage, Corporate Unit and U.S. Communities, our members and suppliers exec more contracts, in more verticals, with transparent, value-driven pricing. They benefit from the power and relationships we have established across a multitud of industries to gain premier access to products, services a customers. This creates an unparalleled means for drivit savings and efficiencies that enable our members and supplier partners to realize ti full market potential.

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# WHO USES U.S. COMMUNITIES

U.S. Communities has over 55,000 participating agencies, from both the public and nonprofit sectors.

Generally, the following agencies are eligible to use the U.S. Communities Program:

- · Counties, Cities, Towns and Villages
- · Special Districts (e.g., Fire, Sewer, Water, etc.)
- · Public Schools including: K-12, Community Colleges, Universities, Technical and Vocational
- · State Agencies
- Other Local Governments
- Nonprofits (including Private K-12, Private Colleges and Universities)

To see a list of agencies registered to use U.S. Communities, select a state, then agency type and click "Display Report"

	ct a State: Kentucky					
* Sele	ct Agency Type: K-12					
Just R	ust Registered (Last 7 Days); Display Report					
1	note this may not be a complete list of participants. To verify registration in the purchasing program by agencies not here, contact your U.S. Communities Program Manager.					
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6	ASHLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION					
7	Assumption High School, Inc					
8	AUGUSTA INDEPENDENT BOARD OF EDUCATION					
9	Barren County Board of Education					
10	Bedford Elementary					
11	BEECHWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT					
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22	Bryan Station Baptist Church & Preschool
23	BULLITT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
24	BUTLER COUNTY SCHOOLS
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27	CALLOWAY COUNTY SCHOOLS
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37	Chance School
38	Christ The King School
39	CHRISTIAN ACADEMY LOUISVILLE SCHOOL SYSTEM
40	Christian Academy of Lawrenceburg
41	Christian County Board of Education
42	Christian County Migrant Education Program
43	Christian Fellowship Church & School
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If your agency is not yet a participant of the U.S. Communities Program, please Register to Participate and begin purchasing under any of the U.S. Communities competitively solicited contracts.

If you need assistance, please email info@uscommunities.org or Contact Us.

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