



# U.S. COMMUNITIES™

## GOVERNMENT PURCHASING ALLIANCE

U.S. Communities was founded in 1996 as a partnership between the Association of School Business Officials, the National Association of Counties, the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, the National League of Cities and the United States Conference of Mayors.

U.S. Communities is the leading national government purchasing cooperative, 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.

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.

U.S. Communities is proud to be the only government purchasing cooperative organization founded by public agencies for public agencies. Additionally, U.S. Communities is overseen by an Advisory Board of key public procurement professionals.

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. 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.

Today more than 55,000 registered agencies, education institutions and nonprofits utilize U.S. Communities contracts to procure more than 1.8 billion dollars in products and services annually.