**PURPOSE**

The County of Amador is committed to centralized control, when cost effective, over the expenditures of County funds for supplies, materials, equipment and contractual services. Achieving this goal, requires the cooperation of many individuals, the department requiring the commodity, the individual preparing the purchase requisition form, the individual authorizing the expenditure, the people that make the purchase, and the individual that pays for the commodity. The following are the goals of the Purchasing Department:

* provide the right materials and/or services to the departments
* provide the right quantity at the right time to the right place
* provide the right source (a responsive and reasonable supplier)
* provide the best price/value without affecting quality

**SCOPE**

This policy is applicable to all employees, without exception.

**POLICY**

The purchasing requirements for Amador County have been established by ordinance in the Amador County Municipal Code by the Board of Supervisors, and by the State of California through the State Government Code. The Purchasing Department is physically located at 12200-B Airport Road, Martell, CA 95642-9527.

**RESPONSIBILITY FOR ADMINISTERING PURCHASING**

The Amador County Board of Supervisors, 810 Court Street, Jackson, CA 95642, has the ultimate authority and responsibility for this department. The Board, by appointment, authorizes the Purchasing Agent to perform all those functions described by federal, state and local laws to purchase and/or sell all goods and services for the County. The Director of the General Services Administration is the Purchasing Agent for Amador County. Any questions regarding purchasing and/or selling should be directed to the Amador County General Services Administration, Purchasing Division.

**PURCHASING DOLLAR LIMITS**

Any purchase less than $500.00 may be acquired by any County Department with the Department Head’s authority without obtaining three (3) quotes or completing a requisition.

Listed below are the dollar limitations for each category. These are used to determine the need to use the informal or formal bid process to obtain competitive prices.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Requisition Dollar Amount | Category & Price Requirements |
| Vehicles, furniture, services, etc. | Under $25,000.00 | Must obtain three (3) informal competitive prices. |
|  | Over $25,000.00 | Must advertise for formal bids. |
| Construction/Structures, repairs, remodeling, etc. | Under $6,500.00 | Must obtain three (3) prices. |
|  | Over $6,500.00 | Must advertise for formal bids. |
| Construction/bridges, roads, etc. | Under $25,000.00 | Must obtain three (3) prices. |
|  | Over $25,000.00 | Must advertise for formal bids. |

**INFORMAL BIDS**

As a general rule, most items valued at less than $25,000.00 can be procured through an informal bid. Informal bids require the Purchasing Division, or a delegated department to obtain at least three (3) price quotes. Two (2) methods are used to secure these quotes, quotation forms are sent via Email to prospective vendors, or quotes are requested via telephone.

**FORMAL BIDS**

As a general rule, most items valued at $25,000.00 or greater are required to be advertised in an adjudicated County newspaper of general circulation and authorized for legal publications.

All formal bids shall be compiled and solicited by the Purchasing Division.

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

As a general rule, a Request for Proposal is required when the item or service being requested exceeds $25,000 in value.

All Requests for Proposals shall be compiled by the Purchasing Division and shall be based on information provided by the requesting department. The Purchasing Agent shall form an RFP/RFQ evaluation committee, made up of at least two (2) individuals having sufficient knowledge in the area of the goods, services, or construction procured. Evaluators may include individuals from an outside department/agency, including the Purchasing Division, if required to avoid conflict of interests. The evaluation committee may negotiate an agreement for goods or services with the top ranked respondent for contracts/agreements less than $25,000.00 when approved by the Purchasing Agent. Agreements shall be forwarded to County Counsel for approval as to form. Board approval is required for any contract over $25,000.00

**OBTAINING QUOTES AND ESTIMATES**

Estimates are how much the seller thinks the goods or services may cost; Quotes are an offer to provide goods or services for an exact price. Under the direction of the Purchasing Agent departments are to acquire three (3) quotes for goods and services. Requisitions must be completed in full providing a sum for all costs including freight, fees, taxes and all charges to arrive at a total price. All requisitions are to be submitted to General Services for approval and issuance of a Purchase Order. Splitting of purchases or contracts in order to avoid the competitive bidding requirements prescribed by law, regulation or policy is prohibited.

Departments must identify their “buyers” who are strictly prohibited from accepting any gift or anything of value and shall strictly comply with the “Prohibited Actions” of this policy and all Federal, State, and local laws.

**TRAINING**

Contract Administrators and Buyers shall attend annual training and/or refresher training provided by the Purchasing Agent. Training shall include a review of the Rules of Conduct and Information and Conflict of Interest information provided to individuals who serve as procurement evaluators.

**EXCEPTIONS RELATED TO AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS**

# Competitive bids or Requests for Proposals (RFP’s) or qualifications (RFQ’s) should be secured for all agreements/contracts except those types which are exempt as described herein.

1. The competitive bids or proposals may be waived in any of the following cases:
	1. In an emergency when goods or services are immediately necessary for the preservation of the public health, welfare or safety, or for the protection of County property.
	2. When the agreement/contract is with a state, federal or local government entity.
	3. When the Purchasing Agent presents findings to the Board of Supervisors and requests an exemption when the Purchasing Agent is able to illustrate that the cost of preparing and administering a competitive bidding process in a particular case is not warranted. In making this determination, County staff time, as well as other costs, need to be considered. This exemption requires Board approval.
	4. When an agreement/contract provides only for payment of per diem and travel expenses and there is no payment for services rendered.
	5. When obtaining the services of expert witnesses for litigation or special counsel to assist the County.
	6. When the Board of Supervisors or the Purchasing Agent within his/her contract authority determines that there is but a single source from which the goods or services may be acquired.
	7. When in unusual or extraordinary circumstances, the Board of Supervisors determines that the best interests of the County would be served by not securing competitive bids or issuing a request for proposal.

**SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION**

Both State Code and County Code require the Purchasing Agent to utilize competitive procurement practices unless only one source exists or is known. To justify a non-competitive purchase, the material or services required must be available from only one source. Brand names or personal preference are not justification for sole source. Historical use is not a basis for source sole. Examples of authorized sole source justifications are:

* Requirements which must interface with existing equipment.
* Requirements which are obtainable from only one manufacturer & one vendor.
* Requirements which could normally be obtained from several sources, but because of an emergency situation, must be obtained from a specified vendor.

When specifying a brand name as a requirement, the requisitioner must state in the justification why an “or equal” item will not meet the requirements. All sole source requirements must contain full justification signed by the Department Head.

**CONFIRMING ORDERS**

The purchase order may be used for purchases of fixed assets, supplies, and services where the conditions are very simple in nature and delivery can be clearly recognized and defined for purposes of knowing when completion has occurred, and/or payment is to be made (*i.e.,* photocopy equipment, maintenance, linen service, plumbing repairs).

Normally, only the Purchasing Agent is authorized to commit County funds. Purchases of material, supplies, and services by anyone else are authorized only to meet bonafide emergencies, and should be authorized by the Department Head or designated personnel. When an emergency requirement arises, one of the following methods should be utilized:

* Petty Cash Fund: Intended to meet small-dollar requirements for immediate, non-recurring purchases.
* Approval: The Purchasing Agent can approve an emergency purchase in advance by telephone or email. The primary reason for obtaining Purchasing’s approval is to ensure that the purchase is made from a competitive source, if possible. When this method is utilized, a note on the confirming requisition citing the date of the telephone call to the person approving purchase is adequate justification. If the purchasing agent is not immediately available, the requesting department may proceed with the emergency purchase, however, the requesting department must subsequently obtain within five (5) days either approval of the County Chief Administrative Officer or the Board of Supervisors.
* Emergency Purchase: Emergency purchases are authorized to meet bona fide emergency situations. If advance approval of the Purchasing Agent is not deemed feasible, the requisition for a “confirming” purchase order must contain a full justification of the emergency purchase, approved by the Department head or his/her Deputy. Lack of planning on the part of the requisitioner does not constitute an emergency on the part of Purchasing.

Requisitions for confirming orders which have not been approved in advance, or which do not contain justification for the emergency purchase action, will be returned. Unauthorized commitments of County funds may require return of the material to the vendor or payment to the vendor by the person placing the order.

**ENCUMBERING FUNDS**

When a purchase order is issued, the information is sent electronically to the Auditor’s accounting system to commit (encumber) those funds from the budget specified for that purchase. The auditor’s accounting system also determines whether or not there are sufficient funds for that purchase order. It is the responsibility of the requesting department to ensure that there are sufficient funds available prior to submitting the purchase requisition.

All purchase orders six (6) months or older will be automatically canceled and will not be acceptable for use in paying for that transaction. GSA establishes the end of year cut-off 15 business days prior to the end of each fiscal year June 30.

End of Fiscal Year Carry-over of Funds: Purchase orders are not meant to be used as a means to carry over unused funds from one fiscal year to another. A carryover encumbrance request must be handled through the budget process and require approval of the Board of Supervisors.

**EXEMPTIONS**

Some items and/or services are considered a sole source and do not require a purchase order. The following commodities and services are exempt and do not require purchase orders:

* Background checks on prospective employees.
* Blood alcohol analysis.
* Blood draws.
* Credit checks.
* Commodities or services between Amador County departments.
* Emergency fuel reimbursements.
* Finger print services.
* Freight costs (U.P.S., truck, air, etc.)
* Legal advertising.
* Membership dues.
* Permit fees.
* Petty cash reimbursements less than $25.00 per expenditure or receipt.
* Postage.
* Process serving.
* Professional Services, if there is a current agreement or contract signed by the Board of Supervisors.
* Registration fees.
* Taxes.
* Transcripts of court proceedings.
* Travel allowance.
* Utilities (PG&E, water, sewer, telephones, and garbage service).
* Witness fees.
* Animal Control and Public Health prescription medications & syringes.

**BLANKET PURCHASE ORDERS**

Blanket purchase orders may be issued when it is known that a certain commodity and/or service is of an ongoing nature and it has been determined that the vendor meets all the criteria set forth in this policy. Blanket purchase orders must be made out to a particular vendor and must show an estimated dollar amount expected to be spent during the term of the purchase order (six (6) months or less).

 Various Vendors: Blanket purchase orders may not be made out to various vendors.

**CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS**

In general, any expenditure of County funds requires a purchase order, a contract or an agreement unless it is specifically exempted herein this policy. Procuring services or making purchases on behalf of the County of Amador without the proper authority may result in the individual being held personally responsible for any obligation or liability created by their action.

A **“County Contract”** is an agreement through which the County, a County Department, or a County officer/employee (a) agrees to expend or receive County funds or to establish or eliminate a County obligation, (b) in exchange for something of value, (c) which agreement is enforceable by a court.

An **Agreement** which is not a contract is an agreement which does not involve the County’s and a non-County party’s commitments to exchange things of value. Examples of non-contractual agreements are agreements involving social obligations, County communications to a non-County part of the County’s mere intention to do something not requiring the non-County to gear up to respond to the County’s stated intention, and the County’s communication to a non-County part of a statement of County policy.

**DRAFTING AN AGREEMENT/CONTRACT**

All contracts shall be prepared and guided by the following criteria and contain the following as standard language:

All “Agreements” shall be referred to County Counsel for review and determination as to whether it is a contract or an “Agreement.”

1. A clear and accurate identification of the parties.
2. A statement of the intent of the parties in entering into this agreement/contract.
3. A clear and complete statement of the work, service or product to be performed, rendered or provided.
4. Amount to be paid. The agreement/contract must clearly express the maximum amount and basis upon which payment is to be made (e.g., fixed amount agreement/contract regardless of time spent, billing based upon time spent at a specified rate plus actual expenses, etc.).
5. The time for performance and completion of the agreement/contract.
6. Non-retroactive. It is mutually acknowledged that payment under this contract is accepted, approved, and fully executed by the Board of Supervisors.
7. Nature of Relationship of Parties; Indemnity. It is mutually acknowledged and understood that in the performance of duties under this contract, contractor is acting as an independent contractor, and not as an agent, employee, or partner of the County of Amador. Contractor agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the County and their respective officers and employees from and against any cost, liability, or expense arising out of contractor’s performance of this contract.
8. Insurance. (Refer to County Policy No. 4-400 “Insurance Requirements for Contracts and Agreements” for guidance. Because not all the contracts are the same, contact the Risk Manager for the appropriate insurance language to be used in each contract.)
9. Term of Contract: This contract shall become effective when executed by all parties, and shall continue until \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_\_, subject to earlier termination by any party giving not less than ten (10) days’ written notice of termination to the other parties.
10. Only Board May Amend. With respect to the County, only the Board of Supervisors, and not any individual County officer or official, may amend this contract, except for those contracts issued by the Purchasing Agent.
11. Non discrimination. Contractor agrees hereby to provide services without discrimination based on race, creed, color, ethnic, or linguistic identification, gender or sexual preference, disability or handicap or any other basis prohibited by law.
12. Compensation (Typical Methods)
13. A lump sum or fixed price for the total project.
14. Hourly rate, plus cost reimbursement, with a ceiling on the total project or agreement/contract amount. The contractor agrees to charge only for hours utilized at an agreed rate of compensation and reimbursement or costs.
15. Daily compensation, plus cost reimbursement, to work “when requested” during the term of the agreement/contract for daily rate plus cost reimbursement, with a ceiling on the total cost. This type of agreement/contract should be avoided if a given result can be contracted for.
16. Net rate agreements/contracts where compensation is based on an agreed rate per unit of service rendered.
17. Progress Payments

If it is essential that progress payments be made, they shall be made not more frequently than monthly in arrears or at clearly identifiable stages of progress, based on written progress reports submitted with the contractor’s invoices on a format required by the County.

**GENERAL RULES ASSOCIATED WITH AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS**

1. Submission of Agreement/Contract

Whenever an agreement/contract is required, approval shall be obtained prior to commencement of services or the purchase of any item. The submission of an agreement/contract for approval after the date performance has begun or after the date the service has been completed is prohibited. Contracts shall be routed to Risk Management, County Counsel and the Purchasing Agent for approval prior to being submitted to the Board for consideration. Contracts must be signed by both parties prior to the delivery of goods or services.

1. Special Procedures for Federal Grants

For any grant or contract involving Federal funds, Amador County shall review the Federal Excluded Parties List System (EPLS) to ensure compliance with the Federal procurement program policies and requirements prior to entering into any agreement or contract, or purchasing equipment utilizing Federal grant funding. Prior to authorizing a requisition for equipment purchases utilizing Federal grant funds, the Federal debarment listing must be reviewed to ensure vendor(s) are not listed. The debarment listing is available online at <http://www.epls.gov/epls/search.do> Documentation of search must be maintained to ensure the intended vendor is not listed and for verification.

3. County Compliance with Federal and State Requirements for Grant Projects

For any agreement or contract involving Federal funds or grants or any project subject to Federal law, the County of Amador shall, as applicable:

Comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed requirements for merit systems for programs funded under one of 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM’s Standards for a Merit System Personnel Administration (5C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).

Comply with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333), regarding labor standards for federally assisted construction sub agreements, and the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328).

Comply with the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act (29 U.S.C. §201) regarding wages and hours of employment.

Refrain from using grant funds to promote or deter Union/labor organizing activities.

Comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681-1683 and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616) as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to the confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.) as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made;(j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application; and (k) (P.L. 93-348) regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.

Comply or demonstrate prior compliance with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646), which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.

Comply with environmental standards that may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.) ; (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176 (c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93 523); (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93205); and (i) Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 §102 (a) 9P.L. 93-234).

Comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.

Comply with the Lead Based Paint and Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.

Comply with the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq.) which restores and maintains the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the Nation’s waters.

Ensure that any facilities under its ownership, lease or supervision that are utilized in the accomplishment of any Federal grant project are not listed on the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) list of violating facilities, and notify the Federal grantor agency of the receipt of any communication from the Director of the EPA Office of Federal Activities indicating that a facility to be used in such project is under consideration for listing by the EPA.

Ensure that the project is in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code §21000 et seq.

Comply with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (P.L. 94-163, 89 Stat 871).

Comply with the provision of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (P.L. 97-348) dated October 19, 1982 (16 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), which prohibits the expenditure of most new federal funds within the units of the Coastal Barrier Resources System.

Comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).

Comply with the Federal Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, (41 U.S.C. §701) Title 28 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 67; the California Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1990, CA Gov’t Code §§8350-8357.

Comply with Title 28 C.F.R. Volume 67, Number 228, regarding Suspension and Debarment, and submit a Certification Regarding Debarment as required by Executive Order 12549 and any amendment thereto.

Comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966, as amended (P.L. 89-544, 7 U.S.C. §§ et seq.).

Comply with The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended (“ADA”), which makes it unlawful to discriminate against individuals on the basis of disability in the employment, services, programs, or activities of the state. The ADA extends the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of disability, established by Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, to all state and local governments and all places of public accommodation, regardless of receipt of federal financial assistance. By law, the U.S. Department of Justice's Title II regulations adopt the general prohibitions of discrimination established under Section 504 and incorporate specific prohibitions of discrimination from the ADA.

4. Prohibited Actions

State of California Government Code Section 1090 prohibits any County employee or officer from having any financial interest in any contract made by them in their official capacity or by anybody or board of which they are members. It also prohibits County employees or officers from being "purchasers at any sale or vendors at any purchase made by them in their official capacity.” No officer or employee shall be interested directly or indirectly in any contract or transaction with the County. No officer or employee shall receive any commission, money, or thing of value, or derive any profit, benefit or advantage directly or indirectly, from or by reason of any dealings with, or service for the County, by himself/herself or otherwise, except his lawful compensation as such officer or employee.

 State of California Government Code Section 1126 prohibits County employees or officers from engaging in any activity for compensation that is "inconsistent, incompatible, in conflict with, or inimical to his or her duties as a local agency officer or employee or with the duties, functions, or responsibilities of his or her appointing power or the agency by which he or she is employed."

Any officer, board member, elected official or employee of the County accepting any non-county employment or undertaking any activity which otherwise creates a conflict of interest between such non­-county employment and the employee'sduties as acounty employee is prohibited.

In order to avoid any actual or apparent conflict of interest, any officer, board member, elected official or employee shall avoid making award decisions that affect their personal financial interest or that of a family member. Any such financial interest in a County supplier, proposer or bidder must be disclosed to the Purchasing Divisionimmediately who will take action to have that person abstain from any further involvement in that acquisition.

**MULTIPLE YEAR AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS**

Agreements/contracts for goods or services should normally not exceed the fiscal year unless sufficient justification has been provided to either the Purchasing Agent and/or Board of Supervisors and appropriate funding has been encumbered. Multiple year agreements/contracts must include provisions for early termination and must be contingent on available funding. Unless exempted, as provided for above, no agreement/contract for goods or services shall extend, either by original agreement/contract or by renewals or amendments, for more than a total period of thirty-six (36) months unless competitive bids have been sought or a Request for Proposal (RFP) has been processed. In the third year, and prior to any agreement/contract extension, the Department shall review its needs for contract services including mandatory requirements, funding, type of contract, and their specific needs. Third year reviews shall be approved by the Purchasing Agent if less than $25,000.00, or the Board of Supervisors if over $25,000.00.

**COMMENCEMENT DATE OF SERVICES**

No agreement/contract shall be commenced prior to approval by the Board of Supervisors or for agreements/contracts subject to the Purchasing Agent’s authority. No agreement/contract may be back-dated prior to Board approval. Contractors and vendors shall be advised by the responsible Department Head that performance under the agreement/contract may not commence prior to such approval. No payment shall be made prior to this approval. The County is not responsible for any obligations associated with an agreement/contract that has not been formally approved by the board of Supervisors. Procuring agreement/contracts on behalf of the County of Amador without proper authority may result in the individual being held personally responsible for any obligation or liability created by their action.

**CHECKLIST FOR APPROVAL OF AGREEMENTS OR CONTRACTS**

***Copies:*** A minimum of 3 agreements/contracts with original signatures affixed **prior** to routing to Board. (Exception: Federal or State contracts most likely will not have signatures prior to being routed to the Board).

 NOTE: If the contractor sends only one signed copy of the agreement/contract to the department, make two additional copies before routing to the Board. The Chairman will sign all three copies, the Board will retain the original document and return the copies to the department for routing.

***Federal***

***Tax ID:*** This is required to be affixed on **ALL** contracts, with the exception of those with the State or Federal contracts.

***License***

***Status:*** When required, all agreements/contracts from departments shall determine all required certifications and licensing requirements have been met and are in good standing prior to being routed to the Board/Purchasing Agent or prior to authorizing work.

***Insurance***

***& Bonds:*** All departments shall determine all required minimum insurance and bonding requirements have been met including verification those insurance and bonding companies are admitted to conduct business in the State of California prior to being routed to the Board/Purchasing Agent or prior to authorizing work.

***Corporations***

***& L.L.C.’s &***

***L.P.’s:*** All departments are required to check the business status of Corporations with the Secretary of State to ensure they are in good standing prior to being routed to the Board/Purchasing Agent agreements/contracts.

***EPLS:*** All departments requesting an agreement/contract receiving federal funding shall check the Excluding Parties List System (EPLS) to check if contractors, businesses or entities are allowed to receive federal funding prior to being routed to the Board/Purchasing Agent.

**PROCUREMENT, AWARDS, AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS HAVING ANY FEDERAL ASSISTANCE**

Whenever Federal financial assistance is awarded or granted to the County from any Federal Agency 2 C.F.R. Part 200 shall apply and be implemented in all procurements and agreements/contracts utilizing Federal financial assistance. This policy is not limited to only the regulations referenced above and shall include any specific Federal requirements that apply as a condition of the Federal assistance.

**CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT**

In order to process your claims efficiently and expediently it is necessary to follow procedures listed below:

1. All claims must be sent to the Auditor’s Office.

**RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES**

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION – Purchasing Division

COUNTY COUNSEL

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY – Risk Management

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

**REFERENCES**

BOS Policy Resolution No. 02-370

BOS Ordinance No. 1440