

Grand Valley State University

Purchasing Policy & Procedures

Policy

A central purchasing office shall be maintained to serve the needs of the entire university. This office shall be responsible for the purchase of all materials, supplies, and services costing more than \$5,000, as well as both purchased and rental equipment, with the following exceptions:

1. Books, pamphlets, and periodicals for the library
2. Bookstore merchandise for resale
3. Professional consulting services
4. Architectural and consultant services, new constructions, contractual repairs and remodeling
5. Pro shop merchandise for resale
6. Software licenses and related maintenance agreements

Purchases of \$5,000

Purchases of \$5,000 and less or purchases involving sole source will be handled in accordance with procedures issued by the treasurer for the efficient procurement of these items. The purchasing office shall develop standards for equipment and supplies and encourage the use of the standards throughout the university.

The selection of a vendor is the responsibility of the purchasing office. In the selection, the purchasing office shall not in any way discriminate against any vendor because of race, creed, age, sex, or national origin, nor shall the university continue to patronize vendors known to practice any forms of discrimination.

The purchasing office shall accept no gift or gratuity from a vendor nor shall they, in the name of the university, make or attempt to make personal purchases for faculty or staff.

No commitment of funds shall be made by the purchasing office without prior approval of the unit to which the commitment is to be charged.

Purchases Exceeding \$10,000

For all purchases exceeding \$10,000 and when appropriate on lesser amounts, the purchase shall be preceded by competitive bids. These bids should be written except when time or other circumstances do not permit, in which case verbal bids are acceptable if properly documented. Only qualified reputable vendors shall be asked to bid. After the award is made, the list of bidders and the amount of each shall become public information available to anyone on request. For all purchases exceeding \$25,000, with the exception of professional services, such as legal, architectural and engineering, or other consulting services, the purchase shall be preceded by competitive sealed bids. The bids are to be returned in envelopes furnished and so marked. The bid request will state the day and time due. At that time they are to be publicly opened and read aloud. No sealed bids can be accepted if received after the date and time specified. Unsuccessful bidders may appeal the decision of the purchasing office to improve procedures in future purchasing or to correct any misunderstanding that may have arisen. Purchase of items when there is a sole source need not be bid.

This office shall be responsible for the orderly disposal of surplus, obsolete, and worn out equipment.

Travel and Meeting Policy

Expenditures and/or reimbursement for travel and meetings are authorized to the extent that they are necessary and reasonable and are on university business; and are subject to such limitations and documentation requirements as the president of the university may set. The vice president of finance and administration shall publish current policy and the disbursing officer shall audit all claims and requests prior to payment.

The president may approve that the university provide a vehicle for use by an employee when appropriate. All limitations and requirements for use of such vehicles must be approved in advance.

(Source: GVSU Administrative Manual, Chapter 6)

Purchasing Procedures: <http://www.gvsu.edu/forms/busfin/304.pdf>

Contact Purchasing

Phone: (616) 331-2280

Website: <http://www.gvsu.edu/purchasing/>

Forms: <http://www.gvsu.edu/busfin/index.cfm?id=C55DF700-EA7F-E0B7-14350427E770FE68>