

# Purchasing Department Research Overview

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Please visit our website for more information.

<https://web.uri.edu/purchasing/>



## University of Rhode Island Procurement Thresholds

Purchase Category	Description	Small Purchases - No quotes required	Informal (3 quotes)	Public Sealed Bid	Construction Small Purchase No quotes required	Construction (Public Bid)
A	State Funds	</= \$10,000	N/A	>\$10,000	</= \$50,000	>\$50,000
B	URI - Restricted	</= \$10,000	N/A	>\$10,000	</= \$50,000	>\$50,000
C	URI - Auxiliary	</= \$10,000	N/A	>\$10,000	</= \$50,000	>\$50,000
D	URI - Research/Sponsored*	</= \$10,000	\$10,000 - \$50,000	>\$50,000	Consult Research Accounting	Consult Research Accounting
E	URI - A&E or Consultant	</= \$10,000	\$10,000 - \$20,000	>\$20,000	N/A	N/A

*\*Must conform to OMB Uniform Guidance where applicable*

# Purchasing Limits at a Glance

The following table is a guide for most procurements.

# Sponsored Funds (Research)

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Rhode Island General Law §37-2-7(16)

<http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE37/37-2/37-2-7.HTM>

Exemption from competitive bidding

<http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE37/37-2/37-2-18.2.HTM>

Board of Trustees Purchasing Regulations

<https://web.uri.edu/policies/files/BOT-Procurement-regulations-documents-9.12.22.pdf>

Where federal funds are used, OMB Regulations

<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-II/part-200?toc=1>



# No Competition is Required

(Only a single quote is needed for processing)

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Construction up to \$50,000



Other Goods or Services up to \$10,000



Certain Master Price Agreements (MPAs) may not require competition or different limits have been delegated\* to URI.

\*Architectural Services (#494) up to \$75,000

See MPA User Guide for others

# Three (3) Competitive Quotes are Required

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Purchases from \$10,000 to \$50,000 using solely Sponsored / Research Funds



Architects & Engineers from \$10,000 to \$20,000 (when the MPA is not used)



Consultants from \$10,000 to \$20,000.



Certain Master Price Agreements (MPAs) may have higher limits and require only 3 quotes. These range and may go up to \$250,000. See the MPA User Guide each threshold and the restrictions.

# Public Bid Solicitation is Required



Construction **OVER** \$50,000



Purchases **OVER** \$50,000 using solely Sponsored / Research Funds



Architects (when the MPA is not used), Engineers and Consultants **OVER** \$20,000



Goods and Services **OVER** \$10,000 and not on an MPA.




Purchases **in excess** of Master Price Agreements (MPA) Limits. See the MPA User Guide each threshold and the restrictions.

# State Master Price Agreements

Official State of Rhode Island website


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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
Division of Purchases  
Department of Administration

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Welcome

# Master Price Agreements

- Master Price Agreements (MPAs) were created to help provide a variety of contracts to state and public agencies who procure similar goods and services.

They are intended to provide the best negotiated prices given the State's combined buying power.


- URI Departments must utilize MPA's whenever possible. While many do not require competition, there are several multi-vendor MPA's that require you to obtain quotes/estimates for the work from multiple firms listed.
- Please visit <https://ridop.ri.gov/ocean-state-procures-osp/contract-board> to search posted MPAs



# How to navigate the RI Contract Board / MPA website

Contract Board Search Quick  
Start [Video](#)



 Contract Board

[Contract Board](#)

[Contract Board Quick Start  
Video](#)

[Contract Board Search  
Instructions](#)

[RI Emergency MPA Guide](#)

# MPA User Guide

- Each MPA contains a User Guide and should be the first step in reviewing possible use of the MPA.
- Provides instruction on how to use the MPA.
- Will show if quotes are required from multiple MPA vendors.
- Dictates \$ Limits.
- Provides additional contact information.



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## MPA CONTRACT USER GUIDE

MPA TITLE: LABORATORY EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES REAGENTS

MPA #: 340

MPA RENEWAL OPTION(S): 03/01/2016 – 12/31/2021

### SECTION 1. CONTRACT USE:

**Who can use this?** This is a Master Price Agreement and, as such, has Statewide Applicability. Political Subdivisions (municipalities, institutions for higher education, municipal/state schools, quasi-public agencies), as authorized by law, may participate in this Agreement. For any projects with a political subdivision, all ordering and billing shall be between the vendor and the political subdivision.

Open Enrollment? No

Emergency Use? Yes

### SECTION 2. INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE BY STATE AGENCIES:

Pricing shall be acquired by agencies by developing a scope of work per project and submitting to the qualified vendor list provided on the Contract Board.

#### A. THRESHOLDS

There is a \$50K threshold for any specific project. Projects expected to exceed this MPA's threshold must be bid, any exceptions will require Purchasing Agent and/or Deputy Purchasing Agent pre-approval.

#### B. QUOTES REQUIRED? YES

The state agency shall develop a scope of work/list of items for their specific project and obtain a minimum of three (3) quotes from this MPA's vendor list for a lump sum fixed-fee. At least one (1) of the three (3) quotes must be with an MBE approved vendor (if one is available on the MPA).