25.07.01 Contract Administration, Delegations and Reporting

Revised <u>May 5, 2022</u>

Next Scheduled Review: May 5, 2027

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Regulation Summary

This regulation specifies contract administration practices and review procedures, and contract delegation and reporting requirements authorized by System Policy 25.07, Contract Administration, for members of The Texas A&M University System (system) and the process for administering, reporting, and delegating approval authority for all contracts entered into by a member.

Reason for Regulation

Unless specifically excluded by system policy or another regulation, this regulation governs all contracts, including all original contracts, amendments, alterations, modifications, corrections, changes, renewals and extensions.

Definitions

Click to view **Definitions**.

Regulation

1. GENERAL

System Policy 25.07 specifies the types, terms, and values of contracts that must be approved by the system Board of Regents (board), those which may be approved by the chancellor or designee, and those which may be approved by member chief executive officers (CEOs) or their designees.

2. DELEGATIONS BY THE CHANCELLOR

2.1 CEOs are hereby delegated the authority to approve and sign contracts of less than \$750,000 that are not otherwise reserved for approval by the board, as described in System Policy 25.07, Section 6, and to subdelegate such authority at their discretion.

2.2 When the chancellor is unavailable, the system chief financial officer and general counsel are authorized to approve and sign contracts to the extent such authority is delegated by the board to the chancellor and not otherwise subdelegated.

3. CONTRACT DELEGATION REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1 A *Delegation of Authority for Contract Administration* must be prepared by each member in the format developed and distributed by the System Office of Procurement and Business Services (Procurement) in conjunction with the System Office of General Counsel (OGC) and include:
 - (a) written express delegations of authority specifying those officers (by title) who are authorized to execute contracts on behalf of the member, and
 - (b) delegations of authority specifying the type of contract and dollar or other limitations applicable to each delegation.
- 3.2 Member delegations of authority are reviewed annually at the end of each fiscal year. A system template will be sent to each member by August 1st with revised or confirmed (if no changes are made to existing guidance) delegations submitted to Procurement <u>no later than September 1st</u>. Procurement reviews the delegations and resolves any discrepancies. Delegations must be finalized <u>by November 1st of each fiscal year</u>.
- 3.3 If applicable, mid-year revisions to the delegation of authority, including the addition of contract types not addressed in delegations previously submitted, must be submitted for review and approval by the member CEO to Procurement as they occur.

4. CONTRACT POSTING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- 4.1 Members must comply with all applicable posting and reporting requirements established by statute, the General Appropriations Act, other state authority, and the posting and reporting requirements in the *Contract Management Handbook*.
- 4.2 Procurement establishes and maintains guidelines outlining the specific reporting requirements relating to (a) agreement type (e.g., contract, agreement, purchase order, interagency agreements, inter-local agreements, etc.); (b) agreement subject matter (e.g., major information systems, construction, real estate, professional services, etc.); (c) funding source (appropriated or non-appropriated); (d) dollar thresholds; (e) parties involved; (f) time of submission; and (g) forms to be used, if any. The guidelines are stated in the *Contract Posting and Reporting Requirements* document.

5. CONTRACT MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK

Procurement, in conjunction with OGC, must develop and maintain a *Contract Management Handbook* that provides for consistent contracting practices and contract review procedures, including the following:

(a) identification of contracts that require enhanced performance monitoring and notification to the board of any identified serious issue or risk regarding a monitored contract;

- (b) purchasing accountability and risk analysis procedures assessing the risk of fraud, waste or abuse in the contractor selection process, contract provisions and payment and reimbursement rates and methods for the different types of goods and services for which the member contracts;
- (c) a comprehensive guideline for preparing and advertising a solicitation, including identifying key pieces in the statement of work;
- (d) guidance on the evaluation of solicitation responses and awarding and drafting the contract. This includes sample terms and clauses for the contract; and
- (e) contract administration and oversight (e.g., contract administrator responsibilities, contract monitoring and reporting, change management, dispute resolution, etc.).

This handbook must be used by all members in managing member contracts. The handbook is posted on the system website and all members are required to post this link on their member websites. Each member must also submit a link to the handbook to the state comptroller.

6. REQUIRED TRAINING

All member employees authorized to execute contracts or exercise discretion in awarding contracts must receive training on the selection of appropriate procurement methods and information resources purchasing technologies. This training is further defined in the *Contract Management Handbook*.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

Tex. Educ. Code § 51.9337

Tex. Educ. Code § 51.948

Tex. Gov't Code § 2054.008

Tex. Gov't Code § 2166.2551

Tex. Gov't Code § 2254.002

Tex. Gov't Code § 2254.006

Tex. Gov't Code § 2261.253

Contract Posting and Reporting Requirements

Contract Management Handbook

Delegation of Authority for Contract Administration (template)

System Policy 25.07, Contract Administration

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this regulation.

Contact Office

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