



MEMBERSHIP
B E N E F I T S

ABOUT TIPS

Purchasing Cooperative

TIPS is a national purchasing cooperative offering competitively solicited contracts to education government and nonprofit agencies, saving them both time and money. TIPS provides a proven, streamlined process that eliminates the purchasing stress for Members.





TIPS MEMBERS

are able to save time and money without t
delay and expense because TIPS comple
the competitive bid process for y

BENEFITS

Full-Line Contract Solutions

- Choose the products & services desired

Leveraging Relationships

- Select the Vendor desired to purchase from & work with
- TIPS is always available to assist in the process & confirm pricing

Quality Pricing

- Avoid low-bids and low-quality awards.
- Receive national volume, ceiling-based, discounted pricing
- Submit your own RFQ and specs through our Member Portal in one easy step

WHO CAN JOIN

The benefits of using TIPS are available to Education, Government and Non-Profit Agencies



TIPS is the purchasing cooperative of Region 8 Education Service Center, the **Lead Public Agency**.



TIPS has the **legislative authority** to establish contracts for government and education agencies **nationwide**.



Membership is **FREE** with no purchasing obligation or liability. Members gain immediate access to our competitively procured contracts with **quality vendors**.



Lead Agency Overview

The Interlocal Purchasing System, better known as, TIPS Purchasing Cooperative, began in 2002 as a small regional cooperative of the [Region 8 Education Service Center](#). While the cooperative has far exceeded the initial vision, Region 8 ESC has maintained its role as the Lead Agency for what is now a national operation.



Region 8 ESC is one of 20 Regional Education Service Centers within Texas which assists school districts in improving student performance and increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of school operations, as commissioned by the [Texas state legislature](#). Region 8 ESC is governed by a seven-member Board of Directors, elected by local school board members; and an Executive Director, appointed by the Board of Directors, with approval of the Commissioner of Education. The laws of many states throughout the nation permit interlocal cooperation and interlocal agreements with other public entities in the United States. Region 8 ESC, the Lead Agency of TIPS, is a public governmental entity. Please click [here](#) and select your state to find more membership information and documentation for your jurisdiction.

In addition, a Regional Advisory Committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Center and its Board of Directors to assist in evaluating the Center's programs and services. This committee consists of one representative from each school district and one representative from each college or university with a teacher education program. TIPS Purchasing Cooperative is one such program implemented and administered by Region 8 ESC.

All TIPS contracts are awarded by the ESC 8 seven-member Board of Directors, and each TIPS vendor has met strict [Competitive Procurement Process](#) guidelines established by the ESC 8 administration and the TIPS legal team. The bidding statute for the lead agency is Chapter [44.031](#) of the Texas Education Code.

To learn more about the Region 8 Education Service Center, visit the ESC 8 [website](#).

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