



## Texas-Based Cooperative Purchasing Programs

### 4.4.11

Program & Location	Administering Entity	Web Site	Notes
BuyBoard <i>Austin</i>	Texas Association of School Boards (TASB)	<a href="#">Link</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Popular program utilized by school districts, but also local governments</li> <li>– Partnership with the National BuyBoard Cooperative</li> </ul>
Educational Purchasing Cooperative of North Texas (EPCNT) <i>Lewisville</i>	Lewisville Independent School District	<a href="#">Link</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Membership includes school districts, charter schools and the Regional Service Centers located in the Region X and Region XI Education Service Center areas</li> <li>– One school district sponsors the bid process for each contract</li> </ul>
HCDE Purchasing Cooperative <i>Houston</i>	Harris County Department of Education (HCDE)	<a href="#">Link</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– More than 380 members</li> <li>– Contracts cover 65 commodity categories</li> <li>– Approximately \$100 million in annual sales</li> </ul>
HGACBuy <i>Houston</i>	Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC)	<a href="#">Link</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Specializes in high-ticket, capital-intensive products and services</li> <li>– Products primarily focus on those utilized for public safety, public works, communications, professional consulting, personnel and financing services</li> </ul>
ITC Cooperative Contracts <i>Austin</i>	Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR)	<a href="#">Link</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– More than 750 technology contracts in place</li> <li>– \$3.3 billion in sales from 2008 to 2010</li> </ul>
Multi-Regional Purchasing Cooperative (MRPC) <i>Wichita Falls</i>	Region 9 Education Service Center	<a href="#">Link</a> <a href="#">Link</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Collaboration of Education Service Centers of Region 9, 11, 14 &amp; 15</li> <li>– Annual bid process for commodity and technology catalog vendors</li> </ul>
Region 7 Purchasing Cooperative <i>Kilgore</i>	Region 7 Education Service Center	<a href="#">Link</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Awards contracts in 31 categories</li> <li>– 131 members, mostly school districts</li> </ul>
Region VI Interlocal Purchasing Cooperative <i>Huntsville</i>	Region 6 Education Service Center	<a href="#">Link</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Contracts awarded on an annual basis and valid during the school year (July 1 – June 30)</li> <li>– Major categories include office supplies, furniture, instructional, technology, and athletic &amp; first aid supplies</li> </ul>



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Southeast Texas Purchasing Cooperative <i>Silsbee</i>	Region 5 Education Service Center	<a href="#">Link</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Awards contracts in 45 product and service categories</li><li>– School district and charter school focused</li></ul>
Texas 20 Food Purchasing Cooperative <i>San Antonio</i>	Region 20 Education Service Center	<a href="#">Link</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– More than 100 members</li><li>– Solicits pricing on items related to food service operations</li><li>– Holds annual Food Purchasing Cooperative Product Show</li></ul>
Texas Educational Technology “Group” Purchasing Consortium (TETPC) <i>Fort Worth</i>	Region 11 Education Service Center	<a href="#">Link</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Focus is on educational technology and databases for libraries</li></ul>
Texas Multiple Awards Schedule (TXMAS) <i>Austin</i>	Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts	<a href="#">Link</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Contracts based on existing commodity or service contracts, such as the GSA Federal Supply Schedule</li></ul>
The Cooperative Purchasing Network (TCPN) <i>Houston</i>	Region 4 Education Service Center	<a href="#">Link</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– One of the largest purchasing cooperatives with members nationwide</li></ul>
The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS/TAPS) <i>Mt. Pleasant</i>	Region 8 Education Service Center	<a href="#">Link</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Popular program in 37 states</li></ul>
West Texas Educational Purchasing Cooperative (WTEPC) <i>Lubbock</i>	Lubbock Independent School District	<a href="#">Link</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Membership includes school districts in West Texas</li><li>– 8 bid categories as well as copy paper reverse auction</li></ul>

#### Other important programs outside Texas include:

- [Western States Contracting Alliance](#)
- [U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance](#)
- [GSA Schedules](#)
- [Educational & Institutional Cooperative Purchasing](#)



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- [Provista/Novation](#)

*Strategic Partnerships, Inc. (SPI) has developed a ‘favored cooperative purchasing program’ guidebook that outlines the preferred cooperative purchasing programs for major state, county, municipal and K-12 levels of government for 30+ states. The results were compiled from hundreds of interviews with public sector purchasers. For more information on this product or other SPI services, contact **Reagan Weil at 512-531-3917 or [rweil@spartnerships.com](mailto:rweil@spartnerships.com)**.*