

# About Cooperative Purchasing

## Fast facts:

- **\$5 Billion** in annual contract sales
- **50,000 state and local** governments and education entities utilize Sourcewell contracts
- **400 contracts** awarded, providing access to commodities and services

## About Sourcewell

Sourcewell was created by the state of Minnesota and is an independent, local government agency. Sourcewell contracts may be used by governments to procure equipment, products, and services through joint exercise of powers laws or the authority found in cooperative purchasing statutes. Sourcewell cooperative purchasing contracts are available for use free of charge or any obligation to any government entity including states, federal government agencies, counties, cities, and townships, among others.

## Contact

**Bill Otto**, Government Relations Associate  
[bill.otto@sourcewell-mn.gov](mailto:bill.otto@sourcewell-mn.gov)  
651-295-0365

## Solutions for state and local government procurement

Sourcewell facilitates the competitive public solicitation and contract award process for the benefit of states and other government entities across North America. Use of Sourcewell cooperative purchasing contracts provide states and other governments with increased administrative and time efficiencies, and aggregated demand resulting in national-scale volume pricing. Sourcewell contracts results in cost and time savings for government procurement.

Cooperative purchasing is a trusted and accepted procurement tool used in all 50 states. Cooperative purchasing is a supplement to traditional procurement, an efficient and modern mechanism streamlining the procurement process.

Sourcewell's solicitation process is both public and open, and fair and competitive. These principles ensure efficient stewardship of taxpayer dollars when government entities procure goods and services.

Cooperative purchasing fosters effective, broad-based competition within the free enterprise system. It affords other governments the benefits from time and administrative savings and allows for cost efficiencies generated from economies of scale.

Sourcewell follows a procurement process as prescribed by law. Sourcewell's competitive solicitation process meets the requirements of government procurement and complies with state and federal rules and regulations. This fair and open competitive solicitation process ensures maximum competition among industry, as well as ensures it meets the requirements that government procurement standards mandate.

Learn more at [sourcewell-mn.gov](http://sourcewell-mn.gov).