

USM Board of Regents Finance Committee

Educational Overview of
Procurement



January 28, 2026

Governing Authority for USM Procurements

- Procurements are governed by the USM Procurement Policies and Procedures that were adopted by the Board of Regents and approved by the Board of Public Works in 2000.
- Procurement Policies and Procedures were updated and revised in 2016; Uniform Terms and Conditions in 2017.
- USM recently updated its procurement policies; approved by the Board of Public Works on August 28, 2024
- USM is exempt from all provisions of Division II of the State Finance and Procurement Article, except for the following provisions:
 - Section 11-205: Collusion
 - Section 11-205.1: Falsification, concealment, etc. of material facts
 - Section 13-219: Required non-discrimination clauses
 - Section 13-225: Retainage
 - Title 14, Subtitle 3: Minority Business Participation
 - Title 15, Subtitle 1: Procurement Contract Administration
 - Section 15-226: Timing of payments, notice upon nonpayment, disputes, appeals
 - Title 16: Suspension and Debarment of Contractors

Statutory Purchasing Requirements and Preferences

- In addition, USM policies and procedures require, to the maximum extent practicable, the purchase of supplies and services in accordance with Title 14, subtitle 1: preference providers.
- More specifically, §14-102(a) requires “a State or State aided or controlled entity” to buy supplies and services from:
 - Maryland Correctional Enterprises (MCE)
 - Blind Industries and Services of Maryland (BISM)
 - Community Service Providers through the Maryland Works Program for disabled individuals.
- There is also a statutory requirement under §14-103, 4(c) that requires a prime contractor that provides housekeeping or janitorial services to purchase janitorial products from BISM to the extent practicable.

Procurement Thresholds

- Less than \$25,000: Non-Competitive
- \$25,000-\$200,000: Simplified
- \$200,000 or above: Formal Procurement