

Food service disclaimer

Consider the following before using this RFP for purchasing with Federal Child Nutrition fund 240 in Texas public schools.

Note: This RFP is in compliance with all Texas Statutes.

As of February 2016, TIPS cannot guarantee compliance with the new Texas Department of Agriculture Child Nutrition Food Service Regulations found in the document entitled, "ARM Section 17" that was issued in February 2016. Texas Department of Agriculture's ARM Section 17 includes requirements that are not included in 2 CFR Part 200. However, if the member is paying for the order with state or local funds, the process still meets all those requirements under Texas law. The primary rules that prevent compliance are that the solicitation must specify quantities of goods or services that will be purchased during the life of the contract and the advertising requirement that instructs entities publishing a formal solicitation such as a Request For Proposal (RFP) to include in the advertisement the Evaluation Criteria and weights. Our existing contracts have not met these criteria. While we could meet the advertising criterion on future solicitations, we can never meet the quantities determination because we cannot know which members will use which contracts and how much they will purchase under the contract. Whether or not it meets the regulations for other states Federally funded Child Nutrition Programs, TIPS cannot speculate and the TIPS member must make the determination. TIPS provides the due diligence and can answer any questions regarding the solicitation process to aid our members outside Texas in determining the compliance with their State's regulations for those particular funds. TIPS is in compliance with US Dept. of Education "EDGAR" and if the awarded vendor agreed to the contract clauses required by 2 CFR part 200, their contract is EDGAR compliant. TIPS provides the information on the vendor's "Due Diligence" tab.