

LANCASTER-LEBANON INTERMEDIATE UNIT 13 (IU13)

COLLABORATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM

PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND VENDOR INFORMATION

Program Overview

By aggregating their purchasing requirements for regularly utilized commodities, participating organizations in the Collaborative Purchasing Program endeavor to:

- Reduce overhead costs during the bid and specification preparation process.
- Obtain lower unit costs by leveraging volume.
- Standardize product specifications and quality standards.
- Implement best practices to streamline the bidding and purchasing process.

Collaborative Purchasing Program Bids are conducted electronically, via secure Internet servers. Bid information and documentation can be accessed on-line, ensuring that participating organizations and vendors have direct, current and immediate access to all transactions.

Program Vendor Information

- IU13 Collaborative Services conducts its line item bids each school year with the assistance of esm Solutions, a provider of web-based procurement tools.
- All vendors wishing to participate as a bidder in the IU13 Collaborative Purchasing Program Line Item Bids must register with esm Solutions annually.
- IU13 Collaborative Services conducts bi-annual catalog discount bids for various commodities. These bids do not require esm Solutions registration.
- Please consult the Terms and Conditions accompanying each bid for more specific information.
- Complete information and user instructions for the electronic bid process will be forwarded to registered bidders via email.