

HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY MANUAL

Procedure: PPP.1
Page: 6 of 18
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6.03. Specifications/Procedures

6.03.01 When the purchase of one or more items requiring competitive bidding pursuant to Chapter 262, Texas Local Government Code, and this Article 7, is required, the person desiring to purchase the item shall first submit written specifications to the Purchasing Agent. The Purchasing Agent shall, upon request, assist in developing the specifications.

(REVISED VERSION) as of 07/31/2018-CC Item No. A1-65807

6.03.02 No specifications shall be written, which by design exclude legitimate competition between vendors. Brand names and model numbers that may appear in the Specifications and/or Pricing/Delivery Information sheet are for reference only. It is not the intent of Hidalgo County to restrict these bids in such cases, but to establish a desired quality of level of merchandise or to meet a pre-established standard due to the existing items. Vendors may offer items of equal stature and the burden of proof of such stature rests with vendors. Hidalgo County shall act as the sole judge in determining equality and recommendation. Hidalgo County may require documentation demonstrating equal or superior products as compared to products required.

6.03.03 The requisition, along with the proposed specifications and a bidding timeline, are submitted to the Commissioners Court which shall approve the form and content of the specifications and determine when the bids will be opened and when results will be submitted to the Commissioners Court.

6.03.04 After approval of the specifications and bidding timeline, the Purchasing Department will proceed with advertising for bids in accordance with the Timeline and applicable provisions of the Local Government Code.

6.03.05 The Purchasing Agent may mail an Invitation to Bid form to potential vendors when, in the judgment of the Purchasing Agent, such Invitation to Bid would enhance the bidding process.

6.03.06 Alternative competitive proposals may be obtained on purchases of insurance and high-technology items (as defined by statute), and for items for which it is impractical to prepare detailed specifications. The procedure for this is prescribed in Sections 262.0295 and 262.030 of the Texas Local Government Code and may be utilized by the Purchasing Agent when approved by the Commissioners Court.