

M.G.L. c. 30B – PROCUREMENT OF SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

Estimated Contract Amount	Under \$10,000	\$10,000 to \$50,000	Over \$50,000
Procurement Procedure	Sound business practices. ¹	Use a written purchase description to solicit written quotations from no fewer than 3 persons who customarily provide the supply or service. ²	Sealed bids or proposals (M.G.L. c. 30B, §§ 5 or 6).
Notice/Advertising Requirements	None.	None.	Post a notice 1) in your jurisdiction’s office, and, at least two weeks before bids or proposals are due, publish 2) in a newspaper, and 3) on COMMBUYS. If the procurement will exceed \$100,000, at least two weeks before bids or proposals are due, publish in the <i>Goods and Services Bulletin</i> .
Award contract to:	Responsible person offering the best price.	Responsible person offering the needed quality of supply or service at the lowest price quotation.	Under § 5, the responsible ³ and responsive ⁴ bidder offering the best price. Under § 6, the most advantageous proposal from a responsible and responsive proposer taking into consideration price and non-price proposals.
Written Contract Required⁵	No. Keep written records as a best practice.	Yes.	Yes.
Maximum Contract Term⁶	Three years, unless majority vote authorizes longer.		
OSD Option	Yes.		

¹ M.G.L. c. 30B, § 2, defines sound business practices as “ensuring the receipt of favorable prices by periodically soliciting price lists or quotes.”

² M.G.L. c. 30B, § 4, as amended by Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016.

³ M.G.L. c. 30B, § 2, defines a responsible bidder or offeror as “a person who has the capability to perform fully the contract requirements, and the integrity and reliability which assures good faith performance.”

⁴ M.G.L. c. 30B, § 2, defines a responsive bidder or offeror as “a person who has submitted a bid or proposal which conforms in all respects to the invitation for bids or request for proposals.”

⁵ M.G.L. c. 30B, § 17(a), states “All contracts in the amount of \$10,000 or more shall be in writing, and the governmental body shall make no payment for a supply or service rendered prior to the execution of such contract.”

⁶ M.G.L. c. 30B, § 12(b), states “Unless authorized by majority vote, a procurement officer shall not award a contract for a term exceeding three years, including any renewal, extension, or option.”