



Conflict of Interest – Purchasing

Missouri Ethics Commission (MEC)

▶ **What are the bidding requirements that apply to political subdivisions?**

The political subdivision should look at their adopted purchasing ordinance and policies for specific requirements as well as Chapter 50 RSMo (county purchasing), Chapters 71-80 RSMo (cities, towns, villages) and Chapter 105 RSMo (public officials).

In the absence of a specific statute or rule, MEC recommends that notice be given either through a newspaper advertisement, public notice placed in areas designated for such, or notice given during an official meeting. **It is important that the public be made aware of the notice.**

▶ **What do purchasing policies require?**

Most purchasing policies require:

- Bid requirement dollar threshold
- Public notice of the bid criteria & bid consideration criteria
- Sealing of bids
- Acceptance of lowest or lowest and best bid.

NOTE: For requirements on bid acceptance see pg 15 of our *Conflict of Interest Guide*.



View our other Conflict of Interest Resources

[Conflict of Interest Guide](#)

[Conflict of Interest FAQs](#)

[Relationship Chart](#)



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