

KENTUCKY AUTHORITY

Cooperative purchasing is authorized under Kentucky Law KY.REV.STAT.ANN §45A.300. Specifically, any public purchasing unit may either participate in, sponsor, conduct, or administer a cooperative purchasing agreement for the acquisition of any supplies, services or construction with any other public purchasing unit or foreign purchasing activity. Id. A “public purchasing unit” is either a local public purchasing unit or a state public purchasing unit. ID at §45A.295(3). A “local public purchasing unit” is, among other things, any city, county or other subdivision of the state including a public education district, that expends public funds for the acquisition of supplies, equipment or construction. Id. A “foreign purchasing activity” is any purchasing organization outside of Kentucky that if located in Kentucky would qualify as a public purchasing unit. Id. A Texas Regional Service Center is a political subdivision. TEX.EDUC.CODE § 8.001, et seq. therefore, if located in Kentucky, an ESC would be considered a local public purchasing unit. Accordingly, a unit of Kentucky government may participate in the TIPS program.