

**Rancho Santiago Community College District**  
**BOARD POLICY**  
Chapter 6  
Business and Fiscal Affairs

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**BP 6330 Purchasing**

**References:**

Public Contract Code Sections 20650 and 20651  
Education Code 81656  
Government Code 1090 - Conflicts of Interest

The Chancellor is delegated the authority to purchase supplies, materials, apparatus, equipment and services as necessary to the efficient operation of the District. No such purchase shall exceed the amounts specified by Section 20651 of the California Public Contract Code as amended from time to time.

All such transactions shall be reviewed by the Board every 60 days.

The Governing Board recognizes that money and money management comprise the foundation support of the whole district program. To make that support as effective as possible, the Governing Board intends:

1. to encourage advance planning through the best possible budget procedures;
2. to explore all practical sources of potential income;
3. to guide the expenditure of funds so as to extract the greatest educational returns;
4. to expect quality accounting and reporting procedures, and recognize the need for cost effective systems to support this requirement;
5. to maintain the level of unit expenditure needed to provide quality education within the ability of the community to pay.
6. to ensure that the value of goods and services is adequate for the amount of money expended; and, that specifications for material and equipment are determined (when appropriate).

The Director of Purchasing is authorized to make purchases through the State of California Cooperative Purchasing Program operated by the Department of General Service, the Foundation for California Community Colleges and via liaison systems established with other state, county, city public agencies, schools and community colleges. These types of purchases will be executed when they are in the best interest of the district relative to optimum pricing, delivery, and purchasing logistics.

**Purchasing Code of Ethics**

It is the policy of the Governing Board to adopt the concepts in the suggested Purchasing Code of Ethics and recommended policies and procedures of the California Association of School Business Officials (CASBO). These standards are included in periodic revisions to the "School Purchasing Handbook." The following Code of Ethics is based on the CASBO model.

It is the policy of staff and Governing Board members:

1. To regard public service as a sacred trust, giving primary consideration to the interests of the college district and the community by which we are employed.
2. To purchase without prejudice, seeking to obtain the maximum benefit for each tax dollar expended.
3. To avoid any unfair, questionable, or unethical practices.
4. To respect our obligations and to require that obligations to our college district be respected.
5. To accord vendor representatives the same courteous treatment we would like to receive.
6. To strive constantly for the improvement of our purchasing methods and the materials we buy.
7. To assist purchasing agents of other public entities in the performance of their duties whenever possible.
8. To conduct ourselves with fairness and dignity, avoid conflicts of interest, and demand honesty in buying and selling.
9. To cooperate with all organizations and individuals engaged in enhancing the development of the purchasing profession.
10. To remember that we act as representatives of the college district and to govern ourselves accordingly.
11. To negotiate the lowest purchase prices feasible while maintaining quality products and service.
12. To adhere to all laws and regulations and to be strong advocates for the success of women, minority, and disabled veteran-owned businesses.
13. Members of the Governing Board and any district employee shall not be financially interested in any contract made by them in their official capacity; nor, shall any member of the Governing Board and any district employee be purchasers of any sale or vendors of any purchase to the district in which they are financially interested.

**Revised: September 9, 2013 (Previously BP3300, BP3302, BP3304 and BP3306)**

**References Updated: March 16, 2015**

**Revised: November 13, 2017**