



Equalis Group Delivers *Public Sector Compliance*

Remain in Compliance with Equalis Group

The Public Sector procurement process is riddled with nuances and regulatory considerations established to safeguard how taxpayer dollars are spent. It is often overwhelming and confusing as purchasers navigate strict guidelines and a combination of local, state, and federal statutory requirements, but it doesn't have to be.

There are three compliant avenues for Public Sector entities to spend taxpayer dollars: 1) conducting stand-alone bids/RFPs/RFOs; 2) purchasing through State Term contracts; and, 3) buying through the types of competitively solicited cooperative agreements Equalis Group offers.

We leverage our extensive Public Sector procurement acumen and decades of experience to ensure our members remain compliant when utilizing our publicly procured cooperative agreements to save time and money.

Equalis Group partners with Lead Agencies, Region 10 Educational Service Center (**Region 10 ESC**) in Texas and The Cooperative Council of Governments (**CCOG**) in Ohio, to conduct rigorous and transparent competitive public sector procurement processes for critical products and services. Winning suppliers, distributors, and manufacturers are selected based on both qualitative criteria and pricing. We then establish compliant already-procured Master Agreements with these winning vendors that are available to public agencies nationwide.

Equalis Group's Compliant Solicitation Process

Step 1



Prepare Solicitation

Lead Agency identifies member needs

Step 2



Publish Solicitation

Lead Agency publicly advertises & proactively distributes solicitation

Step 3



Open Proposals

Vendors submit proposal responses

Step 4



Evaluate & Award

Lead Agency evaluates responses using transparent criteria & issues contract awards

Step 5



Establish Master Agreement

Lead Agency negotiates final contract & posts on www.EqualisGroup.org



In short, Equalis Group collaborates with our Lead Agencies to deliver compliant, publicly procured cooperative agreements that Public Sector entities across the country can utilize to: *i)* quickly acquire the products and services they need; *ii)* receive better pricing through the collective buying power of Equalis Group Members; and, *iii)* save time through Equalis Group's legal and compliant alternative to conducting their own resource-consuming solicitation process.

Created by Public Sector Organizations *for Public Sector Organizations*



Who is Equalis Group?

Equalis Group is a Member-Driven, Supplier-Centric organization that embodies the power of partnership. Equalis Group operates with the guiding principle that when the objectives of buyers and sellers are aligned, sustainable value is created, transcending that of the typical short-term transactional relationship. With this differentiated approach, Equalis Group is not just a cooperative purchasing organization; we are a family.

We leverage Equalis Group members' combined buying power to command better pricing and favorable contract

terms from suppliers. We develop and administer a diverse portfolio of cooperative purchasing programs that cover a wide range of products and services and provide our members with a legal and compliant exemption to the bid/request for proposals (**RFP**) process.

Each program in our rapidly growing portfolio provides our members with contracting compliance and the ability to configure the solution that best meets their individual needs while achieving the lowest Total Cost of Ownership.

Time Saved through Equalis Group = More Resources for You to Invest

How many hours and over how many weeks or months does your team invest in a typical solicitation process? How many solicitations does your organization publish each year? How much time and effort can your organization save by leveraging Equalis Group's already-procured portfolio of programs? In what ways can you re-invest that saved time and energy to fulfill your organization's purpose?

Your Solicitation Process Today



Your Implementation Process with Equalis Group



Become a Member of Equalis Group

If you are not already a member, you can join Equalis Group in just minutes and immediately access our portfolio of cooperative purchasing programs. Simply visit www.equalisgroup.org/member-registration to get started. There are no dues, fees, or obligations.



Gordian & Equalis Group Publicly Procured Master Agreement Contract #R10-1106A

Region 10 Education Service Center (**Region 10**), an Equalis Group Lead Agency, issued RFP #R10-1106 for Job Order Contracting (**JOC**) & Indefinite Quantity Contracting (**IQC**) on October 02, 2020 and subsequently entered into Contract #R10-1106A with Gordian.

Additional information regarding the procurement process and contract award can be found on the [Gordian page](#) at the Equalis Group website, including the Gordian products and services available through the Master Agreement, RFP and scoring documents, the Master Agreement between Region 10 and Gordian, and pricing/discount model.

Entities Eligible to Purchase from Gordian through the Master Agreement

This contract vehicle is immediately available to existing Equalis Group Members.

Not a Member yet? Any public sector entity in the country can join Equalis Group and begin utilizing any Equalis Group competitively solicited master agreement by completing the [membership registration form](#). New Members receive a fully executed copy of their completed membership form via email immediately and will receive their Equalis Group membership number within one-to-two days. There are no dues, fees, or obligations and completing the form takes less than five minutes.

Help with Membership, Procurement Questions & Navigating Our Contract Portfolio

Equalis Group's dedicated Member Engagement Team exists to support our Members. The team is readily accessible and is prepared to answer questions about membership, public sector purchasing compliance, Equalis Group's procurement and contracting processes, and our expansive portfolio of already-procured contract vehicles. Current and prospective Members can find their Member Engagement Team point person and direct contact information [here](#).

View all Equalis Group contracts and download a sortable Excel file with key information about each contract in our ever-expanding portfolio [here](#).

About Equalis

Equalis Group is a Public Sector purchasing cooperative. We deliver compliant, publicly procured cooperative agreements that Public Sector entities across the country can utilize to: *i*) quickly acquire the products and services they need; *ii*) receive better pricing through the collective buying power of Equalis Group Members; and, *iii*) save time through Equalis Group's legal and compliant alternative to conducting their own resource-consuming solicitation process.

Equalis Group partners with two primary Lead Agencies, Region 10 Education Service Center (**Region 10**) in Texas and The Cooperative Council of Governments (**CCOG**) in Ohio, to conduct rigorous and transparent competitive public sector procurement processes for critical products and services. Winning suppliers, distributors, and manufacturers are selected based on both qualitative criteria and pricing. The Lead Agencies then establish compliant already-procured Master Agreements with the winning vendors available to all agencies that join Equalis Group.

Building Innovation: Modern Solutions for Every Phase of the Building Lifecycle



Gordian & Equalis Group

Publicly Procured Contract Vehicle

Gordian Contract Highlights

There is never enough time, never enough money, or never the right people to complete your repairs, renovations, and simple construction projects. Gordian's Job Order Contracting (**JOC**), construction procurement, solutions provide comprehensive data, robust software, and unmatched industry expertise to help you maximize your resources and complete many projects with one competitively-awarded contract. Equalis Group members leveraging this publicly procured contract can expect the following:

- Access, turnkey Job Order Contracting and facility planning solutions.
- A fast, flexible way to purchase construction services enabled by a single-bid process that allows projects to start faster creating partnerships between project owners and awarded contractors, resulting in higher quality work.
- Project administration and implementation provided by Gordian's highly qualified and experienced team.
- Also available, facilities benchmarking data to secure funding & guidance for long-term capital plans.

Who is Gordian?

Gordian is the leading provider of facility and construction cost data, software and expertise for all phases of the building lifecycle. From planning to design, procurement, construction and operations, Gordian's solutions help clients maximize efficiency, optimize cost savings and increase building quality. This includes understanding and communicating the needs of the building portfolio, determining investment priorities and creating actionable plans, defining accurate project budgets and procuring and executing construction work efficiently.

Save Time... we've done the procurement work so you don't have to.

Save Money... your dollar goes further with the collective buying power of Equalis Group.

Stay Legal... our competitive procurement process delivers statutory compliance in every state.

Contract #: R10-1106A

Lead Agency: Region 10 ESC

Get Started



Learn more about how we can help you achieve your procurement goals while Saving Time, Saving Money & Staying Legal. Email Engage@EqualisGroup.org or visit EqualisGroup.org/Map to connect with your dedicated Member Engagement Resource today.

Procurement Solutions

Job Order Contracting (JOC)



JOC - Build and Maintain Crucial Facilities and Infrastructure with Less Hassle

Job Order Contracting (**JOC**) is an alternative construction process that helps facility and infrastructure owners' complete repairs, renovations and alterations with a single, competitively-bid contract. Unlike traditional bidding where each project is identified, designed and put out to bid, JOC establishes prices up front, eliminating the need to bid projects separately.

Partner with Gordian to implement a best-in-class Job Order Contracting program. Gordian's JOC solutions provide comprehensive data, robust software and unmatched industry expertise to help you maximize your available resources and complete many projects with one competitively awarded contract.

What Makes Gordian's JOC Solutions Unique



Data

- Powered by a customized Construction Task Catalog® (**CTC**), created exclusively for construction procurement with your unique requirements.
- Includes highly researched in-market cost data on materials, labor and equipment.



Software

- Managed on an easy-to-use, collaborative online platform.
- Designed to meet JOC best practices and provides instant access to your customized CTC, ensuring price certainty and procurement speed.
- Transparency and oversight into the Job Order workflow from creation to closeout.



Expertise

- Unmatched experience in JOC program implementation and administration.
- Over \$2.4B in construction volume completed each year through Gordian's JOC solutions.
- Award-winning team dedicated to the development, implementation, and support of JOC programs.

Overcoming Common Construction Challenges with JOC

It often seems there is not enough time, money or manpower available to complete all the projects on your plate. But with Job Order Contracting, high-quality work can be done despite these challenges.



Limited Resources



Budget Constraints



Tight Scheduling Windows and Timelines



Changing Scopes of Work

Procurement Solutions

ezlQC®



ezlQC® - Streamlined Procurement Through Cooperative Purchasing Networks

When you need to get repairs, renovations, upgrades or time-sensitive work underway quickly, Gordian's ezlQC solution, available through Equalis Group, allows you to access competitively-awarded contractors ready to get started on your project immediately. With ezlQC, you can issue POs in days and still satisfy your local competitive-bidding requirements.

Benefits of ezlQC®



Cost Control

Leverage ezlQC establishes localized material, labor and equipment pricing, ensuring costs don't get out of hand.



Time Savings

Access a pool of readily available, awarded contractors and preset pricing for tasks that allows projects to begin in a matter of days.



Quality Work

An experienced Gordian representative will work with you and your awarded contractor to ensure quality every step of the way.

5 Step Process with ezlQC®

Joint Scope Meeting

Contractor site inspection and Pre-Price Proposal Q&A to better understand SOW.



Detailed Scope of Work

Detailed SOW is prepared and submitted along with the RFP to the contractor.



Price Proposal

Price Proposal and construction schedule, along with identified local contractors, are submitted to Gordian for review.



Price Proposal Review

Proposal is reviewed by Gordian prior to client review and approval, ensuring the appropriate tasks and quantities are reflected.



Job Order Issued

When the client is 100% satisfied with the Price Proposal, construction schedule, and proposed subcontractors, a purchase order may then be issued.

Facility Planning

ROPA



Return on Physical Assets - Make Confident Decisions About Physical Assets

With the Return on Physical Assets (**ROPA**) solution, Gordian will work with you to establish an analytical framework for decision-making to be certain your choices are founded on objective data and tied to historical and peer performance. As trusted long-term partners, Gordian will be by your side with decades of industry experience and unbiased perspective to guide you through these critical business decisions.

The ROPA Decision Making Framework



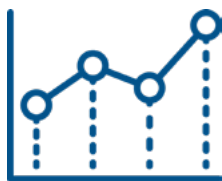
Data Collection & Measurement

Gordian collects and assembles a holistic set of finance, facilities and infrastructure data to establish a baseline of the current state of your physical campus.



Performance Assessment

Assess your current situation and determine how well-positioned you are to address exposures through historical tracking and peer benchmarks.



Analysis & Modeling

Utilizing experience and data from over 450 institutions, Gordian sheds light on where existing practices will take your campus and explore different approaches to create a better future.



Action Planning

With priorities defined and understood, decisions about your facilities can enable action towards institutional goals and a sustainable future for your campus.



Continuous Improvement

As an annual membership service, we'll measure the impact of actions taken, track progress towards goals and ensure your shared vision continues to serve the mission of your institution.



Membership FAQ

Save Time. Save Money. Stay Legal. That's our commitment to our members.

Why Become A Member Of Equalis Group?

Your organization receives immediate access to our [expanding portfolio](#) of compliant, already-procured contract vehicles. These contracts are designed to achieve the lowest Total Cost of Ownership for our members, delivering the best possible overall value. Our contracts feature enhanced contract terms and conditions and aggressive pricing not typically available to individual entities purchasing independently. There is strength in numbers when it comes to buying products and services.

How Does Equalis Group Work?

Equalis Group collaborates with our Lead Agencies to deliver compliant, publicly procured cooperative agreements that Public Sector entities across the country can utilize to: *i)* quickly acquire the products and services they need directly from our awarded suppliers; *ii)* receive better pricing through the collective buying power of Equalis Group Members; and, *iii)* save time through Equalis Group's legal and compliant alternative to conducting their own resource-consuming solicitation process.

What Types Of Entities Are Eligible To Join?

Equalis Group membership is available to federal, state, and local government agencies; public and private educational institutions, including K-12 schools, colleges, and universities; non-profit organizations; and private sector companies. Typically, any individual within an organization who is authorized to sign documents on behalf of the organization can complete the membership form without any formal board action, although approval requirements do vary from state to state.

What's The Catch?

There is no catch. There is no cost to join Equalis Group, and there are no membership dues or obligations of any kind. Joining Equalis Group is like getting a library card – membership simply ensures your organization has access to our contract portfolio. You decide which contracts to utilize and when.

How Do I Join?

Joining Equalis Group online takes less than five minutes. Simply visit our [Join Page](#) and follow the instructions provided.

If you would rather send us a hard copy of the Membership Agreement, download the Agreement from our [Join Page](#) and email the signed PDF to Membership@EqualisGroup.org.

What Happens After Joining?

Immediately after completing the [membership registration form](#) you will receive an email confirmation letting you know that your membership is being processed. Within one to two business days, Equalis Group will email your welcome email, which includes your membership number. To begin purchasing, simply provide your membership number to an Equalis Group awarded supplier and you will receive the improved pricing and other benefits of our competitively solicited contracts.

Who Do I Contact For Questions Or To Begin Utilizing Equalis Group Contracts?

If you have any questions about the membership process, would like to learn more about any of our already-procured contracts, or want to start purchasing through one or more of our publicly procured agreements, visit www.EqualisGroup.org/Map to connect with your dedicated Member Engagement Resource today or send an email to Engage@EqualisGroup.org.