

# Food & Nutrition Program



## Your Foodservice Solution

RPS and Equalis Group partnered to grow the USDA-compliant Food & Nutrition Program nationwide, secure aggressive discounts from food and supplies manufacturers, and provide school districts data and proprietary analytics to identify ongoing savings opportunities. There are no costs, dues, or obligations to join RPS & Equalis.

Rockies Procurement Services (**RPS**) formed as a foodservice purchasing cooperative in 2009. RPS delivers significant procurement efficiency and savings on food and supplies for urban, suburban, and rural member school districts.

Equalis Group is a cooperative purchasing organization that delivers USDA-compliant, publicly procured cooperative agreements school districts across the country 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.

## Benefits of Membership

### Cost Savings

The Food & Nutrition Program provides significant cost savings to member school districts by:

- Establishing USDA-compliant contracts with distributors and manufacturers across the country.
- Leveraging members' combined buying power to establish direct contracts with manufacturers and achieve additional savings.
- Actively managing manufacturer agreements to ensure the best price is always loaded for members.
- Utilizing proprietary analytics to identify ongoing savings opportunities for each member.

### Reduced Administrative Burden

RPS and Equalis Group manage every aspect of the Food & Nutrition Program, including RFP development, procurement, contracting, USDA compliance, analytics, and continuous contract management.

### USDA Compliance

- Solicitations include USDA-required terms and conditions.
- Procurement processes and pricing models meet current USDA requirements.

### Member Influence Over Product Selection

Participating members provide direct input to RFP development, vendor selection, and products stocked.

### Dedicated Distributor Support

Awarded distributors provide dedicated account executives and support personnel.

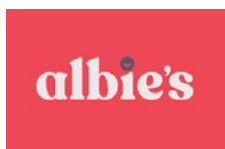
### Relationships

Member school districts have the opportunity to connect throughout the year, build relationships, and learn from each other. Long-standing members provide mentoring for new participants.

## Getting Started

Join the Food & Nutrition Program at [Equalisgroup.org/Member-Registration-RPS](https://Equalisgroup.org/Member-Registration-RPS). Contact Bradley Brown, Equalis Group's Senior Director of Supplier Development, to learn more. Email [BBrown@EqualisGroup.org](mailto:BBrown@EqualisGroup.org) or dial direct 407.902.4302.

# equalis GROUP





## Shamrock Foods & Equalis Group Publicly Procured Master Agreement Contract #RPS-1010

Rockies Procurement Services (**RPS**) is an Equalis Group Lead Agency for the Equalis Group and RPS Food & Nutrition Program (**Food & Nutrition Program**). RPS issued RFP #RPS-1010 for School Foodservice Distributor on November 17, 2023 and subsequently entered into Contract #RPS-1010 with Shamrock Foods.

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

### Entities Eligible to Purchase from Shamrock Foods through the Master Agreement

This contract is immediately available to Food & Nutrition Program Members.

Not yet a Member? Any educational institution in the country can join the Food & Nutrition Program and begin utilizing any Equalis Group competitively solicited master agreement by completing the [Food & Nutrition Program 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 & RPS

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.

Rockies Procurement Services (**RPS**) is a Colorado political subdivision and a public corporation established pursuant to [C.R.S. 29-1-203](#) and [C.R.S. 29-1-203.5](#).

Equalis Group partnered with RPS because of its rigorous and transparent competitive public sector procurement processes for critical products and services. RPS selects winning suppliers, distributors, and manufacturers based on both qualitative criteria and pricing. RPS then establishes compliant already-procured Master Agreements with the winning vendors available to all agencies that join the Food & Nutrition Program.





## Consistency and Expertise You Can Count On



### Rockies Procurement Services, Equalis Group & Shamrock Foods

*Publicly Procured Contract Vehicle*

#### Shamrock Foods Contract Highlights

- Access to a full line of fresh produce, dairy, food, non-food, chemicals, and equipment utilized for School Foodservice operators.
- Product selection that includes, but is not limited to, an extensive portfolio of Child Nutrition (CN) label products, Smart Snack compliant items, and USDA Foods further processed items for NOI and CCNOI.
- Competitively priced manufacturer contracts that meet the USDA federal procurement requirements for public sector organizations and school districts.
- An internal and external sales team specializing in School Nutrition program requirements.

#### Who is Shamrock Foods?

For over 100 years, Shamrock Foods has proudly served our customers and put them at the center of all we do. As a family-owned company, we're no stranger to the power food has in bringing communities together and that togetherness has been essential to our success.

#### Who is Rockies Procurement Services?

RPS is a group of Colorado/Wyoming school districts large and small who formed a cooperative purchasing group in 2009 to bring the first Group Purchasing Organization (GPO) to schools in our region. In doing so, RPS has driven savings in significant ways when purchasing food and supplies and has built a network of like-minded industry peers. Now with 45 members across the Colorado Front Range, Western Slope and Southern Wyoming, RPS understands the unique needs of districts in both rural and urban communities, the realities of rugged terrain, and the taste preferences of students here in the West.

*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 #:** RPS-1010

**Lead Agency:** RPS

### 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](mailto:Engage@EqualisGroup.org) or visit [EqualisGroup.org/Map](http://EqualisGroup.org/Map) to connect with your dedicated Member Engagement Resource today.*