



Introducing ARBuy

What is ARBuy?

The State of Arkansas is implementing a new eProcurement system that will transform the procure-to-pay process for all State Departments and support local government purchasing. The system is powered by [Periscope Holdings](#) and will include a new exciting feature called the Periscope Marketplace. The Marketplace allows buyers to shop directly from a catalog of Arkansas statewide contracts.

Why are you receiving this notice?

You're receiving this notice because your business has been identified as having a current statewide contract with the State of Arkansas that is available for State Departments and local governments to purchase products and services.

How will things change?

In addition to having a single source of all contracts associated with the State of Arkansas, the State is looking to increase awareness and business opportunities for statewide contract holders. To fund this new centralized eProcurement system, the State will implement a 1% supplier convenience fee on all statewide contract purchases. Contractors will remit to the State of Arkansas 1% of total sales made under their statewide contracts to fund this innovative technology that increases the visibility of contracts and the ease with which buyers may order.

How will this benefit my business?

A natural question is “what’s in it for me?” Based on independent research and similar State eProcurement initiatives, it’s been proven that the implementation of eProcurement brings many benefits to suppliers, including:

- The enablement of your catalogs for direct searching and ordering, which makes it easier for buyers to find what’s on contract, understand the products and services, and quickly order. When buyers can search the web for products, services, information, and solutions it greatly increases visibility and ordering.
- The system and catalogs will be rolled out to State Departments, but also to all local governments, school districts, counties, and cities—increasing the reach of your state contracts.
- Support as a marketing arm for the statewide contracts to encourage knowledge and use by locals—providing additional marketing resources directly for your company.
- Access to readily available contract information that increases the use of State contracts and reduces the need for individual local government procurements. This reduces your time in responding to multiple, repetitive solicitations—saving you time and money!
- That we are taking the entire State of Arkansas procurement process online in a single system, so you don’t have to deal with purchases from every department separately. This makes the procurement process easier, faster, and streamlined for the State, the State’s suppliers, and the State’s contractors.

Timing for ARBuy rollout

In June 2020, you will begin receiving emails in reference to your statewide contract including a State Contract Amendment that specifies the inclusion of the 1% supplier convenience fee to be assessed on all purchases under the contract, along with reporting and payment requirements. State agencies and many local governments will begin using ARBuy in early 2021 to post solicitations. All organizations looking to do business with departments need to register in ARBuy. You will receive guidance on registering in ARBuy in a future communication.

Immediate action to take

Add this email to your address book to ensure you do not miss any important updates: ARBuy@arkansas.gov.

Have questions?

If you have questions on the Contract Amendment, please contact the responsible State Buyer in the Office of State Procurement.

If you have any technical/system questions or need support, please call 1-855-800-5046 or email us at: suppliersupport@periscopeholdings.com.