GOVERNMENT CODE

TITLE 10. GENERAL GOVERNMENT

SUBTITLE D. STATE PURCHASING AND GENERAL SERVICES

CHAPTER 2157. PURCHASING: PURCHASE OF AUTOMATED INFORMATION SYSTEMS

SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 2157.001.  DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1)  "Automated information system" includes:

(A)  the computers and computer devices on which an information system is automated, including computers and computer devices that the comptroller identifies in guidelines developed by the comptroller in consultation with the department and in accordance with Chapter 2054 and rules adopted under that chapter;

(B)  a service related to the automation of an information system, including computer software or computers;

(C)  a telecommunications apparatus or device that serves as a component of a voice, data, or video communications network for transmitting, switching, routing, multiplexing, modulating, amplifying, or receiving signals on the network, and services related to telecommunications that are not covered under Paragraph (D); and

(D)  for the department, as telecommunications provider for the state, the term includes any service provided by a telecommunications provider, as that term is defined by Section 51.002, Utilities Code.

(2)  "Department" means the Department of Information Resources.

(3)  "Local government" has the meaning assigned by Section 2054.003.

(4)  "State agency" has the meaning assigned by Section 2054.003.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 41, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995. Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 952, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1997; Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 62, Sec. 18.25, eff. Sept. 1, 1999; Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 426, Sec. 10, eff. June 18, 1999; Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1422, Sec. 4.13, eff. Sept. 1, 2001; Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 309, Sec. 7.25, eff. June 18, 2003.

Amended by:

Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 1068 (H.B. [1516](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/79R/billtext/html/HB01516F.HTM)), Sec. 2.02, eff. September 1, 2005.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1071 (H.B. [1524](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/HB01524F.HTM)), Sec. 69, eff. September 1, 2019.

Acts 2023, 88th Leg., R.S., Ch. 242 (H.B. [4553](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/88R/billtext/html/HB04553F.HTM)), Sec. 13, eff. September 1, 2023.

Sec. 2157.0011.  COMPTROLLER POWERS AND DUTIES.   The comptroller has under this chapter the powers and duties described by Section 2151.004(d).

Added by Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. 937 (H.B. [3560](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/80R/billtext/html/HB03560F.HTM)), Sec. 1.19, eff. September 1, 2007.

Amended by:

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1071 (H.B. [1524](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/HB01524F.HTM)), Sec. 70, eff. September 1, 2019.

Sec. 2157.0012.  AUTHORITY TO ADOPT RULES. The comptroller may adopt rules to efficiently and effectively administer this chapter.  Before adopting a rule under this section, the comptroller must conduct a public hearing regarding the proposed rule regardless of whether the requirements of Section 2001.029(b) are met.

Added by Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. 937 (H.B. [3560](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/80R/billtext/html/HB03560F.HTM)), Sec. 1.19, eff. September 1, 2007.

Sec. 2157.002.  APPLICABILITY. Subchapters A, B, and D apply only to a state agency to which Chapter 2054 applies.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 41, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995.

Sec. 2157.003.  DETERMINING BEST VALUE FOR PURCHASES OF AUTOMATED INFORMATION SYSTEMS.  "Best value" for purposes of this chapter means the lowest overall cost of an automated information system.  In determining the lowest overall cost for a purchase or lease of an automated information system under this chapter, the comptroller or a state agency shall consider factors including:

(1)  the purchase price;

(2)  the compatibility to facilitate the exchange of existing data;

(3)  the capacity for expanding and upgrading to more advanced levels of technology;

(4)  quantitative reliability factors;

(5)  the level of training required to bring persons using the system to a stated level of proficiency;

(6)  the technical support requirements for the maintenance of data across a network platform and the management of the network's hardware and software;

(7)  the compliance with applicable department statewide standards validated by criteria adopted by the department by rule; and

(8)  applicable factors listed in Sections 2155.074 and 2155.075.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 41, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995. Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1206, Sec. 18, eff. Sept. 1, 1997.

Amended by:

Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 1068 (H.B. [1516](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/79R/billtext/html/HB01516F.HTM)), Sec. 2.03, eff. September 1, 2005.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1071 (H.B. [1524](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/HB01524F.HTM)), Sec. 70, eff. September 1, 2019.

Sec. 2157.004.  TRANSFERS AND LOANS. A state agency that acquires a telecommunications device, system, or service or an automated information system by interagency transfer, contract, or loan, or by public loan, shall comply with the requirements of Chapter 2054.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 41, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995.

Sec. 2157.006.   PURCHASING METHODS. (a)  The comptroller or other state agency shall purchase an automated information system using:

(1)  the purchasing method described by Section 2157.068 for commodity items; or

(2)  a purchasing method designated by the comptroller to obtain the best value for the state, including a request for offers method.

(b)  A local government may purchase an automated information system using a method listed under Subsection (a).  A local government that purchases an item using a method listed under Subsection (a) satisfies any state law requiring the local government to seek competitive bids for the purchase of the item.

(c)  The comptroller shall adopt rules for designating purchasing methods under Subsection (a)(2).

Added by Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1081 (H.B. [2918](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/80R/billtext/html/HB02918F.HTM)), Sec. 9, eff. September 1, 2007.

Amended by:

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1071 (H.B. [1524](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/HB01524F.HTM)), Sec. 71, eff. September 1, 2019.

Sec. 2157.007.  CLOUD COMPUTING SERVICE. (a)  In this section:

(1)  "Cloud computing service" has the meaning assigned by Special Publication 800-145 issued by the United States Department of Commerce National Institute of Standards and Technology, as the definition existed on January 1, 2015.

(2)  "Major information resources project" has the meaning assigned by Section 2054.003.

Text of subsection as amended by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 604 (S.B. [819](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/SB00819F.HTM)), Sec. 4

(b)  A state agency shall consider:

(1)  cloud computing service options, including any security benefits and cost savings associated with purchasing those service options from a cloud computing service provider and from a statewide technology center established by the department, when making purchases for a major information resources project under Section 2054.118; and

(2)  cloud computing service options and compatibility with cloud computing services in the development of new information technology software applications.

Text of subsection as amended by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1314 (H.B. [3875](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/HB03875F.HTM)), Sec. 2

(b)  Except as provided by Subsection (b-1), a state agency shall ensure, when making purchases for an automated information system or a major information resources project, that the system or project is capable of being deployed and run on cloud computing services.

(b-1)  When making a purchase for an automated information system or a major information resources project, a state agency may determine that, due to integration limitations with legacy systems, security risks, or costs, the agency is unable to purchase a system or project capable of being deployed and run on cloud computing services.

(b-2)  At least 14 days before the date a state agency solicits bids, proposals, offers, or other applicable expressions of interest for a purchase described by Subsection (b-1), the agency shall submit to the Legislative Budget Board for the purchase of an automated information system or to the quality assurance team as defined by Section 2054.003 for the purchase of a major information resources project a report that describes the purchase and the agency's reasoning for making the purchase.

(c)  A state agency shall ensure that information resources projects that use cloud computing service options meet or exceed required state standards for cybersecurity.

(d)  Using existing resources, the department may review the process for the coordinated development, hosting, and management of computer software for state agencies that use cloud computing services.

(e)  Not later than November 15 of each even-numbered year, the department, using existing resources, shall submit a report to the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of representatives on the use of cloud computing service options by state agencies.  The report must include use cases that provided cost savings and other benefits, including security enhancements.  A state agency shall cooperate with the department in the creation of the report by providing timely and accurate information and any assistance required by the department.

Added by Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1002 (H.B. [2422](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/83R/billtext/html/HB02422F.HTM)), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2013.

Amended by:

Acts 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., Ch. 820 (H.B. [3707](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/84R/billtext/html/HB03707F.HTM)), Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2015.

Acts 2017, 85th Leg., R.S., Ch. 555 (S.B. [532](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/85R/billtext/html/SB00532F.HTM)), Sec. 4, eff. September 1, 2017.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 604 (S.B. [819](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/SB00819F.HTM)), Sec. 4, eff. September 1, 2019.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1314 (H.B. [3875](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/HB03875F.HTM)), Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2019.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1314 (H.B. [3875](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/HB03875F.HTM)), Sec. 2, eff. September 1, 2019.

SUBCHAPTER B. COMMODITY ITEMS

Sec. 2157.068.  PURCHASE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMODITY ITEMS. (a)  In this section:

(1)  "Commodity items" means commercial software, hardware, or technology services, other than telecommunications services, that are generally available to businesses or the public and for which the department determines that a reasonable demand exists from an eligible entity listed in Section 2054.0525 that purchases the items through the department.  The term includes seat management, through which an eligible entity transfers its personal computer equipment and service responsibilities to a private vendor to manage the personal computing needs for each desktop of the eligible entity, including all necessary hardware, software, and support services.

(2)  "Technology services" means services, regardless of the method of charging fees for those services, that:

(A)  relate to the development, configuration, review, assessment, acquisition, implementation, or maintenance of information technology hardware, software, or services; or

(B)  consist of other routine technology services not described by Paragraph (A).

(b)  The department shall negotiate with vendors to obtain the best value for the state in the purchase of commodity items.  When negotiating with a vendor, the department shall use information related to the state's historical spending levels on particular commodity items to secure the best value for the state.  The department may consider strategic sourcing and other methodologies to select the vendor offering the best value on commodity items.  The terms and conditions of a license agreement between a vendor and the department under this section may not be less favorable to the state than the terms of similar license agreements between the vendor and retail distributors.  The department shall, to the greatest extent practicable, negotiate a specific price for commonly purchased commodity items.  If the department selects a vendor based on the vendor's offer of a percentage discount from the list price of commodity items, the department shall document in writing how that arrangement obtains the best value for the state.

(c)  In contracting for commodity items under this section, the department shall make good faith efforts to provide contracting opportunities for, and to increase contract awards to, historically underutilized businesses and persons with disabilities' products and services available under Chapter 122, Human Resources Code.

(d)  The department may charge a reasonable administrative fee to a state agency, local government, or governmental entity of another state that purchases commodity items through the department in an amount that is sufficient to recover costs associated with the administration of this section.  Revenue derived from the collection of fees imposed under this subsection may be appropriated to the department for:

(1)  developing statewide information resources technology policies and planning under Chapter 2054; and

(2)  providing shared information resources technology services under Chapter 2054.

(e)  The department shall compile and maintain a list of commodity items available for purchase through the department that have a lower price than the prices for commodity items otherwise available to state agencies under this chapter.  The department shall make the list available on the world wide web or on a suitable successor to the world wide web if the technological developments involving the Internet make it advisable to do so.

(e-1)  Except as provided by Subsection (e-4), a state agency contracting to purchase a commodity item shall use the list maintained as required by Subsection (e) as follows:

(1)  for a contract with a value of $50,000 or less, the agency may directly award the contract to a vendor included on the list without submission of a request for pricing to other vendors on the list;

(2)  for a contract with a value of more than $50,000 but not more than $1 million, the agency must submit a request for pricing to at least three vendors included on the list in the category to which the contract relates; and

(3)  for a contract with a value of more than $1 million but not more than $10 million, the agency must submit a request for pricing to at least six vendors included on the list in the category to which the contract relates or all vendors on the schedule if the category has fewer than six vendors.

(e-2)  A state agency may not enter into a contract to purchase a commodity item if the value of the contract exceeds $10 million.

(e-3)  The procedural requirements of Subsection (e-1) and the limitation prescribed by Subsection (e-2) do not apply to a state agency's purchase of commodity items under a department contract for the bulk purchase of commodity items intended for use by more than one customer.

(e-4)  For a contract with a value of more than $5 million but not more than $10 million, a state agency may purchase a commodity item using a purchasing method designated by the comptroller under Section 2157.006(a)(2).

(f)  The department may adopt rules regulating a purchase by a state agency of a commodity item under this section, including a requirement that, notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter, the agency must make the purchase in accordance with a contract developed by the department unless:

(1)  the agency obtains:

(A)  an exemption from the department; or

(B)  express prior approval from the Legislative Budget Board for the expenditure necessary for the purchase; or

(2)  the department certifies in writing that the commodity item is not available for purchase under an existing contract developed by the department.

(f-1)  Subject to Subsection (f-2), a state agency may purchase a commodity item through a contract developed by a local government purchasing cooperative under Chapter 791 if the department certifies in writing that the commodity item is not available for purchase under an existing contract developed by the department.

(f-2)  A contract used by a state agency that purchases a commodity item through a contract described by Subsection (f-1) is subject to all provisions required by applicable law to be included in a state agency contract without regard to whether:

(1)  the provision appears on the face of the contract; or

(2)  the contract includes any provision to the contrary.

(g)  The Legislative Budget Board's approval of a biennial operating plan under Section 2054.102 is not an express prior approval for purposes of Subsection (f)(1)(B).  A state agency must request an exemption from the department under Subsection (f)(1)(A) before seeking prior approval from the Legislative Budget Board under Subsection (f)(1)(B).

(h)  The department shall, in cooperation with state agencies, establish guidelines for the classification of commodity items under this section.  The department may determine when a statewide vendor solicitation for a commodity item will reduce purchase prices for a state agency.

(i)  Unless the agency has express statutory authority to employ a best value purchasing method other than a purchasing method designated by the comptroller under Section 2157.006(a)(2), a state agency shall use a purchasing method provided by Section 2157.006(a) when purchasing a commodity item if:

(1)  the agency has obtained an exemption from the department or approval from the Legislative Budget Board under Subsection (f); or

(2)  the agency is otherwise exempt from this section.

(j)  An eligible entity, as defined by Section 2054.375, may purchase commodity items through the department, and be charged a reasonable administrative fee, as provided by this section.

(k)  The department, in cooperation with state agencies, shall, with respect to the purchase of commodity items included in the list maintained under Subsection (e):

(1)  periodically assess the risk to this state in the purchase of those commodity items; and

(2)  based on that risk assessment and as the department considers necessary to ensure accuracy, monitor and verify the purchase transaction reports of the monthly sales of those commodity items submitted by vendors in accordance with department requirements.

Added by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 860, Sec. 2, eff. Sept. 1, 1999. Amended by Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 309, Sec. 7.17, eff. June 18, 2003.

Amended by:

Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 1068 (H.B. [1516](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/79R/billtext/html/HB01516F.HTM)), Sec. 1.08, eff. September 1, 2005.

Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1081 (H.B. [2918](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/80R/billtext/html/HB02918F.HTM)), Sec. 11, eff. September 1, 2007.

Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1081 (H.B. [2918](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/80R/billtext/html/HB02918F.HTM)), Sec. 12, eff. September 1, 2007.

Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., 1st C.S., Ch. 4 (S.B. [1](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/821/billtext/html/SB00001F.HTM)), Sec. 23.06, eff. September 28, 2011.

Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 48 (H.B. [2472](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/83R/billtext/html/HB02472F.HTM)), Sec. 17, eff. September 1, 2013.

Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 151 (H.B. [1994](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/83R/billtext/html/HB01994F.HTM)), Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2013.

Acts 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., Ch. 326 (S.B. [20](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/84R/billtext/html/SB00020F.HTM)), Sec. 15, eff. September 1, 2015.

Acts 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., Ch. 547 (H.B. [2000](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/84R/billtext/html/HB02000F.HTM)), Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2015.

Acts 2017, 85th Leg., R.S., Ch. 291 (S.B. [261](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/85R/billtext/html/SB00261F.HTM)), Sec. 1, eff. May 29, 2017.

Acts 2017, 85th Leg., R.S., Ch. 556 (S.B. [533](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/85R/billtext/html/SB00533F.HTM)), Sec. 8, eff. September 1, 2017.

Acts 2017, 85th Leg., R.S., Ch. 716 (S.B. [262](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/85R/billtext/html/SB00262F.HTM)), Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2017.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1071 (H.B. [1524](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/HB01524F.HTM)), Sec. 72, eff. September 1, 2019.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1116 (H.B. [2325](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/HB02325F.HTM)), Sec. 5, eff. September 1, 2019.

Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 83 (S.B. [538](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/87R/billtext/html/SB00538F.HTM)), Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2021.

Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 855 (S.B. [799](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/87R/billtext/html/SB00799F.HTM)), Sec. 11, eff. September 1, 2021.

Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 875 (S.B. [1232](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/87R/billtext/html/SB01232F.HTM)), Sec. 1.07, eff. September 1, 2021.

Acts 2023, 88th Leg., R.S., Ch. 242 (H.B. [4553](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/88R/billtext/html/HB04553F.HTM)), Sec. 14, eff. September 1, 2023.

Acts 2025, 89th Leg., R.S., Ch. 331 (H.B. [150](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/89R/billtext/html/HB00150F.HTM)), Sec. 47, eff. September 1, 2025.

Acts 2025, 89th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1074 (H.B. [1500](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/89R/billtext/html/HB01500F.HTM)), Sec. 25, eff. September 1, 2025.

Sec. 2157.0685.  CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN SERVICES. (a)  In this section, "statement of work" means a document that states the requirements for a contract, including deliverables, performance specifications, and other requirements, specific to the vendor under that contract that are not specified in a contract awarded by the department under Section 2157.068 for contracts more than $50,000.

(b)  For a contract awarded by the department under Section 2157.068 that requires a state agency to develop and execute a statement of work to initiate services under the contract, the state agency must:

(1)  consult with the department before submission of the statement of work to a vendor; and

(2)  post each statement of work entered into by the agency on the agency's Internet website in the manner required by department rule.

(c)  A statement of work executed by a state agency under a contract awarded by the department under Section 2157.068 is not valid and money may not be paid to the vendor under the terms of the statement of work unless the department first signs the statement of work.

Added by Acts 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., Ch. 326 (S.B. [20](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/84R/billtext/html/SB00020F.HTM)), Sec. 16, eff. September 1, 2015.

Sec. 2157.069.  CLEARING FUND ACCOUNT.  The comptroller shall establish in the state treasury the clearing fund account.  The account is a revolving fund account for the administration of Section 2157.068. The account is the depository for all money received from entities served under that section.  Money in the account may be used only to administer that section or for any other purpose specified by the legislature.

Added by Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 48 (H.B. [2472](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/83R/billtext/html/HB02472F.HTM)), Sec. 18, eff. September 1, 2013.

SUBCHAPTER C. REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS PURCHASE METHOD

Sec. 2157.121.  ACQUISITION THROUGH COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS. (a)  The comptroller or other state agency may acquire a telecommunications device, system, or service or an automated information system by using competitive sealed proposals if the comptroller determines that competitive sealed bidding and informal competitive bidding are not practical or are disadvantageous to the state.

(b)  A state agency, other than the department, shall send its proposal specifications and criteria to the comptroller for approval or request the comptroller to develop the proposal specifications and criteria.

(c)  The department may acquire a telecommunications device, system, or service or an automated information system by using competitive sealed proposals without regard to whether the comptroller makes the determination required under Subsection (a) for other state agencies.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 41, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995. Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1206, Sec. 21, eff. Sept. 1, 1997; Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1422, Sec. 4.14, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Amended by:

Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 1068 (H.B. [1516](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/79R/billtext/html/HB01516F.HTM)), Sec. 2.06, eff. September 1, 2005.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1071 (H.B. [1524](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/HB01524F.HTM)), Sec. 73, eff. September 1, 2019.

Sec. 2157.122.  SOLICITATION OF PROPOSALS;  PUBLIC NOTICE.  The comptroller or other state agency shall:

(1)  solicit proposals under this subchapter by a request for proposals; and

(2)  give public notice of the request in the manner provided for requests for bids under Subchapter B, Chapter 2156.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 41, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995. Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1206, Sec. 21, eff. Sept. 1, 1997.

Amended by:

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1071 (H.B. [1524](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/HB01524F.HTM)), Sec. 73, eff. September 1, 2019.

Sec. 2157.123.  OPENING AND FILING PROPOSALS;  PUBLIC INSPECTION. (a)  The comptroller or other state agency shall avoid disclosing the contents of each proposal on opening the proposal and during negotiations with competing offerors.

(b)  The comptroller or other state agency shall file each proposal in a register of proposals, which, after a contract is awarded, is open for public inspection unless the register contains information that is excepted from required disclosure under Subchapter C, Chapter 552.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 41, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995. Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1206, Sec. 21, eff. Sept. 1, 1997.

Amended by:

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1071 (H.B. [1524](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/HB01524F.HTM)), Sec. 73, eff. September 1, 2019.

Sec. 2157.124.  DISCUSSION AND REVISION OF PROPOSAL. (a)  As provided by a request for proposals and under comptroller rules, the comptroller or other state agency may discuss an acceptable or potentially acceptable proposal with an offeror to assess the offeror's ability to meet the solicitation requirements.  When the comptroller is managing the request for proposals process, it shall invite a requisitioning agency to participate in discussions conducted under this section.

(b)  After receiving a proposal but before making an award, the comptroller or other state agency may permit an offeror to revise a proposal to obtain the best final offer.

(c)  The comptroller or other state agency may not disclose information derived from a proposal submitted by a competing offeror in conducting discussions under this section.

(d)  The comptroller or other state agency shall provide each offeror an equal opportunity to discuss and revise proposals.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 41, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995. Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1206, Sec. 21, eff. Sept. 1, 1997.

Amended by:

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1071 (H.B. [1524](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/HB01524F.HTM)), Sec. 73, eff. September 1, 2019.

Sec. 2157.125.  CONTRACT AWARD;  FACTORS CONSIDERED. (a)  The comptroller or other state agency shall make a written award of a purchase or lease to the offeror whose proposal under this subchapter offers the best value for the state, considering price, past vendor performance, vendor experience or demonstrated capability, and the evaluation factors in the request for proposals.

(b)  The comptroller or other state agency shall refuse all offers if no offer submitted is acceptable.

(c)  In determining which proposal under this subchapter offers the best value for the state, the comptroller or other state agency shall, when applicable and subject to Sections 2155.074 and 2155.075, consider factors including:

(1)  the installation cost;

(2)  the overall life of the system or equipment;

(3)  the cost of acquisition, operation, and maintenance of hardware included with, associated with, or required for the system or equipment during the state's ownership or lease;

(4)  the cost of acquisition, operation, and maintenance of software included with, associated with, or required for the system or equipment during the state's ownership or lease;

(5)  the estimated cost of other supplies needed because of the acquisition;

(6)  the estimated cost of employee training needed because of the acquisition;

(7)  the estimated cost of necessary additional permanent employees because of the acquisition; and

(8)  the estimated increase in employee productivity because of the acquisition.

(d)  The comptroller or other state agency shall state in writing in the contract file the reasons for making an award.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 41, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995. Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1206, Sec. 21, eff. Sept. 1, 1997.

Amended by:

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1071 (H.B. [1524](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/HB01524F.HTM)), Sec. 73, eff. September 1, 2019.

Sec. 2157.126.  RULES.  The comptroller shall adopt rules necessary or convenient to perform its responsibilities regarding requests for proposals under this subchapter and shall request assistance from other state agencies as needed.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 41, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995.

Amended by:

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1071 (H.B. [1524](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/HB01524F.HTM)), Sec. 73, eff. September 1, 2019.

SUBCHAPTER D. PREAPPROVED CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Sec. 2157.181.  PREAPPROVED CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS. (a)  The comptroller, with the concurrence of the department, may negotiate with vendors preapproved terms and conditions to be included in contracts relating to the purchase or lease of a telecommunication device, system, or service or an automated information system awarded to a vendor by a state agency.

(b)  The comptroller and the department must agree to the wording of preapproved terms and conditions negotiated with a vendor.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 41, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995.

Amended by:

Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 1068 (H.B. [1516](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/79R/billtext/html/HB01516F.HTM)), Sec. 2.07, eff. September 1, 2005.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1071 (H.B. [1524](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/HB01524F.HTM)), Sec. 74, eff. September 1, 2019.

Sec. 2157.182.  VALIDITY OF PREAPPROVED TERMS AND CONDITIONS; RENEGOTIATION. (a)  Preapproved terms and conditions to which a vendor, the comptroller, and the department agree are valid for two years after the date of the agreement and must provide that the terms and conditions are to be renegotiated before the end of the two years.

(b)  The comptroller and the department jointly shall establish procedures to ensure that terms and conditions are renegotiated before they expire in a contract between the vendor and a state agency.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 41, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995.

Amended by:

Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 1068 (H.B. [1516](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/79R/billtext/html/HB01516F.HTM)), Sec. 2.08, eff. September 1, 2005.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1071 (H.B. [1524](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/HB01524F.HTM)), Sec. 74, eff. September 1, 2019.

Sec. 2157.183.  PREAPPROVED TERM OR CONDITION PART OF CONTRACT; CHANGE OF TERM OR CONDITION. (a) Preapproved terms and conditions must be part of any contract between a state agency and a vendor that has agreed to them.

(b)  A preapproved term or condition that is changed remains valid for an existing contract of which it is part but must be renegotiated before it may be part of another or a renewed contract.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 41, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995.

Sec. 2157.184.  NOTIFICATION OF STATE AGENCIES AND VENDORS.  The comptroller and the department jointly shall establish procedures to notify state agencies and potential vendors of the provisions of this subchapter regarding preapproved terms and conditions.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 41, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995.

Amended by:

Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 1068 (H.B. [1516](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/79R/billtext/html/HB01516F.HTM)), Sec. 2.09, eff. September 1, 2005.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1071 (H.B. [1524](http://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/billtext/html/HB01524F.HTM)), Sec. 74, eff. September 1, 2019.