

January 21, 2014

TO: School District Administrators  
FROM: Division of Administration and Finance  
SUBJECT: Bid Limit for Year 2014

In accordance with requirements of the Public Contract Code, the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) has adjusted the bid limit that governs competitive bid contracts. The bid limit will be raised by .858% to **\$84,100, effective January 1, 2014**. This higher bid limit applies to the following:

1. The purchase of equipment, materials, and supplies.
2. Services, except construction services.
3. Repairs, including maintenance, as defined in Public Contract Code Section 20115.

**The \$15,000 threshold for construction contracts under Section 20111(b) remains unchanged.**

This limit means any purchase that exceeds \$84,100 or any required construction labor costs that will exceed \$15,000 **must** go out to formal bid.

**For further information, please contact Priscilla Quinn, External Business Services at (661) 636-4732.**

PQ:mrp



CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION

**TOM TORLAKSON**

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

December 20, 2013

Dear County and District Superintendents and Chief Business Officials, and Charter School Administrators:

### ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT TO BID THRESHOLD FOR CONTRACTS AWARDED BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

*Public Contract Code (PCC) Section 20111(a)* [[http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=PCC&sectionNum=20111](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=PCC&sectionNum=20111)] requires school district governing boards to competitively bid and award any contracts involving an expenditure of more than \$50,000, adjusted for inflation, to the lowest responsible bidder. Contracts subject to competitive bidding include:

1. Purchase of equipment, materials, or supplies to be furnished, sold, or leased to the school district.
2. Services that are not construction services.
3. Repairs, including maintenance as defined in *PCC Section 20115*, that are not public projects as defined in *PCC Section 22002(c)* [[http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=PCC&sectionNum=22002](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=PCC&sectionNum=22002)].

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI) is required to annually adjust the \$50,000 amount specified in *PCC Section 20111(a)* to reflect the percentage change in the annual average value of the Implicit Price Deflator for State and Local Government Purchases of Goods and Services for the United States, as published by the United States Department of Commerce, for the 12-month period ending in the prior fiscal year. The inflation adjustment is rounded to the nearest one hundred dollars (\$100).

Pursuant to the above calculation, and effective January 1, 2014, the SSPI has determined that the inflation adjusted bid threshold will increase by \$700, from \$83,400 to \$84,100. Shown below are the inflation adjusted bid thresholds for the current and two prior years.

Calendar Year	Bid Threshold	Percentage Change in Implicit Price Deflator
2012	\$81,000	2.72%
2013	\$83,400	2.99%
2014	\$84,100	.858%

Also note that public projects as defined in *PCC Section 22002(c)*, such as construction or reconstruction of publicly owned facilities, have a lower bid threshold of \$15,000 that is not adjusted for inflation. For more information on bidding requirements for all projects, refer to *PCC sections 20110 to 20118.4*.

This letter (with links to the *PCC* sections cited above) is posted on the Office of Financial Accountability and Information Services Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/ac/co/>.

If you have questions regarding this subject, please contact the Office of Financial Accountability and Information Services by phone at 916-322-1770 or by e-mail at [sacsinfo@cde.ca.gov](mailto:sacsinfo@cde.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Peter Foggiato, Director  
School Fiscal Services Division

Last Reviewed: Monday, December 30, 2013