

ALTERNATIVE SERVICE FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION NEEDS



What is a cooperative purchasing agreement and what does this mean for you?

A cooperative purchasing agreement can be used to obtain services and contracts in an economically beneficial way. In First Student's case, that contract is for alternative transportation services and value add resources such as our consulting services including routing, fleet management and maintenance, transportation, safety and special needs training and EV consulting. Utilizing a cooperative lowers the overall cost of contracting by saving time and money on the procurement process since the work has already been done by a publicly entity.

Contract #:
R10-1149A

Lead Agency:
Region 10 Education Service Center

Contract Term:
05.01.2023 – 04.30.2026

Renewable Through:
04.30.2028

First Student Contract Highlights

First Student's alternative transportation division, FirstAlt, provides districts services for students with special transportation needs: Students with Special Needs, McKinney-Vento Students, Out of District Students and Hard-to-Serve Trips.

- FirstAlt utilizes a fleet of small capacity vehicles from existing local transportation companies that are expertly operated and maintained
- FirstAlt confirms that all transportation providers and their drivers have met all FirstAlt, state, local, and district requirements before they can service trips
- FirstAlt ensures all students get to school safely and on time in the hands of caring, consistent drivers
- FirstAlt developed custom technology specifically designed for alternative transportation and its unique challenges

Who is Equalis Group?

Equalis Group is a cooperative purchasing organization that provides contracts competitively solicited by public agencies for a wide range of products and services.

- These contracts save members time by providing a legal exemption from conducting their own bid or request for proposals (RFP)
- Provides members the ability to configure the solution that best meets their individual needs while achieving the lowest Total Cost of Ownership
- Public sector entities, including federal and state agencies, local governments, and educational institutions in all 50 states
- As a Member-Driven organization with a diverse portfolio, Equalis Group is not just a cooperative purchasing organization, but a partner in all your contracting needs



Publicly Procured Contract Vehicle