

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-added 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