

PUGET SOUND JOINT PURCHASING COOPERATIVE

SCHOOL NUTRITION PROCUREMENT LEADER OF WASHINGTON

2661 N Pearl Street, #139
Tacoma, Washington 98407
425-760-6085

Date: January 6, 2026
To: Proposers/Bidders: PSJPC Distributor Bid- RFP#3-202526
FR: Mark Campbell, Executive Director
RE: Questions and Responses

Questions/Responses to RFP#3-202526:

The following questions and/or request for clarifications have been received and the following are the responses to those questions:

#1 **SECTION IX: EVALUATION AND AWARD**

B. Or Equal Products/Approved or Alternate Equivalents

Alternates may be submitted; however, the alternate item bid must meet or exceed specifications. Alternates will be accepted except for those items that state “none” under the “Approved Alternates/Code Column” in the bid specification worksheet.

Question: However, on the product list, it does not state “none” in Column I regarding Alternates. Does a blank cell indicate “none” for no alternated being accepted?

Response: Yes, a “blank” cell means no alternates accepted.

#2 Question: **We noticed the code numbers for certain items are the commodity codes. If this is a commercial bid only, the item listed is not valid.**

Response: You are correct these are commodity codes. The reason is that some of our members have the current Distributor, receive, store and deliver USDA Processed Commodity products for them as they might not have adequate storage facilities in their districts. This is a practice and service we would like to see continued.

#3 Question: **Are alternate items not considered for the 2026-27 school year? 2026-27 is not mentioned below and we’d like clarification, please . . .**

BB. Or Equal Products/Approved or Alternate Equivalents

The PSJPC has listed approved products in the bid specifications, Brand Name and Product Numbers provided represent the products selected for contracts in 2027-28 and 2028-29, have been tested and are acceptable to our student population. These products form the basis and standard for brand quality and taste preference.

Response: Alternate items will be considered, but the PSJPC membership and the PSJPC Board of Directors have selected the items listed as those meeting the needs of the PSJPC. As such, we are requesting pricing to be submitted for the 26-27 listed items.

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#4 Question: Can the PSJPC provide guidance on whether a regional proposal is something the PSJPC would be open to considering or if participation must be structured differently?

Response: To clarify, there is nothing in the RFP that precludes PSJPC from awarding to multiple vendors. As outlined in the RFP, proposals may be evaluated by item, group of items, or in the aggregate, and PSJPC reserves the right to select one or more Apparent Successful Proposers if doing so is determined to be in the best interest of the cooperative. Proposals will be evaluated in accordance with the RFP Evaluation Criteria, including Criterion 8C, which scores proposers based on the number of member districts they are able to serve.

#5 Question: Can you tell me if the PSJPC is working with Premier Foods for SY 26/27 as we have received a bid request from another distributor in the market, is this request driven by you or the distributor?

Response: Yes, the request is being driven by the distributor.

I certify I have read and understand this addendum and agree to the above questions.

Company: _____

Signed: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____