



Cooperative purchasing in Minnesota is authorized by Minnesota state statutes:

Minnesota Statutes
Chapter 471 Municipal Rights, Powers, Duties

471.59 JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS.

Subdivision 1. **Agreement.**

Two or more governmental units [e.g. city, county, school district, NJPA], by agreement entered into through action of their governing bodies, may jointly or cooperatively exercise any power common to the contracting parties [e.g. procurement or contracting] or any similar powers, including those which are the same except for the territorial limits within which they may be exercised. The agreement may provide for the exercise of such powers by one or more of the participating governmental units on behalf of the other participating units. The term "governmental unit" as used in this section includes every city, county, town, school district, independent nonprofit firefighting corporation, other political subdivision of this or another state, another state, federally recognized Indian tribe, the University of Minnesota, the Minnesota Historical Society, nonprofit hospitals licensed under sections [144.50](#) to [144.56](#), rehabilitation facilities and extended employment providers that are certified by the commissioner of employment and economic development, day training and habilitation services licensed under sections [245B.01](#) to [245B.08](#), and any agency of the state of Minnesota or the United States, and includes any instrumentality of a governmental unit. For the purpose of this section, an instrumentality of a governmental unit means an instrumentality having independent policy-making and appropriating authority.

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