



There are several applicable statutes authorizing usage of NJPA contracts in North Carolina.

Article 20 Interlocal Cooperation.

Part 1. Joint Exercise of Powers.

§ 160A-461. Interlocal cooperation authorized.

Any unit of local government [county, city, consolidated city-county, local board of education, etc.] in this State and any one or more other units of local government [county, city, consolidated city-county, local board of education, etc.] in this State or any other state (to the extent permitted by the laws of the other state) may enter into contracts or agreements with each other in order to execute any undertaking [e.g., contracting]. The contracts and agreements shall be of reasonable duration, as determined by the participating units, and shall be ratified by resolution of the governing board of each unit spread upon its minutes. **[For the purposes of North Carolina law, the two (or more) local governments would be a local government or educational institution in North Carolina and NJPA which would be considered a “local government” in “any other state” (Minnesota)].**

North Carolina State Code

Chapter 143 State Departments, Institutions and Commissions

Article 8 Public Contracts

§ 143 129. Procedure for letting of public contracts.

(e) Exceptions. – The requirements of this Article do not apply to:

(3) Purchases made through a competitive bidding group purchasing program, which is a formally organized program that offers competitively obtained purchasing services at discount prices to two or more public agencies.

[This essentially means that using a competitively bid cooperative contract (like NJPA’s) is an acceptable substitution for the public procurement procedures described in the Code.]

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