

Housekeeping

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QUESTIONS



Chat is Disabled Use Q&A Feature

RECORDING



This Webinar Is Being Recorded

Agenda

Introductions: the Empire State Procurement Alliance and SOVRA

Cooperative Purchasing

The Empire State Procurement Alliance

Empire Procure Connect (EPC)

EPC Marketplace Demo

What's Next?

How to sign up

Questions



Introductions – the Alliance

The Empire State Procurement Alliance (Alliance) is a county cooperative purchasing program in the State of New York comprised of Chemung, Rockland, and Ulster counties. The Alliance leverages Empire Procure Connect as its cooperative contract technology platform.

Members of the Empire State Cooperative Procurement Alliance

- Paul Brennan, Director of Purchasing, Rockland County
- Ed Jordan, Director of General Services, Ulster County
- Tricia Wise, Purchasing Director, Chemung County



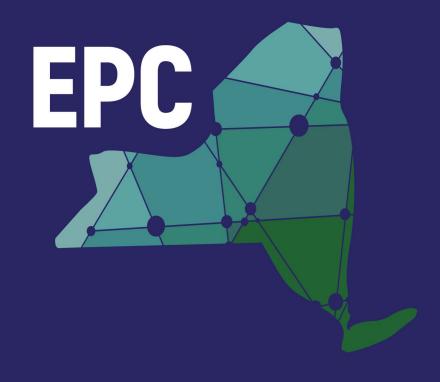
Introductions - SOVRA

SOVRA (Periscope) is the technology provider for Empire Procure Connect. SOVRA also helps facilitate the Empire Procure Connect program, educating buyers and suppliers across the state on how to use Empire Procure Connect.

The Empire Procure Connect Team from SOVRA (Periscope)

- Karen Storm, Local Government Manager, SOVRA (Periscope)
- Nick Susi, Sr. Director Program Success, SOVRA (Periscope)
- Cheri Ray, Program Manager, SOVRA (Periscope)
- Suzanne O'Donnell, SOVRA (Periscope)





Benefits of Cooperative Purchasing

What would you rather do?

Go it alone

Spread the load out







Cooperative Purchasing







About the Program

The Empire State Cooperative Procurement Alliance

- Formed by the counties of Rockland, Ulster and Chemung
- A procurement cooperative to issue cooperative bids, and operate and maintain an e-sourcing, contract management and online marketplace system known as Empire Procure Connect
- Potential economies from combining purchasing volumes and administrative savings



The Empire Procure Connect Program

- Empire Procure Connect is the overall program and technology supporting the Empire State Cooperative Procurement Alliance including:
 - Technology platform
 - Empire Procure Connect Marketplace
 - Reconciler vendor reporting and fee remittance tool
 - Contract promotion
 - EPC Marketplace catalog creation
 - Buyer support
 - Participating vendor support including reporting and fee collection



Marketplace Benefits to Local Governments and Non-Profit Agencies

- Access to purchasable contracts from the 3 counties that meet statutory requirements
- Access to National Cooperative Contacts that have been vetted by the 3 Counties for compliance with GML 103(16)
- Access to NYSID catalog coming soon!
- Aggregated spend between the counties and local governments should result in lower prices





EPC Contracts



EMPIRE PROCURE CONNECT FOR PUBLIC PURCHASING ENTITIES

WHO

New York State political subdivisions (local governments, school districts, BOCES, special districts) and others authorized by New York State law are eligible to use contracts available on Empire Procure Connect.

HOW

Access the contracts through Empire Procure Connect; a comprehensive marketplace that showcases the Empire State Cooperative Procurement Alliance ("Alliance") contracts in a shoppable format. This service is available at no additional cost.

WHY

Empire Procure Connect contracts are created of solicited in the State of New York, specifically tailored to meet New York's unique needs. All Empire Procure Connect cooperative contracts fully comply with New York state procurement laws.

Streamlining New

empireprocureconnect.info



- Currently almost 30 Contracts across 15 portfolios negotiated by 3 of the counties
- Contracts cover a wide range of goods and services.
- All contracts vetted to State of New York Statutes and Rules
- Contracts created with New York needs
 - Visit
 empireprocureconnect.info
 to review the active
 contracts list

Contracts June 2025 Final.pdf

Current EPC Contract Categories Include

- Audio Visual Equipment and Supplies
- Commercial and Industrial Supplies
- Highway Signs and Thermoplastic Pavement Markings
- NYSID catalog available
- Office Supplies
- Promotional Items
- Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Equipment
- Public Safety Communications and Equipment
- Sustainable Janitorial Supplies

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Contracts June 2025 Final.pdf





Introduction to the EPC Marketplace

Immediate Impact

- Empire Procure Connect is a free platform available to all local Jurisdictions in New York State. Organizations can realize immediate benefits from using EPC to search across program contracts.
- Empire Procure Connect helps you leverage the volume purchasing of New York public agencies to reduce procurement staff time, costs, and risks, giving your community maximum efficiency for every dollar spent.
- You can access all active contracts now!



Online EPC Resources

 https://empireprocureconnect.info: an online resource page where buyers can register and find important information needed to leverage the EPC Program

and

 https://empireprocureconnect.com: houses all EPC contract details and the EPC Marketplace



The EPC Info Page

Use the **empireprocureconnect.info** page to:

- Register for the platform and future communications
- Find a listing of the latest EPC contracts
- Review FAQs
- Contact us for questions and support



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Suppliers

Go to empireprocureconnect.com

Empire Procure Connect for Public Purchasing Entities

This easy-to-use purchasing platform will transform the way local governments and school districts do business in NYS.



View Our Latest Contracts

Introducing Empire Procure Connect

Empire Procure Connect (EPC) is an innovative online e-procurement platform and marketplace designed exclusively for local governments, school districts, BOCES, and special



Register for the Empire Procure Connect Marketplace and receive news and updates!







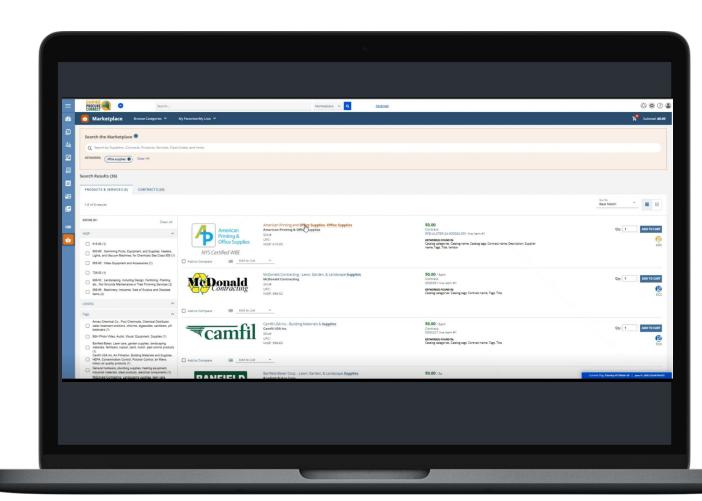
https://empireprocureconnect.com

About the Marketplace

Marketplace is a module within Empire Procure Connect that enables users to browse contracts and catalogs

- Easily shop vendor contracts and catalogs
- Lookup contracts, goods or services based on keyword, description, vendor, brand and even more...
- Populate and export your shopping cart to more easily share information for internal processes
- Comparison shop between vendors with like products
- Contact vendors directly





Types of Marketplace Presence



EPC Contracts are represented in the Marketplace as Contracts and Catalogs. There are three types of Marketplace Catalogs.

Informational

- Zero cost Generic Item can be added to the Shopping Cart .
- General Contract Information
- Who to contact in order to get item & pricing details

Itemized

- Individual Items with details (photos, pricing, etc.)
- Goods/services can be added to the shopping cart
- Shopping cart can be exported

Punchout

- Connect to Vendor's 3rd-Party e-commerce site
- Products and Services specific to County contracts
- Shopping cart can be exported

Marketplace Demo and Sample User Journey







Demo Recap

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Use the **empireprocureconnect.com** platform to:

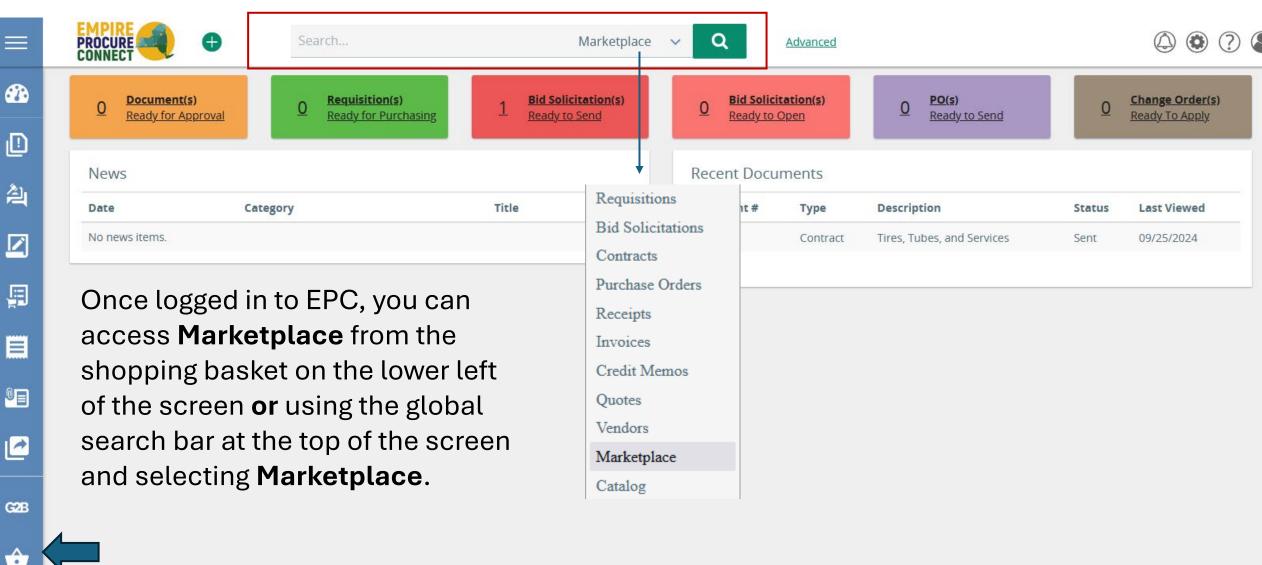
- Login to find the contracts and catalogs you need
- Review contract details and related attachments
- Contact vendors directly
- Export your shopping cart for internal processing needs



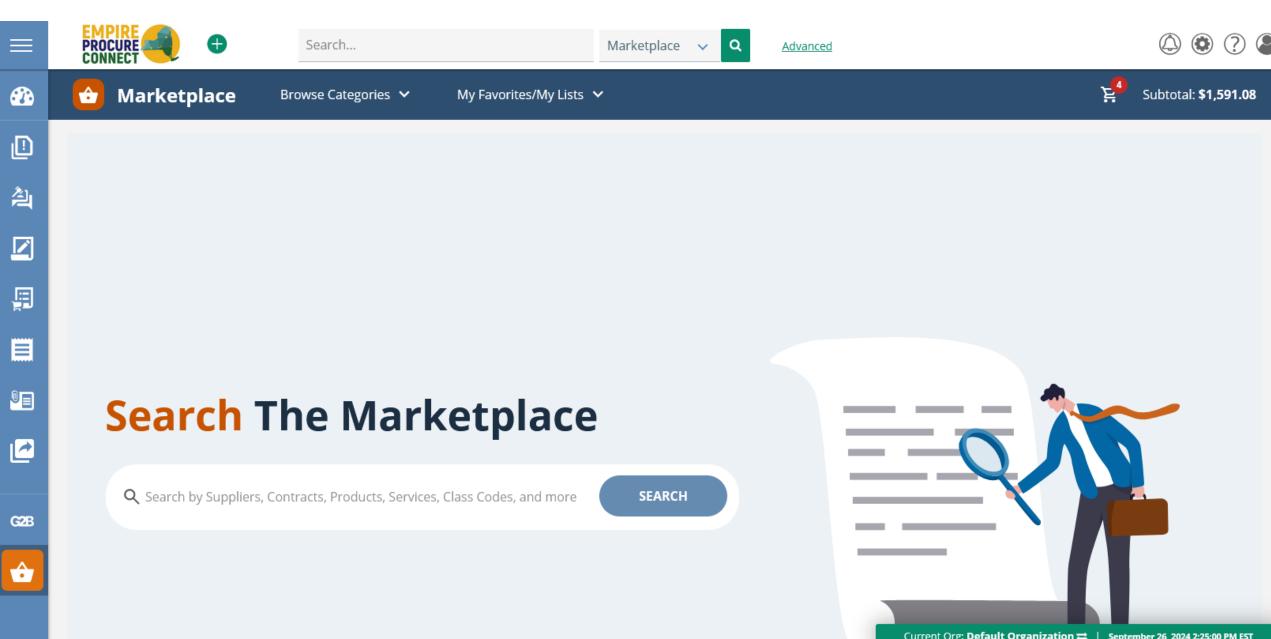
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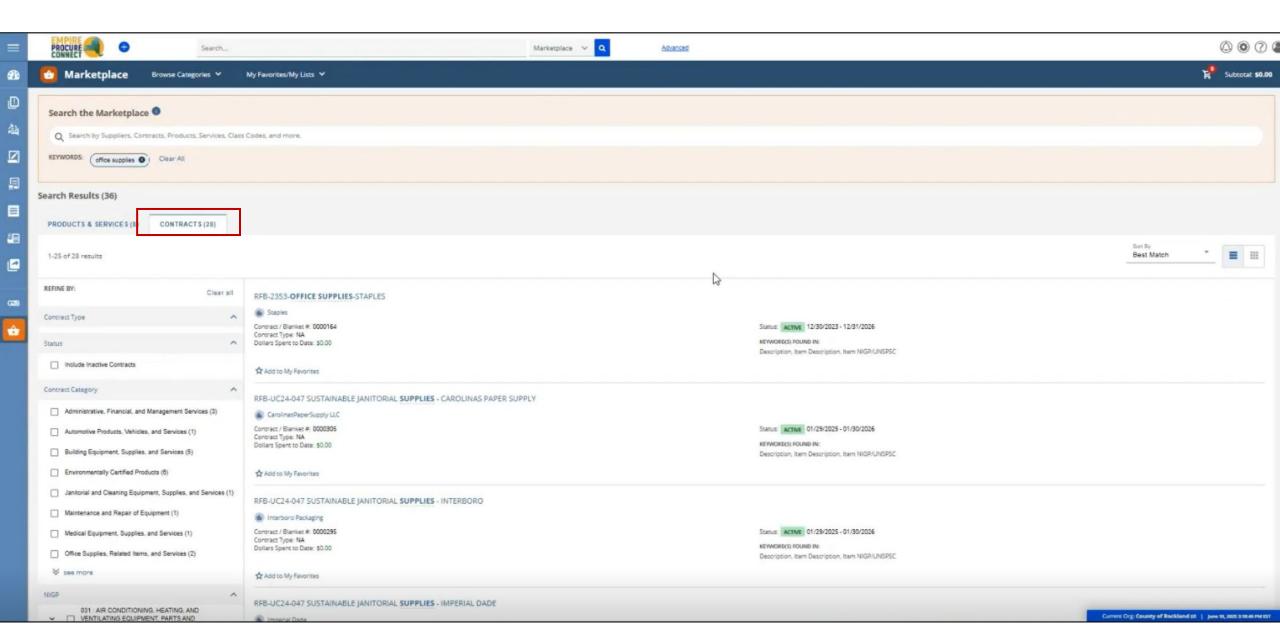
Navigating to the EPC Marketplace after login



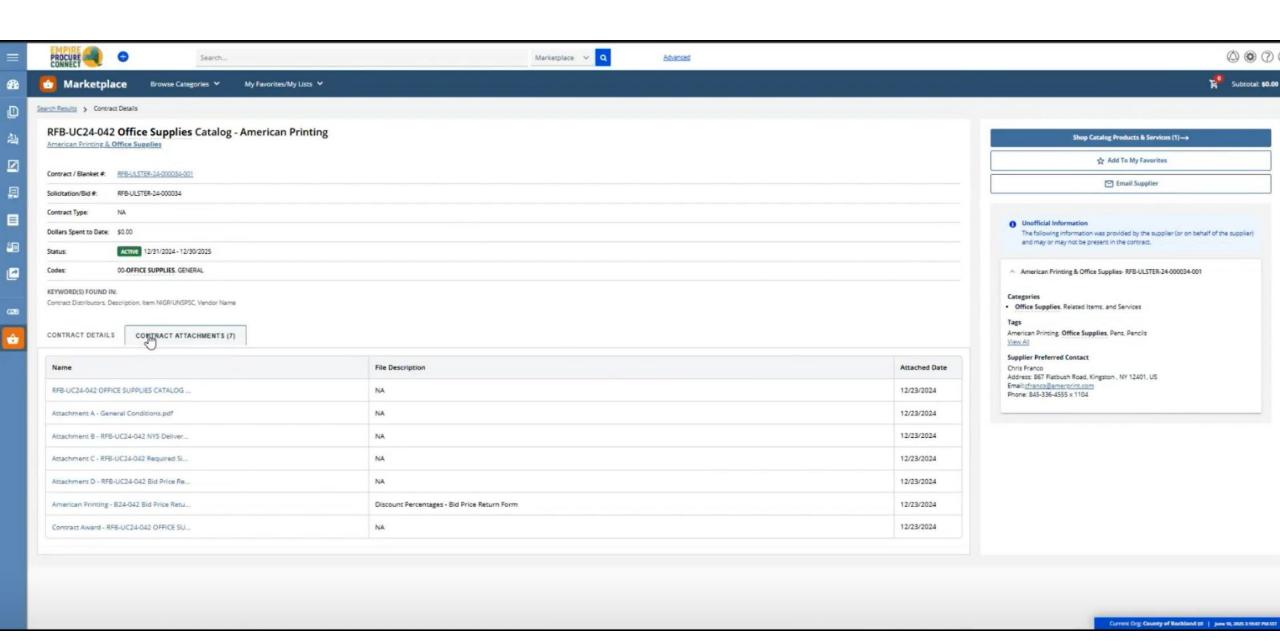
Searching the Marketplace



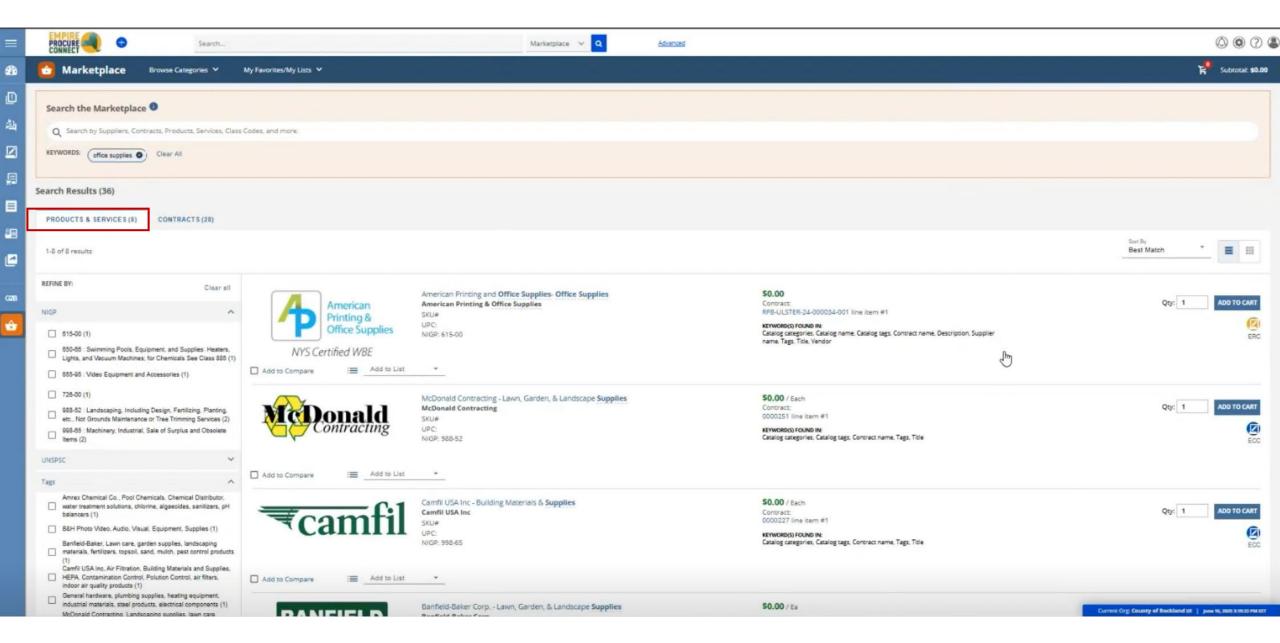
Contract Search Results



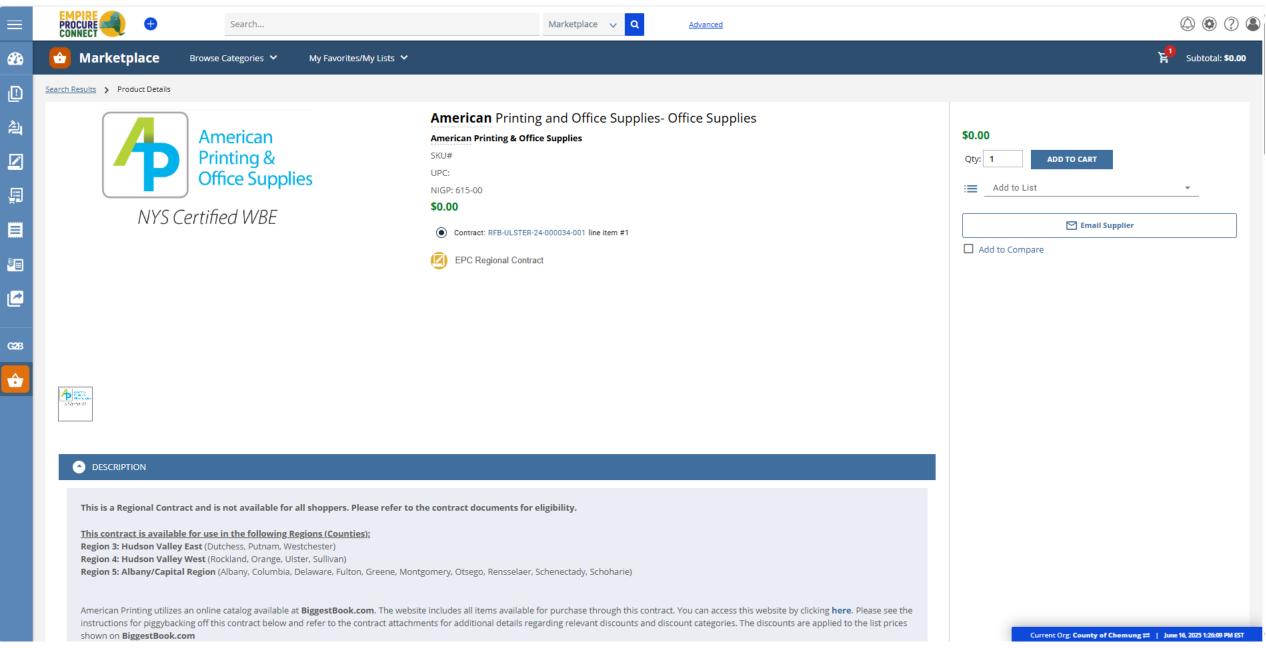
Viewing Contracts



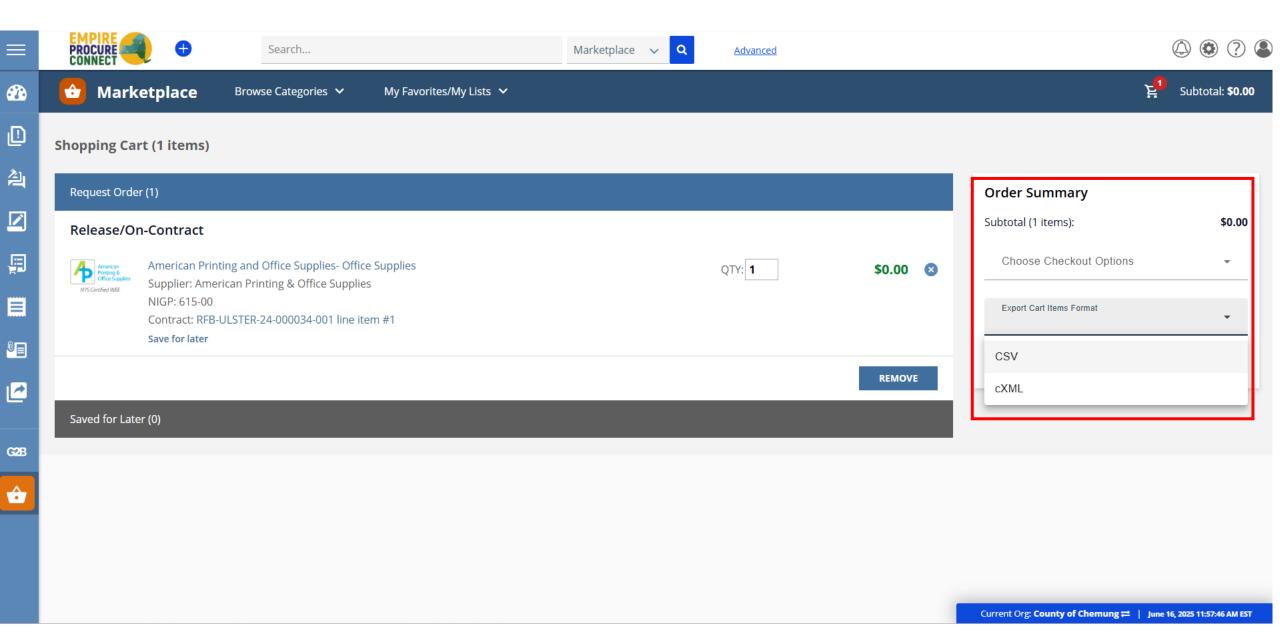
Products and Services Search Results



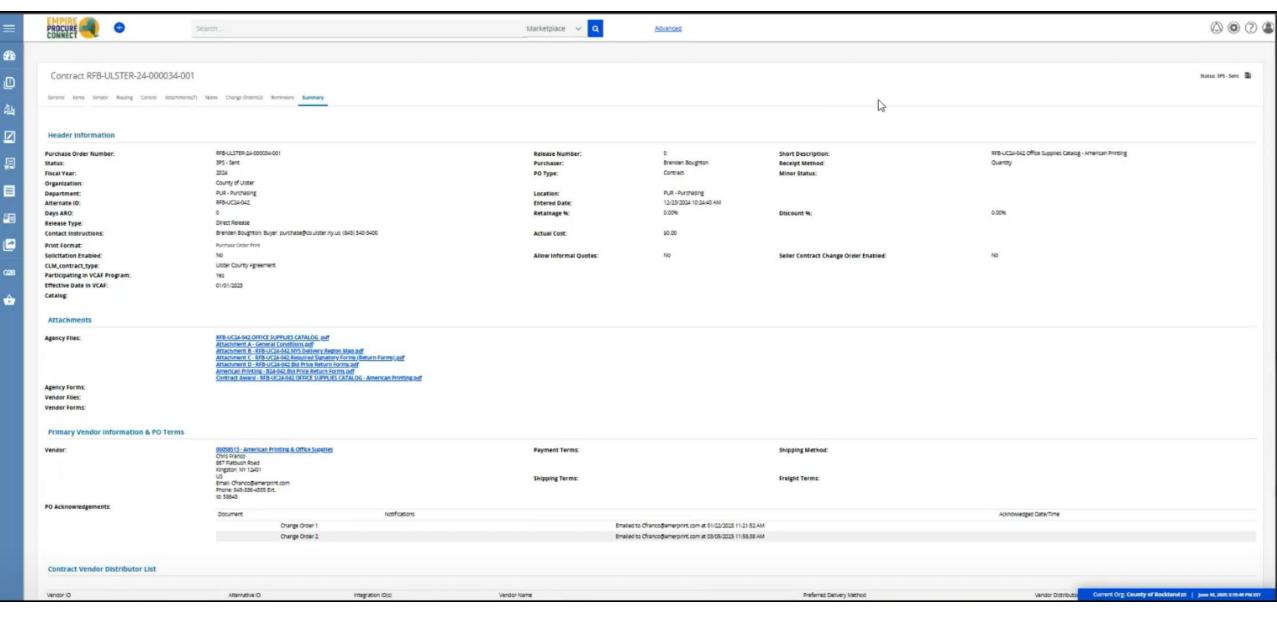
Viewing Catalogs – Products and Services

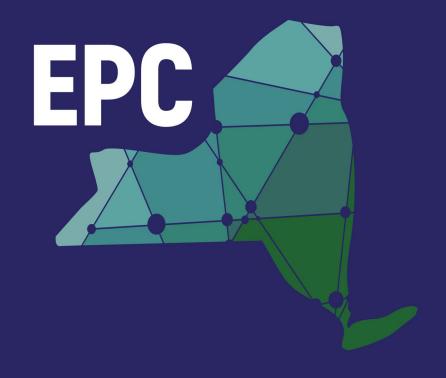


Products and Services Cart Export



Marketplace is connected to ePro where the counties build their contracts. You may also view contract information there.





What's next and how to sign up



Go to empireprocureconnect.info to sign up and add additional users using the registration form.

Use this <u>form</u> to sign up additional users

The EPC team will review you request and add your organization and users to the EPC platform once your request has been vetted with your procurement department.

Introducing Empire Procure Connect

Empire Procure Connect (EPC) is an innovative online e-procurement platform and marketplace designed exclusively for local governments, school districts, BOCES, and special districts located in NYS. This revolutionary web-based hub streamlines the purchasing process by offering a wide range of products and services, all sourced from preferred vendors, pre-negotiated pricing and current contracts.



Register for the Empire Procure Connect Marketplace and receive news and updates!

To register for access to the EPC Marketplace and receive more information about the program, sign-up using the button below. Signing-up will give you access to the EPC Marketplace and add you to our Buyer Communications List. Being on the list will provide you direct access to EPC contracts as well as getting special contract notices, quarterly newsletters, invites to webinars and training sessions, updates on news and events, and more!

Sign-up for Buyer Registration and Communications



Empire State Purchasing Entity *				
Fiscal Year Start Date				
MM	1	DD	1	YYYY
			J	
Fiscal Year End Date				
MM	1	DD	1	YYYY
	J		J	
First Name *				

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Sign-up for Buyer Registration and Communications





Thank You!

For questions and support contact:

buyers@empireprocureconnect.info

Karen Storm, CPPB, Local Government Manager Cheri Ray, Program Manager Suzanne O'Donnell, PMP, Program Manager Nick Susi, CPPO, Sr. Director of Program Success

www.empireprocureconnect.info

