

Chapter 15: Purchasing Agreements

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Introduction

The LCMS and its related entities strive to negotiate discounts and preferred pricing agreements when possible to benefit all LCMS employers. The sections that follow are a glimpse of some of these goods and services that are part of this program.

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Group Purchasing Agreement



Group Purchasing Agreement

A Synod-approved purchasing source

Group Purchasing Agreement, or GPA, is a service offered to all LCMS churches, schools and affiliated organizations. For 20 years, the program has offered substantial discounts on equipment, supplies and services by combining the purchasing power of more than 8,000 LCMS organizations.

GPA focuses on products and services most used — office supplies, moving companies, printers/copiers, interactive flat panel displays (whiteboards), and background checks, just to name a few. The churchwide organization develops partnership agreements with preferred providers of high quality products and services in order to save significant dollars. When a contract is negotiated, all LCMS affiliated entities are included. Although price is a priority, quality and customer service are important considerations prior to finalizing the agreement.

Using the program is easy. Visit lcms.org/gpa and select a product category. That links you to the direct contact on the national account—a real person who can assist you. In order to receive the LCMS pricing, you may have to mention your LCMS affiliation; some may ask you to complete a form.

Because the contracts depend upon the volume of business generated through GPA, participation is important. Everyone benefits from our strength in numbers.

GPA actively seeks new contracts and is always looking to grow. If you have a need that can be supported nationally, or have questions about the program, contact:

Group Purchasing Agreement
Accounting Department
LCMS International Center
1333 S. Kirkwood Road
St. Louis, MO 63122-7295
(314) 996-1441
karen.sansone@lcms.org

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Summary of Products and Services

Products and services currently being offered through GPA:

- Moving Companies: Bekins, Stevens and Wheaton
- Office Equipment: Office Depot; Ricoh
- Office Supplies: Office Depot
- Janitorial Supplies: Office Depot
- Background Checks: Protect My Ministry; AAIM
- Office Furniture: Dorm, Office Depot and School and Church Furniture

For the most current and complete information regarding the LCMS Group Purchasing Agreement, visit lcms.org/gpa. Consider sharing the Quick Reference guide with the church office staff.

Prices, offerings, and vendors are subject to change. Neither The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod nor the GPA is responsible for the problems that may result from the purchase, lease or use of any of the program vendors.

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Preferred Pricing Agreement

Preferred Pricing Agreements are unrelated to LCMS Group Purchasing Agreement, but are available for all LCMS employers to help them put more money and time into mission and ministry while reducing the cost of necessary administrative responsibilities.

Concordia Plan Services has negotiated a preferred pricing agreement with Paychex, a nationwide payroll and HR services vendor with more than 45 years of experience. For a no obligation review of your organization's processes in these areas and a pricing quote, please email concordiaplans@paychex.com, visit ConcordiaPlans.org/payroll, or call 877-758-0036 and mention code 6105.

Concordia Plans has been working with Paycor for Payroll and HR Services and has negotiated preferential pricing (40% reduction from book rates) as well as direct integrations with Concordia Plans Benefit Administration Platform and 403b Savings Plans. Paycor is the Nation's largest privately held payroll and HR company with more than 40,000 clients. For a no obligation price quote and demonstration of Paycor's services, call Brett Allen at 636-236-1086 or visit ConcordiaPlans.org/Paycor.



Office Depot – Furniture Division



School, Church, Business, Dorm Furniture, Design Serv
Gary Phillips, Major Accounts Manager
gary.phillips@workspaceinteriorsod.com
(816) 506-1275 phone
www.workspaceinteriorsod.com

Office Depot – Office Supplies



Office/janitorial supplies, a/v equip, copiers/printers
Rebecca Fluchel, Major Account Manager
Business Solution Division
(636) 346-6820 phone
Rebecca.Fluchel@officedepot.com

Protect My Ministry – Background Checks



Background Checks
Ryan Carter, Director of Sales
rcarter@protectmyministry.com
(800) 319-5581 x2259 phone
(800) 319-5582 fax
www.protectmyministry.com/lcms

AAIM Employers’ Association – Background Checks



Human resources - hire, develop and retain talent
Julie Kappen, Account Executive
Julie.Kappen@aamea.org
(314) 754-0201 phone | (314) 775-000 fax
(636) 544-3426 cell
www.aamea.org

Stevens Van Lines



Vicki Bierlein, Vice President Affinity Sales
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(800) 248-8313 phone
(989) 755-0511 fax
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Wheaton Van Lines



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Bekins Van Lines



Shellie Law, Director of Sales
shellie.law@crownbekins.com
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(866) 260-1174 fax
www.lcmsmove.com

GPA is a stewardship program offered to all LCMS churches, schools and affiliated organizations. Prices and vendors subject to change.
Neither LCMS nor GPA is responsible for problems that may result from purchase, lease or use of program vendors.

