

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION  
CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES  
Health Care Department Operations Manual

**5.6.5 Pharmaceutical Acquisitions**

**(a) Policy**

California Correctional Health Care Services (CCHCS) participates in the Statewide Pharmaceutical Program, also referred to as the Prescription Drug Bulk Purchasing Program, established by Government Code sections 14977-14982, and administered by the Department of General Services (DGS).

**(b) Applicability**

This policy applies to all CCHCS staff involved with acquisitions of pharmaceutical products.

**(c) Procedure**

Pharmaceutical acquisitions are made utilizing pre-existing sources and other acquisition processes according to the following guidelines:

- (1) Prescription bulk pharmaceuticals are purchased using the mandatory Primary Pharmaceutical Wholesaler statewide contract.
- (2) Specialty and infusion pharmaceutical products and/or services may be purchased using other DGS Specialty and Infusion Pharmacy statewide contracts, when available.
- (3) Pharmaceutical products **not** included in a statewide contract or not specified as mandatory in a statewide contract may be obtained by following standard acquisition procedures. (Refer to the Acquisitions Customer Guide available on the CCHCS [Lifeline intranet site under Acquisitions Management Section](#) under Resources).
- (4) For pharmaceutical acquisition requests that meet blanket purchase order requirements as specified in the [Non-Information Technology Goods Blanket Purchase Order Requirements and Procedures Memorandum](#), the procedures contained within the memorandum shall be followed. Otherwise, pharmaceutical acquisitions shall follow standard procedures as found in the Acquisitions Customer Guide.

**References**

- Government Code, Title 2, Division 3, Part 5.5, Chapter 12, Purchase of Prescriptions Drugs for Government Agencies, Sections 14977-14982
- Public Contract Code, Division 2, Part 2, Chapter 2, State Acquisitions of Goods and Services, Section 10290
- Department of General Services, State Contracting Manual, Volume 2

**Revision History**

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