

129—11.1(8B) Purpose.

11.1(1) The office is required to institute procedures to ensure effective and efficient compliance with information technology standards established by the office, and to develop policies and procedures that apply to all information technology goods and services acquisitions and ensure the compliance of all participating agencies. In furtherance of that objective, these rules establish the process by which vendors may challenge the office's or participating agencies' administration of competitive selection processes, prequalification processes, or reverse auction processes administered by the office or participating agencies as authorized by the office. A vendor's failure to utilize this process shall be deemed a failure to exhaust administrative remedies.

11.1(2) These rules shall not apply if a purchasing entity has adopted its own rules governing award or disqualification decisions of or by the purchasing entity that conflict with these rules. However, even if a purchasing entity has adopted its own vendor appeal rules, the purchasing entity may elect to follow these rules in the case of information technology goods and services acquisitions to the extent the purchasing entity has stated its intention to follow these rules in the competitive selection documents or other applicable solicitation documents.

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