

11—117.7(8A) Centralized procurement authority and responsibilities.

117.7(1) *Centralized procurement of goods and services of general use.* The department shall procure goods and services of general use for all state agencies with the exceptions of those purchases made by the state department of transportation, institutions under the control of the board of regents, the department for the blind, and any other agencies exempted by law.

117.7(2) *Delegation of procurement authority.* The department shall establish guidelines for implementation of procurement authority delegated to agencies. The department shall assist agencies in developing purchasing and purchasing card procedures consistent with central purchasing policy and procedures and recommended governmental procurement standards.

117.7(3) *Planning, research, and development.* The director may establish advisory groups and customer councils of agency representatives appointed by the respective agency directors to assist the department in procurement planning and research and to advise on policies, procedures, and financing. This advice includes, but need not be limited to, market research, product specifications, terms and conditions; purchasing rules and guidelines; purchasing system development; and equitable financing of the enterprise purchasing system. The department will provide staff support for any advisory groups and councils that are created.

The department may periodically require forecasts from state agencies and institutions regarding future procurements. When requesting forecasts, the department shall assist agencies in securing and analyzing historical information related to previous purchasing activity.

117.7(4) *Purchasing card program.* The department shall establish and administer a purchasing card program available to any state agency, department, division, bureau, enterprise, unit or other state entity to facilitate the acquisition of goods, services and select travel expenses. The department shall establish program policies and procedures in accordance with state procurement and accounting policies, and any applicable statutory and regulatory authority. Except for state vehicle fuel purchase cards assigned by the department, the purchasing card shall be the only commercial credit card authorized by the department.

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