

SECTION 2: PURCHASING AUTHORITIES AND CODE OF CONDUCT

SUBJECT: DELEGATED AUTHORITY Procedure #2.3

POLICY

The University of Washington has been granted authority by the legislature under [RCW 28B.10.029\(1\)\(a\)](#)¹ to “exercise independently those powers otherwise granted to the director of enterprise services.” The University of Washington’s statutory authority is defined in [Procedure #2.2](#), subject to the limits in [Procedure #2.1](#) and encompasses the power to make most purchases for the UW’s operation.

As a result of this statutory authority and exemption from Department of Enterprise Services (DES) delegation of authority, the UW **does not** receive delegated authority from the DES under [RCW 39.26.090](#).

PROCEDURE

The purchasing authority contained in RCW 28B.10.029 provides clear authority to conduct purchasing activities (See [Procedure #2.1](#)) subject to the requirements imposed on procurement activity generally by the state legislature. While the UW does not receive delegated authority from DES, UW is generally subject to DES procurement regulations and requirements unless the requirement specifies that it only applies to agencies with delegated authority, the UW is specifically exempted, or institutions of higher education are specifically exempted.

¹ See [DES Policy #DES-090-00](#), Exemption #1 explaining that as a state institution of higher education, UW is not subject to the DES (which assumed the responsibilities of DIS and OFM (from which delegated authority for some purchases previously flowed)) delegated authority schedule.