


September 8, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

As many of you are aware, Bloomsburg's procurement team, under the leadership of Jeff Mandel, has successfully provided procurement services to other universities within the State System for the past couple of years, resulting in more efficient and cost effective service. Recently, the Chancellor's Executive Leadership Group (ELG) approved the development of a formal Regional Procurement Shared Service model as part of an overall Procurement Shared Services strategy that covers both regional procurement (Eastern and Western regions) and strategic sourcing. This type of model leverages the collective power of the State System to serve all of its institutions and the Office of the Chancellor. Procurement shared services will be governed by the System universities with a mission to work collaboratively to deliver services that improve efficiencies and reduce costs to better serve our students and employees.

The first phase of the Eastern Region Procurement Office (ERPO) will begin in October 2020 and will include the Bloomsburg and the four universities for which it currently provides service. The remaining four universities that will be served by the ERPO will be transitioned by July 1, 2021. Jeff Mandel will serve as the ERPO Director. Please read the announcement below that was shared last week with all procurement teams across the System for more detailed information.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me or Jeff Mandel.



PENNSYLVANIA'S STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Dear Procurement Team,

The ELG, the oversight organization for the Shared Services Center, has approved the development of a Regional Procurement Shared Service model as part of Procurement Shared Services. The goal is to create a best-in-class procurement service organization to promote collaboration across the universities, streamline operations to create efficiencies, and reduce costs. This model has been piloted at Bloomsburg University over the past several years, providing procurement services to four other universities and delivering efficiencies and savings. Building on this model, we will use FY 2020-2021 to engage universities in a transition plan that is aligned to the SAP Ariba implementation. The first phase will commence in October with the five universities in the eastern region that are currently sharing services. The remaining university inclusion timeframes will be determined based on individual business requirements.

The significant changes from the current model at Bloomsburg to the new model include:

- All procurement staff will become employees of the Shared Service Center, reporting to the ELG, and will provide services to their current universities as well as other universities in the region.
- All employees will retain their current benefits and expand tuition benefits across the State System.
- Individuals will continue to work at their current university, remotely, or via a hybrid approach.

There will be a role for all current procurement team members in the new organization and we are looking forward to having you join us on this exciting journey!

Timeline

As we begin the detailed organization design and transition to this new model, we will be meeting individually with each university's procurement leaders in sessions to better understand any unique transition requirements. Additionally, we will be hosting Town Hall meetings in October to answer your questions and provide more information about the new organization.

We are working toward a multiple-phased implementation starting in the East and taking lessons learned to the West. The universities in each region are as follows:

East – Bloomsburg, Cheyney, East Stroudsburg, Kutztown, Lock Haven, Mansfield, Millersville, Shippensburg, and West Chester
Phase 1 – Bloomsburg, Kutztown, Mansfield, Millersville, Shippensburg
Phase 2 – Cheyney, East Stroudsburg, and Lock Haven
Phase 3 – West Chester

West – California, Clarion, Edinboro, IUP, and Slippery Rock
Phase 1 – IUP, California, Clarion
Phase 2 – Edinboro, Slippery Rock

The timeline for communications and rollout is provided below.



Next Steps



We look forward to our upcoming discussions. In the interim, if you have questions, please contact **Jenny Doherty**, Director, Procurement Shared Services at jdoherty@passhe.edu.

We have confidence this transformation will support our mission of providing a high-quality, affordable education to our students across the system. Thank you for your continued dedication to your university and PASSHE!



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