Green and Lead-Free PCs, Notebooks, and Tablets

Model Contract Language for Schools

This fact sheet was customized by Healthy Schools Network in close consultation with EPEAT. For information about EPEAT, visit http://greenelectronicscouncil.org/epeat/epeat-overview/.

Schools may cut and paste contract language that suits their needs. Schools may wish to know that New York State's green procurement program reported saving $100 million in upfront costs by purchasing EPEAT Gold-rated PCs.

Electronic Product Requirements: Purchasers are encouraged to use the following minimum contract language to ensure that the products they buy meet the **EPEAT ecolabel criteria**, are listed on the EPEAT Registry at the time of purchase, and are therefore considered active EPEAT-registered products:

> *All desktops, laptops, and computer monitors provided under this contract are required to have achieved Bronze registration or higher in the EPEAT system in [United States/COUNTRIES]. Additionally, products must meet IEEE 1680.1-2009 Standard for Environmental Assessment of Personal Computer Products Optional Criteria 4.1.4.1* **OR** *IEEE 1680.1-2108 Standard for Environmental and Social Responsibility Assessment of Computers and Displays Optional Criteria 4.1.6.2.*

> *EPEAT is an ecolabel designed to help large-volume purchasers evaluate, compare, and select electronic products based on their environmental attributes as specified in the consensus-based IEEE Standard for the Environmental Assessment of Personal Computer Products (IEEE 1680.1).*

> *[School/District] will require products that have met EPEAT criteria. The database of all products that currently meet EPEAT criteria is viewable at www.greenelectronicscouncil.org.*

> **Recommended additional language:**

> *Suppliers are required to block non-EPEAT-registered products on their electronic catalogs or web portals that customers may buy from through this contract.*

Reporting Requirements: Purchase information may be used to calculate the environmental benefits of EPEAT purchasing and to provide data for recognition programs. Requiring suppliers to provide regular EPEAT reporting (using the language below) will simplify this task.

> *Suppliers are required to provide [quarterly/semiannual/annual] reporting on the number of EPEAT-registered products purchased under this contract. For each piece of equipment sold, EPEAT registration status (i.e. Bronze, Silver, Gold, or Unregistered) must be provided. The information must be reported in aggregate in a matrix providing the following data:*

Product Type	EPEAT Gold	EPEAT Silver	EPEAT Bronze	Unregistered
Desktop (CPU)*				
Notebook				
Integrated System**				
Display Unit				
Thin Client Device				
TOTAL				

*Desktop/CPU category includes desktop workstations.
**Integrated system is a monitor and CPU in a single unit. NOTE: For CPU + Monitor bundles, monitor model number must be provided in a separate column and EPEAT Registration Status must be provided separately for the CPU and the monitor.

Green and Lead-Free PCs, Notebooks, and Tablets

Guidance for Parents and Families on Finding and Buying Green and Lead-Free PCs, Notebooks, and Tablets

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The Consumer's Dilemma: How to Find Green and Lead-Free PCs, Notebooks, and Tablets. These products can contain lead and other toxins. How can you ensure that you are buying green and lead-free products that are safe for children to use?

EPEAT: An Easy Solution: EPEAT is a program to help purchasers evaluate the environmental impact of computer products. But what if you are ordering online or visiting an electronics or big-box store that does not list the EPEAT ecolabel? Before you shop, visit the online EPEAT registry to find products you are considering that meet its ecolabel criteria. Only active EPEAT-registered products will appear on the registry.

You can find a list of EPEAT green and lead-free products by following these online search steps:
- Go to > the EPEAT Registry.
- Choose> Full Search from menu at left.
- Choose > product types you are interested in.
- Choose > manufacturers.
- Choose > country.
- Click > Advanced Search Options in small print at the bottom of the page, then scroll down.
- Choose > 4.1.4.1–Elimination of intentionally added lead in certain applications (*note: mercury, cadmium, flame retardants, and other hazards may also be selected*).
- Click > Search at the bottom of the page.
- Use your final list of EPEAT-screened products to shop online or at your nearest electronics store.

HS Network comment on community- or parent-led group orders.

When New York State agencies saved $100M in upfront costs buying EPEAT Gold-rated PCs, it was partly due to the state's purchasing power. Schools and school districts, like cities, counties, and states, can also create bulk orders to help reduce upfront costs.

When a school is not prepared to set up a bulk order, parents can organize a group purchase or bulk order, but doing so will take advance planning, time, patience, and a strong-minded volunteer. A parent association, school or community booster club, youth program, or similar nonprofit group could collect orders, collect parent fees or contributions, and or seek local donations to make a group purchase for students.

Tips for parents/community groups: First, ask the school or district specifically which product types and features they want students to have: notebooks, tablets, laptops? Then, ask the online vendor or the local store what the per-product price difference would be for an individual purchase (e.g., the cost of one notebook) versus a small group purchase (say, the per-item cost of 30 identical notebooks in one bulk order and the total cost for that order). Report your research to the parent/community group and decide on a final order. Decide how the cost of the total order will be covered before the order is ever placed.