



California's Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) Program

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Background

- ▶ In 2003, Assembly Bill 498 known as the Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Act codified in [Public Contract Code \(PCC\) 12400-12404](#) which requires The Department of General Services to:
 - ▶ Promote EPP
 - ▶ Develop and implement a strategy to increase EPP
 - ▶ Coordinate with other state and federal agencies
 - ▶ Create training programs to instill the importance of EPP
 - ▶ Develop an EPP best practices manual

What counts as EPP?

- ▶ In order to designate a purchase as EPP, the purchase must fulfill one or more of the following criteria:
 - ▶ Acquired through a leveraged procurement agreement identified as an EPP commodity or contract
 - ▶ Meet a DGS purchasing standard
 - ▶ State Agency Buy Recycled Campaign (SABRC) compliant
 - ▶ Meet a third-party environmental certification
 - ▶ Incorporate a take-back program
 - ▶ Meet the requirements of an EPP purchase identified in an executive order, state administrative management memos, or IT policy letters

EPP Contracts

- ▶ DGS creates Statewide commodity contracts that are typically mandatory for State Agencies and available to California counties, cities and other government agencies.
- ▶ During the procurement process DGS EPP engineers research the marketplace and recommend EPP language for the contracts.
- ▶ Contracts that contain EPP language are identified for the end users to help guide their purchasing decisions.
- ▶ DGS publishes [The State Contracts Index Listing](#) on our web site that includes an indicator that the contract is EPP.

Purchasing Standards

- ▶ Some commodities are not purchased often enough or the total spend is not high enough to warrant a contract, so DGS creates Purchasing Standards.
- ▶ Purchasing Standards are documents that can be used by State agencies for purchasing under their delegation and meet the requirements to call the purchase EPP.
- ▶ DGS publishes Purchasing Standards on our web site: [DGS Buying Green Guide](#).

State Agency Buy Recycled Campaign (SABRC)

SABRC was started in 1989 and has 11 reportable product categories:

- ▶ Paper Products
- ▶ Printing and Writing Paper
- ▶ Compost, Co-Compost, and Mulch
- ▶ Glass Products
- ▶ Lubricating Oil Products
- ▶ Plastic Products
- ▶ Paint
- ▶ Antifreeze
- ▶ Tires
- ▶ Tire-Derived Products
- ▶ Metal Products

The annual report detailing state agencies' annual recycled-content products is due to [CalRecycle](#) by October 31 of each year.

Environmental Certifications

- ▶ It can be difficult to find products that are truly EPP by reading sales brochures or marketing literature, so DGS identified third party environmental certifications and listed them in a matrix by commodity type.
- ▶ The matrix contains these commodities: Furniture, Lamps, Paint, Cleaners, Disposable Food Supplies, Data Storage/Servers, Computers/Monitors, Printers, TVs, and Paper Products.
- ▶ DGS publishes [Third-Party Environmental Certification Matrix](#) on our web site.

EPP Training

- ▶ The State of California has launched online, self-paced EPP training to increase the knowledge and skill of the buyers across the State.
- ▶ Training modules will focus on different organizational functions, giving DGS the ability to better tailor the information to Buyers, Supervisors and Executives.
- ▶ The Buyer course is currently available and the other two modules will be launched by the end of the year.
- ▶ DGS has training available on our web site: [EPP Training](#)

Links/Resources

- ▶ Start here: www.dgs.ca.gov
- ▶ [DGS Buying Green Guide](#)
- ▶ [California Public Contract Code \(PCC\) 12400-12404](#)
- ▶ [The State Contracts Index Listing](#)
- ▶ [CalRecycle](#)
- ▶ [State Agency Buy Recycled Campaign \(SABRC\)](#)
- ▶ [Green Buyer](#)
- ▶ [EPP Training](#)