

interflex

bid **advantage**
for Schools

Interflex Background

Interflex, located in Wyomissing, PA, provides food service bidding solutions to K-12 School Districts & Cooperatives, Manufacturers, Distributors & Brokers.

BidAdvantage for Schools is the most recently launched solution to date. Since 2004, Interflex has consistently played an integral role in improving the competitive bid process for all supply chain partners in the channel.

The company created a database of K-12 bid information by collecting bid opportunities and award recaps from over 700 school districts nationwide. That database was then utilized to create common product descriptions found in the schools specifications, which aided in the development of *BidAdvantage for Schools*.





BidAdvantage For Schools
is an online bid procurement tool that is
FREE for K-12 schools.

- Find Products
- Create and Update Specifications
 - Build Bids
 - Maintain Vendor Lists
 - Issue Bids to Vendors
- Analyze Vendor Responses
 - Award Bids

What can you do in BidAdvantage for Schools?

Specification Library

- **Create Bid Specs** – You can create your bid specs from scratch, use healthy templates provided by the **AHG**, or import your existing bid specs (that we have already uploaded into the system).
- **Find Products** – Manufacturers can advertise their products for you to view while you are building your specs. With these ads, you can request samples, view nutrition information, add a product as approved, view sell sheets & visit their website.
 - You can search for products that are approved by the **AHG** and/or **Cool School Cafe/Cafe Fuel**.
 - You will be guided by **USDA Foods Tips** throughout the spec library.

Bid Management

- **Build your bids**
- **Maintain vendor lists**
- **Publish your bids**
- **Analyze vendor responses**
- **Award Contracts**



- There are USDA Procurement Tips throughout the Bid Management section of the tool.

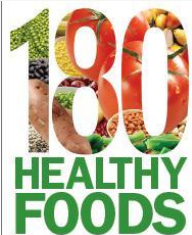
"The USDA Foods mark is a service mark of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. USDA does not endorse any goods, services or enterprises."

The USDA congratulates Interflex in their quest to simplify, streamline & enhance the K-12 food service bidding process

In *BidAdvantage for Schools*, the **USDA** has provided tips for schools that promote healthy eating, specific meal pattern requirements, nutrition education, proper steps to take when issuing a bid, procurement best practices to ensure competitive pricing and links to USDA Foods and the Healthier US School Challenge.

Tips may encourage consumption of whole grains, dark green vegetables, nutrition education in the classroom and/or use of USDA Foods to meet the school's needs.

Thanks to the USDA, schools will now have more resources at their fingertips throughout the bid procurement process. These resources will aid them in serving healthy foods creatively, while being aware of current regulated guidelines. Below are just some of those great resources...



[USDA Foods Toolkit](#)

[The Food Buying Guide](#)

[USDA Specifications & US Grading Standards](#)



Collaborations



Founded by the American Heart Association
and the William J. Clinton Foundation

Interflex has collaborated with the [Alliance for a Healthier Generation](#) to help schools identify healthier products and create more nutrition-focused bid specifications.

BidAdvantage makes it easy to find healthier products. Just look for the Alliance logo. Or, create a healthier bid spec by using an Alliance template.

For a recording of the webinar Get Healthy Bid Simple (which Interflex and the AHG co-hosted), as well as a copy of the slide presentation, [click here](#) and look for the webinar entitled, "Bid Simple, Get Healthy"!



CAFE FUEL™ is your resource for "Better for You" products that meet the Alliance for a Healthier Generation's Nutritional Guidelines for school meals, competitive foods and beverages.

Search for [Cool School Cafe](#) & [Cafe Fuel](#) Qualifying Products in BidAdvantage for Schools.

CSC and CF programs funnel into one master account for the district, so the process for CAFE FUEL is the same as CSC and you earn points when you purchase qualifying products and submit them to CSC.



Cool School Cafe® (CSC) is an industry leader in K-12 School Foodservice marketing. CSC is a unique resource for you, SFS Directors and purchase decision makers, to learn about food manufacturers serving the industry and to have the opportunity to earn valuable marketing support for your meal program.

Resources

- Find *BidAdvantage for Schools* as a resource in the **SNA's School Nutrition Procurement Toolkit**
...Your Key to Running a More Efficient Program...

- The **Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network** (FAAN™) is your source for information on food allergies. FAAN is dedicated to helping the 1 in 13 kids affected by food allergies stay safe at school. Because food allergic reactions can be fatal, it is critical that school food service staff learn about food allergy safety.

Training

To learn more about BidAdvantage for Schools, you can sign up for a free 60 minute webinar training session. These sessions occur every Tuesday and Thursday at 2:00pm EST, and you can attend unlimited sessions.

To sign up for one, [click here](#).

Contact Us

www.interflex.net | 10 Commerce Drive Wyomissing, PA 19610 | 1.800.293.2909