

Purchasing Policy

Bibliotek24's purchasing cooperation takes care of joint procurement, administration, and negotiation of digital content services for public libraries and libraries in public high schools.

Objective:

A joint purchasing collaboration to consolidate, strengthen, and streamline libraries' digital content services to ensure more equal access for Norway's inhabitants and better terms for the libraries.

Requirements for Negotiations

To achieve the goals of the purchasing collaboration, Bibliotek24 will have various requirements when dealing with suppliers. Providers of digital content services will have different opportunities to meet these requirements. Therefore, Bibliotek24 negotiates based on a list consisting of various requirements.

The lists are not exhaustive but can be subject to customization in the interaction with each supplier.

Examples of requirements could be:

- Statistics
- Metadata
- Single sign-on
- Agreements are in line with Norwegian legislation
- Remote access (and possibly duration of this)
- Ability to cancel the printed edition
- Sharing possibilities
- Content customization

Transparency Requirements

Libraries participating in the purchasing collaboration should be able to know other libraries' prices and statistics.

Contract Period Requirements

Normally, each contract follows the calendar year, but it should be possible for libraries to link up with agreements during the year. Price and billing are negotiated between the library, Bibliotek24, and the supplier ongoingly.

Where appropriate and possible, multi-year license agreements between Bibliotek24 and suppliers should be sought to reduce administration for all parties.

Minimum Participation Requirements

For the cost-benefit value of the purchasing collaboration to be maintained, libraries corresponding to at least 10 percent of the population must want a digital content service before Bibliotek24 begins negotiations on behalf of all libraries.

In cases where the county library bears the cost for the public libraries, the population number is calculated according to how many libraries get access through the county library's financing.

If the support is less than 10 percent, each library is free to negotiate agreements and administer payments themselves.

Exemption from Minimum Participation

In cases where an agreement loses support among the libraries, it will only continue as part of the portfolio of agreements through Bibliotek24 if the supplier has other agreements that meet the requirement of minimum participation.

New Agreements

Libraries are free to contact Bibliotek24 with wishes for agreements. Bibliotek24 can assist in informing other libraries, in cases where the minimum participation has not been achieved.

Existing Agreements

Bibliotek24 continuously renegotiates agreements that are about to expire, unless they have fallen below the requirement or the exemption about minimum participation.

Evaluation

The purchasing policy is evaluated annually.