

**SECRETARY** 

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Carol a. Hardbarger

DATE: February 16, 2022

TO: General Manager

Add company field here

FROM: Dr. Carol A. Hardbarger, Secretary

RE: Bidding on Federal contracts for Pennsylvania deliveries

The Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board is a state agency that enforces the Milk Marketing Law and the Law regulates the economics of milk transactions in PA.

Our agency has been in contact with USDA to discuss procedures to better assist USDA eligible dairy vendors who may submit bids for deliveries to Pennsylvania locations. To that end I am writing to provide some information that I hope will be helpful to you.

Any bids for fluid milk and cream products to be delivered to a Pennsylvania location such as a food bank or other location under a federal program must be made at the PA minimum wholesale price for that product at the time of the bid's due date. The bid must also be in compliance with minimum wholesale prices for the PA Milk Marketing Area in which the delivery site is located.

Our pricing structures allow for volume discounts and these can be applied to any bid. Each Milk Marketing Area, as stated above, has its own minimum wholesale price for each type and volume-size of product, and also has its own volume discounts.

Pricing information for any month may be found on our website at Wholesale/Retail Pricing (pa.gov) under Resale Prices.

Any submission for an under-minimum wholesale price bid is considered an illegal bid. The vendor will be notified within 1-3 days of the award announcement that the bid and contracted sales are illegal. In general, a citation will be issued by my office which can lead to a license suspension or a financial penalty via consent agreement to avoid a hearing.

Additionally, any sales conducted under the contract are each in violation of the PA Milk Marketing Law and subject to citations and penalties.

To avoid having to undertake these actions, we are engaging in an information distribution strategy that includes this letter. We will also be providing minimum pricing information on our website specifically for federal program bid submissions and will make our staff available to consult with individual vendors and review prices before bid submission.

Please contact me at the phone number or email (preferred) above with any questions.