

Dollar Thresholds in North Carolina Public Contracting Statutes

Dollar limits and statutory authority current as of September 1, 2007.

Requirement	Threshold	Statute
Formal bids		
Construction or repair contracts	\$500,000 <i>and above</i> (estimated cost of contract)	G.S. 143-129
Purchase of apparatus, supplies, materials, and equipment	\$90,000 <i>and above</i> (estimated cost of contract)	G.S. 143-129
Informal bids		
Construction or repair contracts	\$30,000 to formal limit	G.S. 143-131
Purchase of apparatus, supplies, materials, and equipment	\$30,000 to formal limit	G.S. 143-131
Construction methods authorized for building projects		
Separate Prime	<i>Over</i> \$300,000 (estimated cost of project)	G.S. 143-128
Single Prime		
Dual Bidding		
Construction Management at Risk		
Minority-business enterprise requirements		
Building projects		
Projects with state funding	\$100,000 <i>or more</i>	G.S. 143-128.2(a)
Locally funded projects	\$300,000 <i>or more</i>	G.S. 143-128.2(a)
Projects in the informal range	\$30,000 to \$500,000	G.S. 143-131(b)
Limit on use of own forces		
Construction or repair projects	<i>Not to exceed</i> \$125,000 (total project) or \$50,000 (labor only)	G.S. 143-135
Bid bond or deposit		
Construction or repair contracts	Formal bids (<i>see above</i>)	G.S.143-129(b)
Purchase contracts	Not required	
Performance/payment bonds		
Construction or repair contracts	<i>Projects over</i> \$300,000 <i>for each contract over</i> \$50,000	G.S. 143-129(c); G.S. 44A-26
Purchase contracts	Not required	
General contractor's license		
	\$30,000 <i>and above</i>	G.S. 87-1
Use of registered architect or engineer required		
Nonstructural work	\$300,000 <i>and above</i>	G.S. 133-1.1(a)
Structural repair or new construction	\$135,000 <i>and above</i>	
Repair work affecting life safety systems	\$100,000 <i>and above</i>	
Selection of architect, engineer, surveyor, or construction manager at risk		
"Best qualified" selection procedure	All contracts unless exempted	G.S. 143-64.31
Exemption authorized	Projects where estimated fee is less than \$30,000 or other projects in sole discretion of unit	G.S. 143-64.32