

# Northern Illinois Purchasing Cooperative Buy American Exemption Form

[USDA Memo SP-38-2017](#) and [SP 23-2024](#) Compliance with and Enforcement of the Buy American Provision in the National School Lunch Program, requires school food authorities (SFAs) to purchase, to the maximum extent practicable, domestic commodity or product.

There are limited exceptions to the Buy American provision which allow for the purchase of products not meeting the “domestic” standard as described above (“non-domestic”) in circumstances when use of domestic products is truly not practicable:

1. The product is not produced or manufactured in the U.S. in sufficient and reasonable available quantities of a satisfactory quality.  
**AND/OR**
2. Competitive bids reveal the costs of a U.S. product are significantly higher than the non-domestic product.

I hereby certify that the following product is exempt from the Buy American Provision for the reason(s) stated:

Product:	
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Exemption 1 and/or 2 (from above):	
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If citing exemption 2, (price), please provide the following:

Approximate cost of domestic item:	
Approximate cost of non-domestic item:	

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Company Name

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Authorized Representative Name (Printed)

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Authorized Signature

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Date