Why ISU First?

Myth-busting

Amazon and CyBuy are not always less expensive. Central Stores, Printing Services, and University Book Store have the expertise to source and/or make products that keep dollars on campus. Try us first - you won’t be sorry!

How can the UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE, CENTRAL STORES and PRINTING SERVICES be less expensive?

We have our own buyers that source products through multiple vendors looking for the least expensive items and/or negotiating for better costs. Because we are campus entities, we offer departmental pricing and do not mark-up products like other businesses, as we are non-profit. Not only do we provide the best pricing option, the money also stays on campus.

1 Money Stays Local.
We pay significant administration fees and provide budget support to the university, pay building rent, provide scholarships to students, support many student organizations, provide support to university departments, and support many events across campus. By shopping local, your money stays right on campus to support many other campus entities and the university budget.

2 Departments get more choices at reasonable prices.
We strategically employ buyers that source products through multiple vendors to keep prices low.

3 Departments have better shopping experience.
Buyers will personally work with departments to help accomplish their sourcing goals. And, if there is a problem with any order, you personally have contact with store employees to “make it right”. Online ordering is available 24/7 with optional on-campus delivery.

4 Builds a culture of unity.
Our employees are looking out for what’s best for the university. Knowing that if we are unable to source or negotiate the best price, we will suggest the department take advantage of the best solution to promote fiscal responsibility.

5 Strengthens ISU’s economy.
With anticipated budget concerns with shrinking enrollments and less state funding, departments need to find solutions that are reasonable and fair. University Book Store, Central Stores, and Printing Services promise to find low cost products and make recommendations to keep prices low. When we work together and support each other, we support campus economy.
UNIVERSITY BOOK STORE

University Book Store sources the following products with 5 buyers that source and negotiate for best prices:

- Employee workwear
- Cyclone apparel and gifts
- Non-emblematic apparel & gifts
- Novelty items (lanyards, mugs, water bottles, koozies, pop sockets, pens, pencils, etc.)
- Conference swag bag items
- Art and Lab Supplies (ie: Dick Blick vendor source, classroom kits, course provided equipment and supply needs)
- Office Supplies
- Technology and electronic items and servicing (Apple, Dell, accessories, headphones, etc.)

CENTRAL STORES

Central Stores specializes in strategically sourcing the following:

Maintenance, repair and operating supplies (MRO)
- Plumbing, electrical/lighting, building supplies, hardware
- Tools, hand and power
- Flashlights
- Batteries

Consumables
- Copy paper
- Janitorial supply
- Laboratory/breakroom
- Soil/fertilizer

Safety and personal protective equipment
- Safety eyewear
- Respirators
- Gloves/vests/hardhats

Plant upkeep supplies
- Lubricants/oils
- Belts
- Filters
- Gaskets
- Repair tools

Industrial equipment
- Valves
- Compressors
- Pumps

PRINTING SERVICES

Printing Services products and services

Print products
- Business Cards
- Letterhead
- Envelopes
- Notepads
- Certificates
- Postcards
- Brochures
- Fliers
- Course Materials
- Thesis Printing

Wide Format
- Posters
- Stickers
- Magnets
- Banners
- Architectural/Construction/Engineering Plans and Drawings
- Flexible and Rigid Signage
- Wall, Floor and Window Graphics
- Tradeshow Booth Graphics and Displays

Prepress / Mail
- Design Services
- Bulk Mail Services
- Variable Data Printing

Finishing Services
- UV Coating
- Laminating
- Book Binding (Saddle-stitch, Perfect bound, and Coil binding available)

Print Buyer
On site staff to facilitate the procurement of printing related jobs that are unable to be produced on campus