1. All procurements that involve the alteration or construction of a building “vertical construction” or site-work for non-building public work projects “horizontal construction”, as further defined below, are subject to Massachusetts Public Construction and Public Works laws M.G.L. c. 149 & M.G.L. c. 30, §39M, respectively. These laws require public awarding authorities to follow strict requirements to procure labor and materials for projects covered by either law. This section of the Procurement Manual covers common requirements for procuring construction and public works contracts. In all cases the Procurement Office will follow all requirements of the applicable law specific to each project.

2. All projects subject to either M.G.L. c. 149 or M.G.L. c. 30, §39M estimated to cost more than $10,000 require public notification and sealed bids administered by the Procurement Department.

3. All requests for Construction and Public Works projects/contracts must be processed through the Office of Campus Master Planning and Capital Projects and are subject to the approval of that office and the Procurement Office. For projects related to facility maintenance and upkeep the Facilities Department may request bids from Procurement without requiring the approval of the Office of Campus Master Planning and Capital Projects.

4. Labor and materials contracts for construction, reconstruction, installation, demolition, maintenance or repair of a building are all subject to the requirements of M.G.L. c. 149. Physical alterations and renovations to any University building that involve the utilization of trade labor and materials; not only must deal with unique statutory requirements, but are also subject to building and safety codes. Examples of projects that are subject these requirements include but are not limited to:
   - Installation of Carpet or Flooring
   - Carpentry Work
   - Painting Projects
   - Changes to Electrical Wiring
   - Changes to Plumbing

5. All “horizontal construction projects” such as repair of roads, bridges, water mains or sewers and the purchase of construction material are governed by M.G.L. c. 30, §39M which has strict statutory requirements that must be followed when procuring contracts.

6. Prior to a department purchasing equipment that involves utility connections and or building alterations the department must contact the Office of Campus Master Planning and Capital Projects, that office will determine whether the existing infrastructure is sufficient to handle the new equipment or whether upgrades or alternate arrangements are necessary.

Published: 1 January 2016