

**Addendum to the 2012 Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan:  
Responding to the President's Memorandum on Promotion of Biobased Markets**

On February 21, 2012, President Obama signed a Memorandum, *Driving Innovation and Creating Jobs in Rural America through Biobased and Sustainable Product Procurement*. The memorandum requires all federal agencies to undertake a number of activities to increase their purchase of biobased products. The U.S. Department of Education is moving aggressively to implement the Presidential Memorandum requirements.

**Accomplishments to date include:**

- Updating Department-wide Green Purchasing Training to include detailed information on Federal Acquisition Regulations clauses related to biobased products and information on biopreferred products.
- Requiring the Department's acquisition workforce of approximately 300 to take the revised Green Purchasing Training during calendar year 2012.

**Baseline for Biobased Contracting:**

In FY 2012, the U.S. Department of Education awarded no contract actions that included the purchasing of biobased products.

**FY 2013 Target/Compliance Goal:**

- As a leader in sustainable acquisition strategies and compliance, the U.S. Department of Education plans to meet a level of 75 percent for all relevant acquisitions in the first two quarters of FY 2013.
- The U.S. Department of Education plans to achieve full compliance of the 95 percent sustainable acquisition goal in E.O. 13514 for biobased products no later than FY 2015.

**Strategies for Improving Compliance:**

The U.S. Department of Education's strategy for improving compliance--full incorporation of requirements and clauses for biobased products in relevant and appropriate contracts and follow on activities to ensure compliance is achieved--includes the following elements:

- In its quarterly acquisition reviews, the U.S. Department of Education will conduct a deep dive for service contracts relevant to biobased purchasing to ensure that requirements for biobased products are met.