

Late Bid Accepted

According to purchasing procedures, Buyers must reject late bids. In the case of an appeal by the vendor or the department, the Director of Purchasing may, in rare cases, make a decision to accept a late bid, based on the circumstances. Here's an example:

October, 02 – Purchasing accepted a late bid based on the circumstances of the bid delivery.

- 1) The bid was addressed properly to the U of M Purchasing, Suite 560, 1300 S. 2nd St., Attn: (Buyer's name).
- 2) It was delivered by courier to the correct building (1300 S. 2nd St.) to a University employee (in Epi).
- 3) The University employee that received the delivery did call the buyer in Purchasing at approximately 1:30 the day of the deadline to notify the buyer that a courier had delivered a package. (The buyer did not pick up the voice mail message until after the 3:00 p.m. bid deadline.)

Even though the courier delivered the package to the wrong department, the fact that the University had ample opportunity to rectify the error before the deadline is reason, in my opinion, to accept this bid.

Office of the General Counsel (OGC) opinion: "(OGC) agrees with this decision and believes we have a rational basis to accept the bid, especially in light of the fact that Purchasing was notified [that] the bid had arrived in the building prior to the deadline."