

# 2026 TOP 10 PRIORITIES for State Procurement: **Midwestern Region**

## 1 Modernizing the Procurement Process

Increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of procurement through the implementation of digital tools and simplified processes.

## 2 Information Technology Goals

Enhancing CPO collaboration with IT stakeholders for effective solutions, IT risk management, and supply chain analysis, while mitigating cybersecurity threats through defense tactics and protocols for addressing cyberattacks like data breaches.

## 3 Central Procurement Office as a Strategic Leader

Setting procurement policies, ensuring compliance with regulations, and aiming for efficiency and cost-effectiveness in purchasing.

## 4 Analytics for Data-Driven Decision Making

Using data and statistical tools to make informed choices about how government or public sector organizations buy goods and services.

## 5 Talent Management and Succession Planning

Ensuring the organization has the right people with the right skills at the right time. Focusing on professional development and employee retention.

## 6 Customer Service to Agency Stakeholders

Establishing clear communication, guidance, training, problem-solving, feedback collection, and collaboration with agency stakeholders.

## 7 Artificial Intelligence in Public Procurement

Implementing A.I. technologies into the procurement process and understanding data and security implications for A.I.-enabled products.

## 8 eProcurement/ERP

Supporting the start-to-finish system creation and adoption of a new eProcurement system or increased statewide agency utilization of existing eProcurement/ERP solutions.

## 9 Innovative Procurement Methods

Delivering innovative sourcing methods and solution-based solicitations to meet user agency needs and public policy goals. Buying goods and services in a way that considers not only the price and quality but also the environmental and social impacts.

## 10 Training and Certification

Promoting training and certification programs that elevate the procurement profession and ensuring that state procurement employees have the necessary skills and knowledge to manage government purchasing effectively and ethically.