

2. Dispute Resolution. All parties must attempt to settle any dispute between them amicably in accordance with this subsection f(2) and subsection f(1) above. To this end, the parties must consult and negotiate to reach a solution. However, nothing in this subsection f(2) will preclude any party from commencing a proceeding if the negotiations do not reach a resolution. All disputes arising out of a contract between an HPS Institution and the Awarded Distributor under the HPS School Food Purchasing Program may be submitted by either party to arbitration to be administered by the American Arbitration Association in accordance with its Commercial Arbitration Rules (including the Emergency Interim Relief Procedures). The parties agree that with respect to disputes submitted to arbitration, the arbitration award will be final and binding, and that a judgment by any court of competent jurisdiction may be rendered on the award. The place of arbitration must be in the state where the HPS Institution is located, at a place convenient to the parties unless the arbitrator(s) designate some other location. All costs and expenses of the arbitration, including actual professional fees, must be allocated among the parties at the discretion of the arbitrator(s). **Understood**

3. Allowable Costs, Discounts, Etc. This Subsection f.3 applies to the extent this RFP is considered a solicitation to procure a “Cost Reimbursable Contract,” as defined in 7 CFR 210.2. Pursuant to 7 CFR 210.21(f)(1), any HPS Institution that is a SFA will pay for the allowable costs of Products from the SFA’s Nonprofit School Food Service Account to the Awarded Distributor net of all discounts, rebates and other applicable credits accruing to or received by the Awarded Distributor or any assignee under the contract, to the extent those credits are allocable to the allowable portion of the costs billed to the SFA. The Awarded Distributor must either (1) separately identify for each cost submitted for payment to the SFA the amount of that cost that is allowable (can be paid from the Nonprofit School Food Service Account) and the amount that is unallowable (cannot be paid from the Nonprofit School Food Service Account); or (2) exclude all unallowable costs from its billing documents and certify that only allowable costs are submitted for payment and records have been established that maintain the visibility of unallowable costs, including directly associated costs in a manner suitable for contract cost determination and verification. The Awarded Distributor's determination of its allowable costs must be made in compliance with the applicable USDA and CN Program regulations and Office of Management and Budget cost circulars. The Awarded Distributor must identify the amount of each discount, rebate and other applicable credit on bills and invoices presented to the SFA for payment and individually identify the amount as a discount, rebate, or in the case of other applicable credits, the nature of the credit. If approved by the applicable State Department of Education or other State agency having jurisdiction, the SFA may permit the Awarded Distributor to report this information on a less frequent basis than monthly, but no less frequently than annually. The Awarded Distributor must identify the method by which it will report discounts, rebates and other applicable credits allocable to the contract that are not reported prior to conclusion of the contract. The Awarded Distributor must maintain documentation of costs and discounts, rebates and other applicable credits, and must furnish such documentation upon request to the SFA, the applicable State Department of Education or other State agency having jurisdiction, or the USDA, as applicable. **Understood**