

CODE County of HOWARD, MARYLAND Codified through Council Bill No. 33, enacted July 3, 2000. (Supplement No. 30)  
HOWARD COUNTY CHARTER\*  
TITLE 4 CONTRACTS, PURCHASING AND PROPERTY  
SUBTITLE 1. PURCHASING\*  
Sec. 4.113. Professional services.

**Sec. 4.113. Professional services.**

(a) *Use of Competitive Process Where Practicable:* Except as provided in subsection (b) below of this section, the purchase of professional services shall be made through a competitive bidding process pursuant to the provisions of this subtitle, whenever practical. When it is not practical to purchase professional services using one of the methods authorized in this subtitle, then the user agency shall consult with the county purchasing agent to select a provider of professional services by using another method which will provide as much competition as is practical, given the nature of the services and the circumstances under which the services are needed.

**(b) *Selection of Architects and Engineers: Architectural and engineering professional services shall be procured on the basis of qualifications and competitive negotiations in accordance with the procedures set forth in the purchasing manual governing architectural and engineering services.***

(c) *Exemption for County Council:* The county council is exempt from the competitive bidding provisions of this subtitle when awarding professional service contracts. The awarding of contracts by the council for professional services shall be the responsibility of the executive secretary to the council at the direction and with the approval of the council.