Every year you purchase materials and equipment across multiple locations for your agency. From computers to furniture to lab equipment, you keep your agency equipped and functioning.

The variety of items needed, however, requires managing multiple suppliers. Boxes of office supplies come from one vendor, freight shipments of furniture and equipment from another. Each of these purchases may be sent via a different shipper and mode of transportation, often with additional shipping charges that become part of the total purchase price.

When your supply system operates like this, inbound transportation creates hidden costs, making it increasingly difficult to balance tightening agency budgets. By choosing UPS contract pricing, your transportation spend is completely transparent and at reduced rates negotiated by your state. Logistics can increase the efficiency of your inbound transportation management, while reducing the costs associated with it.
How to get started

Step 1: Audit vendor invoices
To quantify savings opportunities, start by assessing your current spend. Analyze recent purchase orders from your primary vendors. While some may be purchased according to statewide contracts, most are purchased through a quote and purchase order process. Vendors may add 2-10 percent or more of the merchandise value to their invoice for shipping.

Our experience has shown that actual shipping costs can be reduced to as little as 1 percent or less of the merchandise value, significantly reducing spending. We can help you select the right service level, so you only pay for what you need. This helps you take control of shipping decisions, ensuring the most cost-efficient options in the future.

Step 2: Implement pre-negotiated statewide government UPS rates
When vendors choose the shipping company, shipping costs can vary depending on negotiated rates from different carriers.

We can work with you to simplify processes for you and your vendors. With UPS as your preferred carrier, vendors ship using your UPS Freight® account with pre-negotiated statewide government UPS rates. Complete transparency eliminates surprises, making it easier to manage your costs.

Step 3: Exercise control and enhance vendor compliance
A new inbound transportation plan will never be fully effective unless you ensure the rules are followed. Compliance requires effective communication with your vendors, as well as the tools to streamline implementation and maintain efficient operations.

A seamless transition for you and your vendors
Our solutions and services can help you and your vendors adjust and adapt to make day-to-day tasks easier:

• Routing letter and instructions — Inform vendors of your new plans and any special instructions
• UPS Trackpad® — Simplify inbound and in-house agency deliveries with barcode recognition of service and carrier
• Enhanced visibility — Receive and send notifications of in-transit status to enhance inbound planning and manage outbound expectations
• Electronic billing — Speed cash flow, reduce paperwork and simplify allocations

Start managing your inbound transportation now
With preplanning, your agency can take control and proactively manage your inbound shipping and transportation spend, rather than leaving it up to each vendor. What’s more, you don’t have to make the transition alone. UPS can serve as a trusted partner to help with inbound shipping and transportation, allowing your agency to increase efficiencies while cutting costs.

Help reduce costs on outbound shipping, too
Statewide government UPS rates also apply to your outbound deliveries. And UPS efficiency applies as well:

• Web-based systems enable desktop shipping, but with centralized control of services
• End-to-end visibility and email alerts keep you and recipients up to date on shipment status
• Integrated, online billing saves time, simplifying cost analysis and allocation

Learn how logistics can help your agency take back control of inbound transportation. Contact your UPS account representative today or visit ltl.upsfreight.com to learn more.

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