

 The Pennsylvania State University

PennState

Quick Facts:

1,784: Number of buildings statewide across 24 campuses of the University

23,000: Number of acres encompassed by the University statewide

100,000: Number of students enrolled at Penn State University

Challenge

Like many other higher education institutions, The Pennsylvania State University (Penn State) deals with emergencies ranging from bursting water lines to building fires to weather-related damage. When emergency work is needed, there is often little time to negotiate price or vet quality contractors, and as a result, several emergency projects came in over budget. Penn State sought a solution that would accurately forecast the cost of emergency restoration projects with full cost transparency.

Solution

In December 2014, Penn State implemented Emergency Restoration Services Contracts (ERSC), a Gordian Job Order Contracting program designed specifically for emergency response and restoration projects. The ERSC enabled four regional contractors to respond to emergency situations on all University campuses across the state. With the ERSC, Penn State has a group of pre-qualified, vetted contractors in place that hold the appropriate licenses necessary to respond to emergency situations and get to work quickly. The contractors also adhere to

strict requirements. In immediate-action-required situations, for example, the contractors are expected to mobilize and be on site at any of the campuses within two hours to work under the direction of the University.

“ Since the implementation of the ERSC, emergency repairs have gone very smoothly. We rest assured that we'll have professional, quality contractors on any of the campuses quickly to handle time sensitive repairs. The upfront, pre-established pricing is key.”

– Ron Kobelenske,
Project Coordinator Penn State

Results

With these special emergency restoration contracts, all costs for immediate work is priced using a specialized emergency response Construction Task Catalog®, a unit price book with prepriced emergency construction tasks customized for Penn State. This upfront pricing has eliminated issues and simplified the procurement process. Additionally, Penn State received buy-in from its insurance company when the



contracts were first established, limiting the back and forth on claims, and making it faster and easier to receive payment.

Since implementation, Penn State has utilized the ERSC on several emergency projects without any issues. The contractors responded quickly, the work was performed professionally and the procurement process went smoothly. Thanks to complete cost transparency and access to pre-qualified contractors, the University's emergency response and mitigation work is expedited.

About Gordian

Gordian is the world's leading provider of construction cost data, software, and services for all phases of the construction lifecycle. From planning to design, procurement, construction and operations,

Gordian delivers groundbreaking solutions to contractors, architects, engineers, educational institution stakeholders, facility owners and managers in the local, state and federal government, education, healthcare, manufacturing, insurance, legal, retail and other industries. With our proprietary data, along with our RSMeans and Sightlines data, we offer the largest collection of labor, material and equipment data and associated costs in the world with over 275,000 construction tasks with costs for all areas of construction. Gordian also offers the most widely used construction procurement information management software available anywhere and cutting-edge facilities intelligence and life cycle costing software to assess initial installed costs versus long-term facility costs and improve long-term asset performance. **For more information, visit www.gordian.com.**