SUMMARY: This document makes amendments to the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) in order to make editorial changes.

DATES: Effective Date: June 21, 2013.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In order to update certain elements in 48 CFR parts 8 and 52, this document makes editorial changes to the FAR.

List of Subject in 48 CFR Parts 8 and 52

Government procurement.

Dated: June 13, 2013.

William Clark,
Acting Director, Office of Governmentwide Acquisition Policy; Office of Acquisition Policy; Office of Governmentwide Policy.

Therefore, DoD, GSA, and NASA amend 48 CFR parts 8 and 52 as set forth below:

1. The authority citation for 48 CFR parts 8 and 52 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 121(c); 10 U.S.C. chapter 137; and 51 U.S.C. 20113.

PART 8—REQUIRED SOURCES OF SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

2. Amend section 8.703 by revising the third sentence to read as follows:

8.703 Procurement list.

* * * Questions concerning whether a supply item or service is on the Procurement List may be submitted at Internet email address info@abilityone.gov or referred to the Committee offices at the following address and telephone number: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, 1401 S. Clark Street, Suite 10800, Arlington, VA 22202–3259, 703–603–7740. * * *

3. Amend section 8.714 by revising paragraph (b) to read as follows:

8.714 Communications with the central nonprofit agencies and the Committee.

* * * * *

(b) Any matter requiring referral to the Committee shall be addressed to the Executive Director of the Committee, 1401 S. Clark Street, Suite 10800, Arlington, VA 22202–3259.

PART 52—SOLICITATION PROVISIONS AND CONTRACT CLAUSES

4. Amend section 52.204–8 by:

a. Revising the date of the provision; and

b. Removing from paragraphs (b)(1), the introductory text of (b)(2), and (c)(1)(iii) “clause at 52.204–7” and adding “provision at 52.204–7” in its place.

The revised text reads as follows:

52.204–8 Annual Representations and Certifications.

* * * * *

Annual Representations and Certifications [Jun 2013]

* * * * *

5. Amend section 52.204–10 by:

a. Revising the date of the provision; and

b. Removing from the introductory text of paragraph (d)(1) “FAR clause” and adding “FAR provision” in its place.

The revised text reads as follows:

52.204–10 Reporting Executive Compensation and First-Tier Subcontract Awards.

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Reporting Executive Compensation and First-Tier Subcontract Awards [Jun 2013]

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[FR Doc. 2013–14620 Filed 6–20–13; 8:45 am]

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LIST OF RULES IN FAC 2005–67

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>FAR case</th>
<th>Analyst</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Contracting Officer’s Representative</td>
<td>2013–004</td>
<td>Jackson.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>System for Award Management Name Change, Phase 1 Implementation</td>
<td>2012–033</td>
<td>Glover.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*V</td>
<td>Terms of Service and Open-Ended Indemnification, and Unenforceability of Unauthorized Obligations (Interim).</td>
<td>2013–005</td>
<td>Petrussek.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*VI</td>
<td>Price Analysis Techniques</td>
<td>2012–018</td>
<td>Chambers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII</td>
<td>Contracting with Women-owned Small Business Concerns (Interim)</td>
<td>2013–010</td>
<td>Morgan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII</td>
<td>Deletion of Report to Congress on Foreign-Manufactured Products</td>
<td>2013–008</td>
<td>Davis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX</td>
<td>Free Trade Agreement (FTA)-Panama</td>
<td>2012–027</td>
<td>Davis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>Updated Postretirement Benefit (PRB) References</td>
<td>2011–019</td>
<td>Chambers.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Summaries for each FAR rule follow. For the actual revisions and/or amendments made by these FAR cases, refer to the specific item numbers and subjects set forth in the documents following these item summaries. FAC 2005–67 amends the FAR as specified below:

Item I—Contractors Performing Private Security Functions Outside the United States (FAR Case 2011–029)


Item II—Contracting Officer’s Representative (FAR Case 2013–004)

This final rule amends the FAR to improve contract surveillance by clarifying the contracting officer’s representative (COR) responsibilities in FAR 1.602–2(d). In addition, a corresponding change is also made at FAR 7.104(e). This case originated from a Department of Defense (DoD) Panel on Contracting Integrity recommendation. The DoD Panel on Contracting Integrity, an internal DoD panel, consists of senior-level DoD officials from across DoD working to review progress made by DoD to eliminate areas of vulnerability of the defense contracting system that allow fraud, waste, and abuse to occur, and recommend changes in law, regulations, and policy to eliminate the areas of vulnerability. In order to improve the contracting environment, this rule provides additional explanation in the FAR to ensure that CORs understand their duties and responsibilities to survey contractor performance. This final rule is not required to be published for public comment because it only involves internal Government procedures regarding the appointment of CORs and the clarification of COR responsibilities, and has neither a significant effect beyond the internal operation procedures of the agency issuing the policy, regulation, procedure or form, nor has a significant cost or administrative impact on contractors or offerors.

Item III—System for Award Management Name Change, Phase 1 Implementation (FAR Case 2012–033)

This final rule amends the FAR by updating references and names to conform to the System for Award Management (SAM) designation. The SAM is a Federal Government owned and operated free Web site that consolidates the capabilities in certain legacy systems that are used by Federal officials in the procurement and awards process. This rule incorporates language that will transition the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database, the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS), and the Online Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA) to the SAM designation. This final rule also makes a number of minor additional conforming changes, such as updates to definitions.

Item IV—Interagency Acquisitions: Compliance by Nondefense Agencies With Defense Procurement Requirements (FAR Case 2012–010)

This final rule adopts with minor changes an interim rule published in the Federal Register at 77 FR 69720 on November 20, 2012. The interim rule amended the FAR to implement section 801 of Pub. L. 110–181, as amended (10 U.S.C. 2304 Note). Section 801 requires compliance certifications by nondefense agencies that purchase on behalf of the Department of Defense (DoD), and clarifies which DoD laws and regulations apply. The agencies must comply with new FAR subpart 17.7, in addition to complying with FAR subpart 17.5. To provide clarification for small business and contracting officers, existing policy for small business goal credit for assisted acquisitions was added by the interim rule to section FAR 4.603(c).

Item V—Terms of Service and Open-Ended Indemnification, and Unenforceability of Unauthorized Obligations (FAR Case 2013–005) (Interim)

This final rule amends the FAR to address concerns raised in an opinion from the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Legal Counsel that determined the Anti-Deficiency Act is violated when a Government contracting officer or other employee with the authority to bind the Government agrees, without statutory authorization or other exception, to an open-ended indemnification clause. This rule clarifies for the public that an End User License Agreement (EULA), Terms of Service (TOS), or similar agreement, containing an indemnification provision, is unenforceable and nonbinding against the Government and Government—authorized end-users. The rule contains a new clause that applies to all solicitations and contracts and automatically applies to micro-purchases, including those made with the Governmentwide purchase card.

Item VI—Price Analysis Techniques (FAR Case 2012–018)

This final rule amends the FAR to clarify a reference used in FAR 15.404–1(b)(2)(i). FAR 15.404–1(b)(2) delineates the various price analysis techniques (to ensure a fair and reasonable price) with 15.404–1(b)(2)(i) being the comparison of proposed prices received from multiple offerors in response to a solicitation. The current reference in this section (FAR 15.403–1(c)(1)(i)) was too broad; thus, this final rule changes this reference to 15.403–1(c)(1)(i), which precisely aligns the price analysis technique of comparing proposed prices in 15.404–1(b)(2)(i) with the adequate price competition standard (for exceptions from certified cost or pricing data requirements) of comparing proposed prices from multiple offerors. Small businesses are not impacted by this final rule because this rule merely clarifies the reference, changing it to cite FAR 15.403–1(c)(1)(i) (rather than the more generalized 15.403–1(c)(1)(i) at 15.404–1(b)(2)(i)), which describes the use of the price analysis technique of comparing proposed prices from multiple offerors in order to establish a fair and reasonable price.

Item VII—Contracting With Women-Owned Small Business Concerns (FAR Case 2013–010) (Interim)

This interim rule amends FAR 19.1505 to remove the dollar limitation for set-asides for economically disadvantaged women-owned small business (EDWOSB) concerns or women-owned small business (WOSB) concerns eligible under the Women-owned Small Business (WOSB) Program. This change implements section 1697 of the NDAA for FY 2013, Public Law 112–239, which amended section 8(m) of the Small Business Act, (15 U.S.C. 637(m)). As a result, contracting officers may set aside acquisitions for competition restricted to EDWOSB concerns or WOSB concerns eligible under the WOSB Program at any dollar level above the micro purchase threshold, provided the other requirements for a set-aside under the WOSB Program are met.
Item VIII—Deletion of Report to Congress on Foreign-Manufactured Products (FAR Case 2013–008)

This final rule amends the FAR to eliminate an obsolete Congressional reporting requirement imposed by the United States Troops Readiness, Veterans’ Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007 (41 U.S.C. 8302(b)(1)).

This Act required these reports to Congress for Fiscal Year 2007 through Fiscal Year 2011 on acquisitions of end products manufactured outside the United States. This report to Congress is no longer required but the collection of the data in Federal Procurement Data System is still required (see FAR 52.225–18, Place of Manufacture). This final rule only affects the internal operating procedures of the Government.

Item IX—Free Trade Agreement (FTA)—Panama (FAR Case 2012–027)

This final rule adopts without change an interim rule published November 20, 2012, which implemented a new Free Trade Agreement with Panama (see the United States-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act (Pub. L. 112–43) (19 U.S.C. 3805 note)).

This Trade Promotion Agreement is a free trade agreement that provides for mutually non-discriminatory treatment of eligible products and services from Panama. This final rule is not expected to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

Item X—Updated Postretirement Benefit (PRB) References (FAR Case 2011–019)

This final rule amends FAR 31.205–6(o)(2)(iii)(A)(1) to remove references to paragraphs 110, 112, and 113 of the now superseded Financial Accounting Standard (FAS) 106, which were deleted in the Financial Accounting Standards Board’s (FASB’s) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and replaces them with explicit criteria that are their functional equivalent. The FAR referenced GAAP to provide criteria for determining the allowability of the transition obligation, when converting from pay-as-you-go accounting for postretirement benefits (PRBs) to an accrual method of accounting for the purposes of Government contract cost accounting.

This final rule will have a minimal economic impact on small businesses because it does not change the FAR substantively.

Item XI—Technical Amendments

Editorial changes are made at FAR 8.703, 8.714, 52.204–8, and 52.204–10.

Dated: June 13, 2013.

William Clark,
Acting Director, Office of Governmentwide Acquisition Policy, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Governmentwide Policy.

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