

NOAA Acquisition and Grants Office Policy

Fiscal Year 2017 Year-End Cut-Off Dates and Late Acquisition and Grant Requests

On September 16, 2016, the Director of the NOAA Acquisition and Grants Office (AGO) issued the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Year End Cut-Off Dates and Late Acquisition and Grant Request Memorandum. The memorandum provides the year end cut-off dates, final dates for obligation and recordation, and the process for submitting a late requisition for NOAA grants, financial assistance, cooperative agreements, and acquisition services received after a cut-off date. *Please note that minor edits have been made to the cut-off dates since being issued.* The final date for all FY17 contract actions to be obligated and submitted for recordation is no later than 5:00 pm Eastern Time on Friday, September 22, 2017. The final date for FY17 grants obligations is Thursday, September 28, 2017. All requisitions for acquisition or financial assistance must be submitted for processing prior to the [established cut-off dates](#). Requisitions for NOAA grants, financial assistance, cooperative agreements, or acquisition services received after a cut-off date will be considered late and may be accepted on a best effort basis. The requestor shall submit a completed [Late Acquisition and Grant Request Form](#) for a late contract or grant action and submit electronically or as a hard-copy version to the appropriate Head of Contracting Office (HCO) or the Grants Management Division (GMD) Director.

AGO Client Service Matrix

The updated [AGO Client Service Matrix](#) was issued on September 16, 2016 and became effective on October 1st, 2016. For additional questions, please contact your servicing Acquisition Division.

Acquisition Alert 16-05 and Financial Assistance Alert 16-03 AGO Ombudsman

On August 31, 2016, the Director of the NOAA AGO issued [Acquisition Alert 16-05](#) and [Financial Assistance Alert 16-03](#) as new policy for facilitating and fostering improved communication with client organizations, industry, and the general public. This policy identifies the roles and responsibilities of the AGO Ombudsman and was implemented for resolution of procurement and financial assistance concerns brought to the attention of AGO. This official is dedicated to serving as an independent intermediary on acquisitions and financial assistance matters.

Grants Management Division Updates

A revision of the Research Terms and Conditions is in process and will be posted to the National Science Foundation's website when finalized. In addition, Grants Online will be updated in order to accommodate the new Data Sharing Act and the content of the NOAA assigned Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) numbers is also currently being updated.

OMB Guidance on Ensuring the Eligibility of Federal Grants Recipients

On July 22, 2015, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued [Guidance for Reporting and Use of Information Concerning Recipient Integrity and Performance](#), implementing section 872 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009, as it applies to grants. As required by section 872, OMB and the General Services Administration have established the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS) as a repository for government-wide data related to the integrity and performance of entities awarded federal grants and contracts. This final guidance revised Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) by implementing reporting requirements for recipients and awarding agencies, requires awarding agencies to consider information in FAPIIS before awarding a grant to a non-federal entity, and addresses how FAPIIS and other performance data may be used, especially with respect to grants and cooperative agreements. The final guidance became effective January 1, 2016.

Federal Acquisition Regulation

Federal Acquisition Circular (FAC) 2005-91

[Federal Acquisition Circular \(FAC\) 2005-91](#) was issued on September 30th, 2016 and established ten final rules and one interim rule amending the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) with immediate and upcoming effective dates. For highlights of the FAR rules and their effective date, please see the newsletter attachment (next page).

Acquisition and Grants Office Policy Resources

AGO Policy	http://www.ago.noaa.gov/acquisition/regulation_and_guidance.html
DOC Acquisition Policy	http://www.osec.doc.gov/oam/acquisition_management/policy/default.htm
AGO Grants Policy	http://www.ago.noaa.gov/grants/policy.html
DOC Grants Policy	http://www.osec.doc.gov/oam/grants_management/policy/default.htm

Newsletter Attachment

Federal Acquisition Circular (FAC) 2005-91 *(continued from page 1)*

[Federal Acquisition Circular \(FAC\) 2005-91](#) established ten final rules and one interim rule amending the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) in a variety of areas.

Final rules effective immediately:

- Implement sections of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 to prohibit agencies from entering into a contract with any corporation having a delinquent federal tax liability or felony conviction under any federal law, unless the agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and has made a determination that this further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the government.
- Replace the VETS-100 and -100A Federal Contractor Veterans' Employment Report forms with the VETS-4212 form.
- Authorize contracting officers to award sole-source contracts to economically disadvantaged women-owned small businesses (EDWOSBs) and WOSBs eligible under the WOSB program.
- Implement a section of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 to revise the allowable cost limit relative to the compensation of contractor and subcontractor employees and to implement the narrowly targeted exception to this allowable cost limit for scientists, engineers, or other specialists upon an agency determination that such exceptions are needed to ensure the executive agency has continued access to needed skills and capabilities. The final rule has four clarifying changes from the proposed rule.

Final rules effective October 31, 2016:

- Redesignate the terminology for unique identification of entities receiving federal awards, removing references to the proprietary Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number.
- Implement sections of the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 and regulatory changes made by the Small Business Administration to provide for government-wide policy on consolidation and bundling. The final rule has eight significant changes from the proposed rule.
- Implement a section of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year (FY) 2016 to require that "significant" savings would be achieved by entering into a multi-year contract; and that agencies may use a multi-year contract for supplies if its use results in significant savings.
- Add Ukraine and Moldova as new designated countries under the World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement.
- Implement section 862 of the NDAA for FY2008 to remove Department of Defense (DoD)-unique requirements for contractors performing private security functions outside the United States and provide a definition of "full cooperation" within the associated clause.

Interim rule:

- Implements Executive Order 13665, "Non-Retaliation for Disclosure of Compensation Information," and a final rule issued by the Department of Labor (DOL) to prohibit federal contractors from retaliating against workers for revealing their compensation. The interim rule is effective immediately, and comments must be submitted by November 29 to be considered in formation of the final rule.