

NOAA Acquisition and Grants Office Policy

Contracts or Grants Producing Environmental Data or Peer-Reviewed Publications

On March 2nd, the Director of the NOAA Acquisition and Grants Office (AGO) issued [Acquisition Alert 17-01, NOAA Solicitations and Contracts Producing Environmental Data or Peer-Reviewed Publications](#). The Acquisition Alert established the AGO acquisition policy for contracts or orders that fund the production of environmental data or peer-reviewed publications, in compliance with the NOAA Environmental Data Management Committee (EDMC) [Data Sharing Directive for Grants, Cooperative Agreements, and Contracts](#). Data Management Guidance is developed by the NOAA Program Office, in accordance with the Data Sharing Directive, and provided for inclusion within NOAA Federal Funding Opportunities (FFO) Announcements for grants and cooperative agreements and solicitations and contracts expected to produce environmental data or peer-reviewed publications. The EDMC Data Sharing Directive Appendices B.1 and B.3 provides the text to be included in FFO Announcements and Notices of Award for grants or cooperative agreements. Contracting officers shall ensure the language located in Acquisition Alert 17-01 Attachment 1 and 2 and the Data Management Guidance, is included in solicitations, contracts, or orders, at any dollar amount, for these requirements. This policy does not apply to purchase card transactions.

Procedures for Milestone Acquisition Plans

On February 13th, the Director of the NOAA AGO issued [Acquisition Instruction 17-02, Procedures for Milestone Acquisition Plans](#). Commerce Acquisition Manual ([CAM](#)) [1307.1, Acquisition Planning](#), requires milestone acquisition plans for all actions with a total value expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold (SAT). The NOAA Acquisition Instruction establishes the procedures for the use of milestone acquisition plans for acquisition planning on actions in which the total anticipated value (including options) exceeds the SAT and is applicable on all actions including contracts, task/delivery/call orders, and purchase orders.

Suspension and Debarment Program (Grants and Contracts)

In accordance with the [Department's Suspension and Debarment Handbook](#), all Department employees are responsible for identifying and reporting misconduct that may give rise to suspension and/or debarment actions. As a reminder, NOAA contracting officers, grants officers, contracting officer's representatives or field delegates who identify misconduct during the oversight and monitoring of a procurement or financial assistance transaction shall utilize the procedures within [NOAA AGO Acquisition Instruction 15-01, Suspension and Debarment Request for Consideration Procedures](#), on submitting a consideration for suspension or debarment request package.

Department of Commerce Office of Acquisition Management

Guidance on Presidential Memorandum Regarding the Hiring Freeze

On March 23rd, the Department of Commerce (DOC) Senior Procurement Executive (SPE) issued [Procurement Memorandum \(PM\) 2017-02, Guidance on Presidential Memorandum on Hiring Freeze](#). The PM provides guidance on the application of the [Presidential Memorandum regarding the hiring freeze](#) on Department contracting actions for support services. While existing contracts and orders for support services may continue, new orders, modifications to existing contracts, and new solicitations for contracts for support services shall not being issued without a determination by the responsible program official that the requirement is not being solicited or awarded in lieu of a hiring action prohibited by the Presidential Memorandum. All procurement request packages for support services shall include a completed and signed certification using the attachment within PM 2017-02.

Federal Acquisition Regulation

Federal Acquisition Circular (FAC) 2005-95

Federal Acquisition Circular (FAC) 2005-95 was published in the Federal Circular on January 13th, 2017 and modified the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) to implement five final rules. For more information, please see the [FAC 2005-95 synopsis](#) located at <https://www.acquisition.gov>.

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