Federal Contracting:
Procurement Data Reporting
Moving to betaSAM

The General Services Administration (GSA) will transition the Federal Procurement Data System’s (FPDS.gov) reports function to beta.SAM.gov starting Feb. 1, 2020.

FPDS tracks all federal contracts whose estimated value is $10,000 or more. Its reports tool is one of the 10 procurement systems that the GSA is migrating into one Integrated Award Environment on beta.SAM.gov.

Contract award reports will be found in beta.SAM.gov by clicking on the menu (three horizontal bars) and selecting the Data Bank. Users will highlight Contract Data on the left menu, then select the report type from static, standard, administrative, and ad hoc.

FPDS.gov users will use a new tool, “MicroStrategy”, to create and manage their procurement data reports, once the transition to beta.SAM.gov’s Data Bank is completed by March 16, 2020.

“The move to this new business intelligence tool will allow for more robust reporting across all beta.SAM.gov domains,” reads the GSA fact sheet on the transition.

MicroStrategy increases the maximum number of rows returned from 30,000 to 150,000 rows per report, pulls from data as far back as 12 years prior rather than five, includes additional fields, streamlines report sharing, and comes with a Report Builder “wizard” and Learning Center to assist users.

Static reports on MicroStrategy will be unchangeable and viewable by everyone. Standard and administrative reports will require a login from login.gov.

Users will be able to continue creating reports on FPDS.gov during the transition, but those won’t transfer to beta.SAM.gov. Only ad hoc reports created by Jan. 31, 2020, and run at least once since Jan.1, 2019, will make the transition.
The Northwest Commission PTAC, which serves as a Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA).

QUICK UPDATES

Federal:

Procurement Collusion Strike Force

In November, the Department of Justice (DOJ) announced the formation of the new Procurement Collusion Strike Force (PCSF), which will focus on deterring, detecting, investigating and prosecuting antitrust crimes, such as bid-rigging conspiracies and related fraudulent schemes, which undermine competition in government procurement, grant and program funding.

The DOJ’s official press release regarding the formation of the new Strike Force can be read here.

SOURCES & Additional Reading:
- https://www.fedscoop.com/beta-sam-gov-fpds-reports/

As always, please feel free to contact your PTAC Counselor for help with betaSAM.

Federal Contracting:

This Just In: DoD Releases Final Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (v1.0)

The Department of Defense (DoD) has released Version 1.0 of the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC), Appendices A-F, and an Overview Briefing.

While Version 1.0 largely mirrors the draft Version 0.7, the final version includes notable revisions, such as:

- Process and Practice Descriptions in Appendix B, which include discussions and clarifications for every “practice” within each CMMC Level, including the long-awaited examples for Levels 4 and 5; and
- Source Mapping in Appendix E, which maps each “practice” across all five Levels – 171 in total – to other pre-existing cybersecurity frameworks.

In anticipation of the DoD adopting “go/no-go” CMMC certification requirements later this year, a privately-run Accreditation Body is expected to begin training third-party assessors (3PAOs) this spring in conducting those certifications for contractors. Simultaneously, the DoD is expected to issue a proposed rule incorporating the CMMC into DFARS 252.204-7012, to be finalized this fall.


SOURCE:
Guide") for construction contractors.

The OFCCP released the Guide as a self-assessment tool to help contractors review the equal employment opportunity practices they have in place. Using this tool, and fixing issues it might reveal, may help construction contractors avoid potential investigation and interruption to their business operations.

For a full copy of the Guide, please visit OFCCP’s website here.


SOURCE
* https://www.pilieromazza.com/blog/ofccp-releases-technical-assistance-guide-for-construction-contractors

OUTSIDE OUR REGION

Become an Approved UPMC Diverse Supplier

Date: March 26, 2020 (2 sessions to choose from)
Location: Univ. of Pittsburgh
For Details: 412-648-1542

UPMC & The Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence are presenting a seminar for Small Diverse Businesses interested in being UPMC suppliers. Two sessions are being offered on 3/26/2020, $25 fee. Call 412-648-1542 for more info.

DLA Land & Maritime's Training, Knowledge & Opportunities (TKO) Seminars

Offered quarterly—

Need assistance with understanding the FAR & DFARS regulations regarding cybersecurity for federal contractors? Contact the PTAC.

Federal Contracting:
WOSB Changes Coming this Year

As you may recall, in 2019, the SBA proposed updates to its Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB)/Economically Disadvantaged Woman-Owned Small Business (EDWOSB) Program in response to Congress’ 2015 NDAA. The 2015 NDAA required the SBA to remove the option for businesses to self-certify as woman-owned small businesses and replace it with a more robust certification process operated directly by the SBA.

Now, the SBA’s website includes updated information about what those changes may mean for existing and new WOSBs.

For current third-party certified WOSBs and EDWOSBs, SBA will require re-certification “three years after the date of their most recent re-certification as a third-party certified firm.” Re-certification may be completed through the SBA’s new certification process or again through a third-party certifier.

For WOSBs and EDWOSBs who are currently self-certified with no active WOSB or EDWOSB set-aside contracts, the requirements are a little more complex. If you fall under this category and haven’t been protested or examined by the SBA in the two years prior to the effective date of the new rules, get ready to start preparing your application – you will need SBA or third-party certification before you are considered an eligible WOSB/EDWOSB.

In contrast, if you have been protested or examined in the two years prior to the effective date and received a positive final decision, you “must re-certify within 30 days of [your] certification anniversary if there have been no material changes since [your] last certification.” From there, you will have to “undergo a full document review and re-certification” at the end of year 3.

New applicants will be able to start from scratch and certify through the SBA directly when the rule becomes effective, or will still have the option to certify through third-party certifiers.

Another new change: Women-owned businesses already certified through the Department of Transportation’s Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program (DBE), or the Department of Veteran Affairs’ Center for Verification and Evaluation (CVE) are at an advantage: these kinds of certification will be considered equivalent to SBA certification.

And remember, PTAC can assist you through ED/WOSB certification!

Check out the SBA’s new fact sheets:

- WOSB and EDWOSB Certification Options
- FAQs for WOSBs/EDWOSBs
Next session: Mar. 17-18
Location: Columbus, OH
Event website: https://tko.dla.mil/

The TKO Seminars offer 2 days of sessions on teaching vendors how to start doing business with the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA). Vendors will be informed on how to find open solicitations, how to submit a quote through the DLA Internet Bid Board System (DIBBS), the procedures for viewing/downloading drawings, how to use Wide Area Workflow/iRAPT to get paid, and more.

All sessions are held at DLA Land and Maritime, located in Columbus, Ohio free of charge. The only costs attendees may incur is lodging, food and transportation.

***IN ADDITION TO THE TKO SEMINAR HELD IN COLUMBUS, THE TKO WEBSITE LISTS UPCOMING FREE WEBINARS OFFERED BY THE AGENCY.

Visit the event website for details and registration. (Select Land & Maritime from the dropdown menu).

30th Annual Gov’t Procurement Conference

Date: April 8, 2020
Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC
Event website: https://www.fbcinc.com/e/procurement/default.aspx

The Government Procurement Conference is a national conference fostering business partnerships between the Federal Government, its prime contractors, and small, minority, service-disabled veteran-owned, veteran-owned, HUBZone, and women-owned businesses.

Participating firms will have the benefit of marketing their products/services to procurement representatives and small business specialists from government agencies.

Federal Contracting:

The FY 2020 NDAA – What the Defense Contracting Community Needs to Know

On December 20, 2019, President Trump signed the fiscal year 2020 (FY20) National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) into law. The NDAA, Congress’ annual defense policy bill, is a critical piece of legislation for the contracting community because it provides the funding authority for programs and activities of the Department of Defense (DoD), the largest procurer of goods and services within the US government. In addition, the NDAA is a vehicle for encouraging in some cases, and requiring in others, changes to both DoD and government-wide procurement practices.

Therefore, it is critical for the contracting community to understand the provisions of the enacted NDAA. Read defense contracting highlights from the 2020 NDAA HERE.

SOURCE:

More on the 2020 NDAA...

Check out a video clip from Government Matters discussing important contracting takeaways from the NDAA at:
https://govmatters.tv/ndaa-provisions-for-defense-contractors/
The conference also includes educational conference sessions, procurement matchmaking and a dynamic exhibitor showcase. Visit the event website for more details.

**DLA Distribution Industry Day**

**Date:** June 3, 2020  
**Location:** New Cumberland, PA

Industry will learn about DLA Distribution and how to do business with them.

**AUDIENCE:** Industry Representatives, Prospective Vendors, Large and Small Business, and Socioeconomic Classified Business with a focus on service and supply related industries such as the following:
- Storage and distribution
- Construction
- Material handling equipment repair
- Janitorial
- Boxes (cartons, crates, containers, packaging, packing supplies, bags, and sacks)
- Communication equipment
- Material handling equipment & conveyors
- Office supplies
- Furniture (cabinets, lockers, bins, and shelving)

**REGISTRATION:** Industry Day registration to begin on or about March 15, 2020

**MORE AT:**  
https://beta.sam.gov/opp/9162ed0ade754b1891a91905088cab84/view

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**Webinar:**  
**Bidding on Federal Contracts**

**Date:** Feb. 11, 2020  
**Time:** 11:00a-12:00p  
**Location:** Online webinar

All small businesses are invited to join us for this free web session where PTAC & SBA will discuss how to find, review & respond to federal solicitations & proposals.

Info & registration at [https://nwpaptac.ecenterdirect.com/events/4327](https://nwpaptac.ecenterdirect.com/events/4327).

**Workshop:**  
**PTAC Government Contracting Workshop, Part of 2020 WILD Conference**

**Date:** April 23, 2020  
**Time:** TBD  
**Location:** Ambassador Banquet & Conference Center, Erie, PA

On April 23, Gannon University SBDC will host their 13th annual Woman in Leadership Development (WILD) conference. The conference includes break-out sessions, one of which will be led by PTAC Manager Robyn Young on the topic of government contracting.

Learn more about the WILD Conference, ticket information, and the breakout session agenda at [https://www.wildconf.org/](https://www.wildconf.org/).

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**SAVE THE DATE for DyNet-Erie 2020!**  
**August 20, 2020**  
Info [HERE](#). Registration coming soon.