

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY'S EMERGENCY ECONOMIC STABILIZATION ACT PROCUREMENTS SMALL BUSINESS PARTICIPATION

PROCUREMENT AUTHORITIES AND PROCEDURES

In implementing the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, Treasury has available two mechanisms for engaging private-sector firms. These mechanisms are financial agent authority, and procurement under the Federal Acquisition Regulation. Treasury will make a determination on which of these authorities best applies on a case by case basis.

1. Financial Agent Authority

Treasury has long had the statutory authority to retain financial agents to provide services on its behalf. Selection of financial agents will occur through processes which will be posted on the Treasury website. Although the process may be tailored to a specific situation, typically Treasury prepares a notice to interested and qualified financial institutions, evaluates the response to that notice, and negotiates one or more financial agency arrangements. There are no requirements under this authority to set-aside procurements for small, woman- and minority owned businesses; however, the Department of the Treasury has included these groups as part of the selection process. If small businesses determine that they do not meet the minimum requirements stated in the notices, they may participate as subcontractors.

2. Procurement Contracts under the Federal Acquisition Regulation

Treasury also may obtain supplies or services using a procurement contract under the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR). In general, the FAR requires the solicitation of offers from all interested sources. However, competition for procurements may be limited for various reasons, including in circumstances of unusual or compelling urgency. Certain procurements may be set aside for certain small businesses. Due to the paramount need for expeditious implementation of the Secretary's authorities under the Act, Treasury anticipates that, as necessary, certain contracts will be awarded through other than full and open competition, using the previously established FAR provisions applicable under conditions of unusual and compelling urgency. Additionally, the Act grants to the Secretary of the Treasury the authority, under certain specified conditions, to waive specific provisions of the FAR.

GUIDELINES FOR PURSUING PROCUREMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- 1. Go to the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act (EESA) webpage on the Department of the Treasury website at www.treasury.gov/initiatives/eesa/.
- 2. Please register your e-mail address so that you can receive regular updates on the EESA Program.
- 3. Go to the Federal Business Opportunities (FedBizOpps) website at www.fedbizopps.gov for information on the Department of the Treasury contracts. FedBizOpps is the U.S. Government's one-stop virtual marketplace.
- 4. If you haven't already, register your firm at www.ccr.gov. Central Contractor Registration (CCR) is the primary registrant database for the U.S. Federal Government. CCR collects, validates, stores, and disseminates data in support of agency acquisition missions, including Federal agency contract and assistance awards. Also, ensure that you complete your Dynamic Small Business Profile.
- 5. To expedite contract awards, the Department of the Treasury frequently uses the General Services Administration (GSA) Schedules Program. If you are not a contractor in the GSA Schedules Program, but are interested in becoming one, go to www.gsa.gov for additional information.
- 6. If your firm is interested in the small business certification programs, such as 8(a) Business Development, Small and Disadvantaged Business, Historically Underutilized Business, and Women-Owned, please refer to the U.S. Small Business Administration website at www.sba.gov/gcbd.
- 7. Firms may submit a <u>one-page</u> capability statement electronically to the Department's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization at <u>TreasuryOSDBU@do.treas.gov</u>.
- 8. If you would like additional information on the Department of the Treasury's Small Business Program, please go to www.treasury.gov/osdbu.