

**237.104 Personal services contracts.**

(b)(i) Authorization to acquire the personal services of experts and consultants is included in Public Law 101-165, section 9002. Personal service contracts for expert and consultant services must also be authorized by a determination and findings (D&F) in accordance with department/agency regulations.

(A) Generally, the D&F should authorize one contract at a time; however, an authorizing official may issue a blanket D&F for classes of contracts.

(B) Prepare each D&F in accordance with FAR 1.7 and include a determination that—

(1) The duties are of a temporary or intermittent nature;

(2) Acquisition of the services is advantageous to the national defense;

(3) DoD personnel with necessary skills are not available;

(4) Excepted appointment cannot be obtained;

(5) A nonpersonal services contract is not practicable;

(6) Statutory authority, 5 U.S.C. 3109 and other legislation, apply; and

(7) Any other determination required by statutes has been made.

(ii) Personal services contracts for health care are authorized by 10 U.S.C. 1091.

(A) This authority may be used to acquire—

(1) Direct health care services provided in medical treatment facilities; and

(2) Services of clinical counselors, family advocacy program staff, and victim's services representatives to members of the Armed Forces and covered beneficiaries who require such services, provided in medical treatment facilities or elsewhere. Persons with whom a personal services contract may be entered into under this authority include clinical social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists, and other comparable professionals who have advanced degrees in counseling or related academic disciplines and who meet all requirements for State licensure and board certification requirements, if any, within their fields of specialization.

(B) Sources for personal services contracts with individuals under the au-

thority of 10 U.S.C. 1091 shall be selected through the procedures in this section. These procedures do not apply to contracts awarded to business entities other than individuals. Selections made using the procedures in this section are exempt by statute from FAR part 6 competition requirements (see 206.001(b)).

(C) Approval requirements for—

(1) Direct health care personal service contracts (see 237.104(b)(ii)(A)(1)) and a pay cap are in DoDI 6025.5, Personal Services Contracts for Health Care Providers. Requests to enter into a personal service contract for direct health care services must be approved by the commander of the medical/dental treatment facility where the services will be performed.

(2) Services of clinical counselors, family advocacy program staff, and victim's services representatives (see 237.104(b)(ii)(A)(2)), shall be in accordance with agency procedures.

(D) The contracting officer must ensure that the requiring activity provides a copy of the approval with the purchase request.

(E) The contracting officer must provide adequate advance notice of contracting opportunities to individuals residing in the area of the facility. The notice must include the qualification criteria against which individuals responding will be evaluated. The contracting officer shall solicit applicants through at least one local publication which serves the area of the facility. Acquisitions under this section for personal service contracts are exempt from the posting and synopsis requirements of FAR part 5.

(F) The contracting officer shall provide the qualifications of individuals responding to the notice to the commander of the facility for evaluation and ranking in accordance with agency procedures. Individuals must be considered solely on the basis of the professional qualifications established for the particular personal services being acquired and the Government's estimate of reasonable rates, fees, or other costs. The commander of the facility shall provide the contracting officer with rationale for the ranking of individuals, consistent with the required qualifications.

(G) Upon receipt from the facility of the ranked listing of applicants, the contracting officer shall either—

(1) Enter into negotiations with the highest ranked applicant. If a mutually satisfactory contract cannot be negotiated, the contracting officer shall terminate negotiations with the highest ranked applicant and enter into negotiations with the next highest.

(2) Enter into negotiations with all qualified applicants and select on the basis of qualifications and rates, fees, or other costs.

(H) In the event only one individual responds to an advertised requirement, the contracting officer is authorized to negotiate the contract award. In this case, the individual must still meet the minimum qualifications of the requirement and the contracting officer must be able to make a determination that the price is fair and reasonable.

(I) If a fair and reasonable price cannot be obtained from a qualified individual, the requirement should be canceled and acquired using procedures other than those set forth in this section.

(f)(i) Payment to each expert or consultant for personal services under 5 U.S.C. 3109 shall not exceed the highest rate fixed by the Classification Act Schedules for grade GS-15 (see 5 CFR 304.105(a)).

(ii) The contract may provide for the same per diem and travel expenses authorized for a Government employee, including actual transportation and per diem in lieu of subsistence for travel between home or place of business and official duty station.

(iii) Coordinate with the civilian personnel office on benefits, taxes, personnel ceilings, and maintenance of records.

[56 FR 36424, July 31, 1991, as amended at 60 FR 2888, Jan. 12, 1995; 60 FR 61599, Nov. 30, 1995; 63 FR 11539, Mar. 9, 1998; 67 FR 61516, Oct. 1, 2002]

#### **237.106 Funding and term of service contracts.**

(1) Personal service contracts for expert or consultant services shall not exceed 1 year. The nature of the duties must be—

(i) Temporary (not more than 1 year); or

(ii) Intermittent (not cumulatively more than 130 days in 1 year).

(2) The contracting officer may enter into a contract, exercise an option, or place an order under a contract for severable services for a period that begins in one fiscal year and ends in the next fiscal year if the period of the contract awarded, option exercised, or order placed does not exceed 1 year (10 U.S.C. 2410a).

[64 FR 28110, May 25, 1999]

#### **§237.109 Services of quasi-military armed forces.**

See 237.102-70b for prohibition on contracting for firefighting or security-guard functions.

[60 FR 61599, Nov. 30, 1995]

### **Subpart 237.2—Advisory and Assistance Services**

#### **§237.201 Definition.**

*Advisory and assistance services*, as used in this subpart, means services in the following three major categories when provided by nongovernmental sources (10 U.S.C. 2212):

(1) *Management and professional support services*. This category consists of services that—

(i) Provide engineering or technical support, assistance, advice, or training for the efficient and effective management and operation of organizations, activities, or systems;

(ii) Are closely related to the basic responsibilities and mission of the using organization; and

(iii) Include efforts that support or contribute to improved organization or program management, logistics management, project monitoring and reporting, data collection, budgeting, accounting, auditing, and administrative or technical support for conferences and training programs.

(2) *Studies, analyses, and evaluations*. This category consists of services that—

(i) Provide organized, analytic assessments to understand or evaluate complex issues to improve policy development, decision-making, management, or administration;