GSA SmartPay® Recompete Quick Reference

What is the GSA SmartPay® program?

GSA manages the federal government's charge card program. There are three components to the charge card program, namely, purchase cards, travel cards, and fleet cards. **Purchase cards** are used by agencies to procure commercially available goods and services for agency use. **Travel cards** are used by agency travelers while on official travel. **Fleet cards** are used to procure fuel and maintenance for government-owned vehicles.

In 1998, GSA's Federal Supply Service awarded five contracts for the provision of charge cards and related services, known as the GSA SmartPay® program. GSA SmartPay® provides the federal government and its contractors with numerous benefits including:

★ Program service to over 350 federal agencies, organizations, and Native American tribes that process nearly 90 million purchase, travel, and fleet transactions annually with a total value of over $24 billion in Fiscal Year 2004;

★ A streamlined purchasing process that eliminates the use of purchase orders and reduces administrative costs;

★ An improved payment process that allows fully automated invoicing and payment processing;

★ Performance based refunds for agencies based on net charge volume, with earnings of over $123 million in agency refunds in Fiscal Year 2004; and

★ Electronic access systems (EAS) that allow for streamlined financial operations and allocation methods.

What is the GSA SmartPay® program recompete?

The current GSA SmartPay® contracts will expire on November 29, 2008, assuming the remaining contract option periods are exercised. Prior to their expiration, GSA is beginning the process to replace the current charge card program. In developing requirements for the future program, the GSA SmartPay® program is working with its related GSA programs, its external agency/organization stakeholders, and government-wide councils such as the Chief Financial Officers (CFO) Council, Chief Acquisition Officers (CAO) Council, Chief Information Officers (CIO) Council, President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency (PCIE), Executive Council on Integrity and Efficiency (ECIE), FedFleet, and Small Agency Council.

GSA's vision for the future GSA SmartPay® program focuses on:

★ Customer service excellence through improved service support, better customer tools, and greater responsiveness to evolving customer needs;

★ Partnerships in program management, control, and oversight to reduce waste, fraud and abuse;

★ Innovation in meeting unique government requirements, particularly relating to data management; and

★ Products and services that will make the future government charge card program secure and robust.
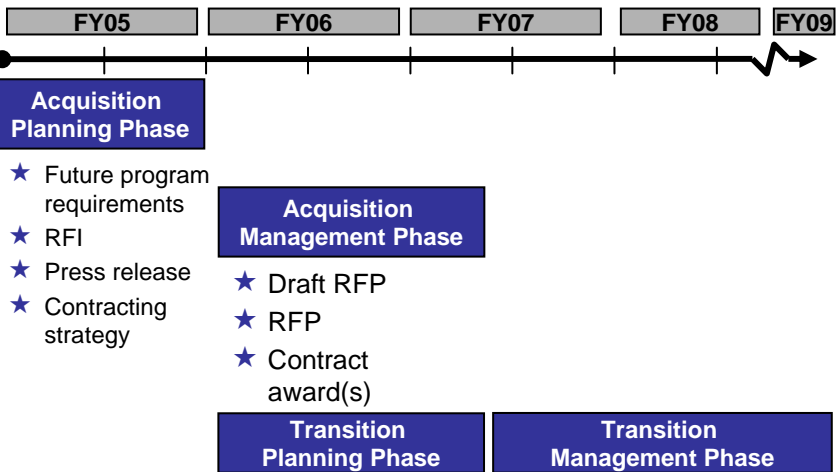
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How will the new program be different?

Upon the recompete of the GSA SmartPay® contracts, there will be many changes that will benefit the program. Some of the possible changes include the following:

★ Which banks and how many banks are a part of the program;

★ Required data security procedures;

★ Required audit and fraud detection and prevention procedures and tools;

★ Uses of the card; and

★ Roles and responsibilities of the agencies, the banks, and GSA.

When is this happening?

Below is an estimated timeline of when the key milestones will occur:

FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09

Acquisition Planning Phase

★ Future program requirements
★ RFI
★ Press release
★ Contracting strategy

Acquisition Management Phase

★ Draft RFP
★ RFP
★ Contract award(s)

Transition Planning Phase

Transition Management Phase

RFI = Request for Information   RFP = Request for Proposals

What does this mean to me?

As a stakeholder of the GSA SmartPay® program, improvements may mean changes to the way you work with the program and will provide opportunities to enable better risk management and smarter procurement decisions. Once the new contract(s) have been awarded, each agency and organization will have to conduct transition activities, including potentially training cardholders and Agency/Organization Program Coordinators (A/OPCs) on new program features.

Where can I find out more?

Look out for **Get Smart** – Our bimonthly newsletter keeps the reader up-to-date on the latest happenings within the GSA SmartPay® program. It is available at www.gsa.gov/gsasmartpay under "In the News"

gsa.smartpay@gsa.gov – Our mailbox is available to receive your questions and comments

www.gsa.gov/gsasmartpay – Our website provides information to keep you up-to-date on the latest happenings within the GSA SmartPay® program

Submit your feedback on the current program and/or the upcoming recompete of the program at www.gsa.gov/gsasmartpay under "GSA SmartPay® Feedback Form"

FBO   **FedBizOpps** – The RFI and RFP will be posted at www.fedbizopps.gov