

operate only trucks that are in proper working order, and do so safely, employers prevent severe injury and death to truck operators and other employees who are in the vicinity of the trucks. Finally, these paperwork requirements are the most efficient means for an OSHA compliance officer to determine that an employer properly notified employees regarding the design and construction of, and modifications made to, the trucks they are operating, and that an employer provided them with the required training.

Ira L. Mills,

Departmental Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 05-7690 Filed 4-15-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-26-P

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Office of Federal Procurement Policy

Publication of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) Policy Letter 05-01, Developing and Managing the Acquisition Workforce

AGENCY: Office of Management and Budget, Office of Federal Procurement Policy.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 37(b)(3) of the OFPP Act, as amended (41 U.S.C. 433(b)(3)), the Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy is authorized to issue policies to promote uniform implementation of a program to develop the federal acquisition workforce. OFPP is publishing Policy Letter 05-01, Developing and Managing the Acquisition Workforce, which more broadly defines the acquisition workforce and more closely aligns civilian and defense acquisition workforce requirements. This Policy Letter applies to all executive agencies, except those subject to the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (DAWIA) (10 U.S.C. 1741-46).

OFPP Policy Letter 05-01 supersedes and rescinds OFPP Policy Letter 92-3, Procurement Professionalism Program Policy—Training for Contracting Personnel, and Policy Letter 97-01, Procurement System Education, Training and Experience Requirements for Acquisition Personnel.

DATES: The effective date of OFPP Policy Letter 05-01 is April 15, 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lesley A. Field, Office of Federal Procurement Policy, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Room 9013, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503 (202 395-7579 or 202 395-4761).

Availability: OFPP Policy Letter 05-01 and rescinded Policy Letters 92-3 and 97-01 may be obtained on: <http://www.acqnet.gov/AcqNet/Library/OFPP/PolicyLetters>. Paper copies of these documents may be obtained by calling (202) 395-7579.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The development and professionalism of the federal acquisition workforce is a priority for OFPP and supports the Office of Management and Budget's focus on human capital and financial management. The acquisition workforce is a federal asset upon which the government depends for mission accomplishment, and OFPP is committed to ensuring that the workforce is trained and developed to meet the government's current and future mission needs.

The principal purposes of Policy Letter 05-01 are: (1) To define the acquisition workforce to include additional acquisition-related functions and create a multi-disciplined acquisition community, (2) to align the civilian (non-Department of Defense) and defense acquisition workforce training requirements, and (3) to emphasize the importance to federal managers and the workforce of continuous learning, to include training on critical subjects such as ethics, performance-based contracting, and other timely and topical areas.

The acquisition function continues to become more integrated into agency core business processes, and the developmental needs of the workforce are changing. This progression is reflected in the Services Acquisition Reform Act of 2003 (SARA) (Pub. L. 108-136), which defines acquisition more broadly to include, among traditional contracting functions, requirements definition, measurement of contract performance, and technical and management direction. Additionally, SARA requires agency Chief Acquisition Officers to develop and maintain an acquisition career management program and ensure the development of an adequate, professional workforce. Policy Letter 05-01 articulates specific responsibilities to implement these SARA requirements.

OFPP Policy Letters 92-3 and 97-01, which are rescinded, established an emphasis on the development of the acquisition workforce but did not prescribe a core, government-wide curriculum. Policy Letter 92-3 established standards for skill-based training in contracting and purchasing functions and articulated core tasks. Policy Letter 97-01, which was

developed in response to the requirements of the Clinger-Cohen Act of 1996 (40 U.S.C. 1401(3)), required senior procurement executives to develop agency career management programs and establish policies and procedures, including training requirements, to ensure that the workforce was trained adequately. While these letters established a strong framework for managing the workforce, training content and delivery were not necessarily consistent across civilian agencies or consistent with the defense acquisition workforce requirements prescribed by DAWIA.

Policy Letter 05-01 aligns core civilian agency acquisition workforce training requirements with those for the defense workforce. The Department of Defense (DOD) curriculum reflects the competencies required to perform the tasks articulated in Policy Letter 92-3, and later referenced in Policy Letter 97-01. This alignment will ensure that our federal acquisition workforce has common, core training, and will promote workforce mobility. Section 1.603-2 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR 1) will be modified to reflect the requirements of the new Letter.

The Letter also emphasizes the importance of continuous learning. For example, employees in the GS-1102 series will now need eighty continuous learning points every two years—twice the current requirement. This emphasis on continuous learning in areas such as ethics, performance-based contracting, and other critical areas, ensures that federal managers and the acquisition workforce adhere to ethical contracting practices, apply sound business judgment, and otherwise engage in responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars. Many of these continuous learning opportunities are available free of charge on the Federal Acquisition Institute (FAI) Web site on <http://www.fai.gov> and through the Defense Acquisition University on <http://www.dau.mil>.

FAI and DAU are forming a partnership to advance the capabilities of our federal acquisition workforce. To address the changing nature of the acquisition environment, DAU is currently restructuring the contracting curriculum. As new courses are completed, course content will be made available to training providers to obtain equivalencies for the new offerings. Civilian agencies depend on the private training provider community for course delivery, and these providers need time to develop core courses and request equivalencies. Additionally, employees may already be scheduled to take

comparable courses or may have completed a significant part of the previous DOD curriculum. Therefore, civilian agencies should use October 1, 2005, as a general guideline in adopting the DOD curriculum, but may reasonably extend the transition time to accommodate agency and employee needs. FAI will provide guidance and information on transition as the coursework is developed and classes become available.

David H. Safavian,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 05-7651 Filed 4-13-05; 3:14 pm]

BILLING CODE 3110-01-P

MEDICARE PAYMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

Commission Meeting

AGENCY: Medicare Payment Advisory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Commission will hold its next public meeting on Thursday, April 21, 2005, and Friday, April 22, 2005, at the Ronald Reagan Building, International Trade Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. The meeting is tentatively scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. on April 21, and at 9 a.m. on April 22.

Topics for discussion include findings and votes on congressionally mandated studies on critical access hospitals; risk adjustment and other issues related to the adjusted average per capita cost (AAPCC); and handling costs of drugs in the hospital outpatient department. The Commission will also discuss and vote on recommendations related to Medicare Advantage plans, possible improvements in Medicare dialysis policy, and implementation issues with the new Medicare Part D benefit. Other topics will include: a study of outcomes and spending for beneficiaries who have had a hip or knee replaced, the use of clinical- and cost-effectiveness information by Medicare, hospital and physician efficiency measurement, and a discussion of Medicare physician fee schedule issues. MedPAC will also review CMS's preliminary estimate of the physician update for 2006.

Agendas will be e-mailed approximately one week prior to the meeting. The final agenda will be available on the Commission's Web site (<http://www.MedPAC.gov>).

ADDRESSES: MedPAC's address is: 601 New Jersey Avenue, NW., Suite 9000,

Washington, DC 20001. The telephone number is (202) 220-3700.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Diane Ellison, Office Manager, (202) 220-3700.

Mark E. Miller,
Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 05-7728 Filed 4-15-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-BW-M

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice (05-076)]

NASA Earth Science and Applications from Space Strategic Roadmap Committee; Meeting

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, as amended, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration announces a meeting of the NASA Earth Science and Applications from Space Strategic Roadmap Committee.

DATES: Wednesday, May 11, 2005, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Thursday, May 12, 2005, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. eastern standard time.

ADDRESSES: The Latham Hotel, 3000 M Street, NW., Washington, DC 20007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Gordon Johnston, 202-358-4685.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting will be open to the public up to the seating capacity of the meeting room. Attendees will be requested to sign a register. At the discretion of the chair, part of the meeting may be conducted through break-out subcommittee sessions that will also be open to the public up to the seating capacity of the meeting rooms. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- Draft strategic roadmap report presentation developed by NASA staff based on subcommittee and individual member inputs.
- Review and discussion of strategic roadmap report presentation.
- Consensus on modifications to presentation version of roadmap report.
- Agreement on direction for direction for June 1 document version of strategic roadmap report.
- Subcommittee and individual editorial assignments for June 1 document version of strategic roadmap report.

It is imperative that the meeting be held on these dates to accommodate the

scheduling priorities of the key participants.

Dated: April 11, 2005.

P. Diane Rausch,

*Advisory Committee Management Officer,
National Aeronautics and Space
Administration.*

[FR Doc. 05-7606 Filed 4-15-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510-13-P

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice (05-74)]

NASA Solar System Exploration Strategic Roadmap Committee; Meeting

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, as amended, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration announces a meeting of the NASA Solar System Exploration Strategic Roadmap Committee.

DATES: Tuesday, May 3, 2005, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday, May 4, 2005, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: University of Maryland Inn and Conference Center, 3501 University Blvd. East, Adelphi, MD 20740.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Carl Pilcher, 202-358-0291.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting will be open to the public up to the seating capacity of the meeting room. Attendees will be requested to sign a register.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- Review goals, decision points, and Pathways.
- Develop draft Roadmap text from Pathways.
- Generate a preliminary set of affordability indicators that will allow refinement during integration.

It is imperative that the meeting be held on this date to accommodate the scheduling priorities of the key participants.

Dated: April 11, 2005.

P. Diane Rausch,

*Advisory Committee Management Officer,
National Aeronautics and Space
Administration.*

[FR Doc. 05-7604 Filed 4-15-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510-13-P