



U.S. GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
Office of Governmentwide Policy

CIVILIAN AGENCY ACQUISITION COUNCIL LETTER 98-3

MEMORANDUM FOR CIVILIAN AGENCIES OTHER THAN NASA

FROM: EDWARD C. LOEB
CHAIRMAN
CIVILIAN AGENCY ACQUISITION COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Direct 8 (a) contracting

After discussions with the Small Business Administration, I am issuing this CAAC Letter to provide model coverage for civilian agencies that are entering into Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with the SBA to award contracts awarded pursuant to Section 8 (a) of the Small Business Act directly to 8 (a) concerns. Currently, the FAR requires procuring activities to issue a prime contract with the SBA, which in turn subcontracts performance of the contract to the 8 (a) firm.

The Civilian Agency Acquisition Council (CAAC) has reviewed the attached model coverage. Pending a change to the FAR, civilian agencies may use this language as the basis for their class deviations. The FAR will be amended following promulgation of an SBA final rule. This CAAC Letter serves as evidence of consultation with the Chairman of the CAAC, as required by FAR 1.404(a)(1). This consultation will apply only to deviations for 8 (a) contracts that are executed under a MOU that is consistent with the attached model coverage.

Enclosure