

ANNOUNCEMENT



Contract Designated as Strategic Source for HHS

The Strategic Sourcing Division (SSD) developed the Strategic Sourcing Contract Portfolio to leverage spending, decrease costs and increase efficiencies for the purchase of various goods and services across all HHS OPDIVs and STAFFDIVs. To ensure that HHS continues to have a strategic source for the purchase IT Peripherals, SSD and the NIH Office of Logistics and Acquisition Operations (OLAo), Division of Information Technology Acquisition (DITA) have partnered to offer the Electronic Commodities Store (ECS) III Contract Portfolio as the Department's new strategic source for the purchase of IT Peripherals.

ECS III is part of the NIH Information Technology Acquisition and Assessment Center (NITAAC) that provides HHS and other Federal Agencies with cost effective, value-added IT products and services. ECS III provides a variety of IT Peripherals, Commercial Off-the-Shelf (COTS) Software and Hardware, Software Documentation, Hardware Maintenance and Warranty Services from 60 vendors, many of whom are small businesses.

Benefits of using ECS III include:

- ◆ Full range of IT products (Lots 1-5) and ancillary services (Lot 6)
- ◆ Competitive pricing
- ◆ Web-based Request for Quotation (RFQ) system
- ◆ Streamlined procurement process due to pre-qualification of vendors
- ◆ Reverse auction features
- ◆ Low processing fee
- ◆ Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) compliant products

Moreover, utilization of the ECS III contract portfolio will contribute to each OPDIV's Strategic Sourcing usage rating on the HHS Acquisition Dashboard.

For more information about placing orders through ECS III, please visit <http://nitaac.nih.gov> or contact Millicent Manning, ECS III Senior Contracting Officer, at ECSIII@od.nih.gov or (301) 402-3072, or Mr. Robert Coen, NITAAC Deputy Program Director, at Coenr@od.nih.gov or (301) 402-3069.