

FACT SHEET

FEDERAL STRATEGIC SOURCING INITIATIVE

OFFICE SUPPLIES

BLANKET PURCHASE AGREEMENTS

The Federal Strategic Sourcing Initiative (FSSI) was launched in November 2005 as a result of a joint partnership between the General Services Administration (GSA) and the US Department of Treasury. The partnership was formed in response to a request from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPPP) requiring all agencies to identify commodities to be purchased more efficiently through strategic sourcing. Today, more than 14 federal agencies, both military and civilian, are active participants in the FSSI Office Supplies Commodity Initiative.

Recently, OMB mandated that all federal agencies cut their procurement expenditures by 3.5 percent for both Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011, for a total reduction of 7 percent. Federal agencies submitted Acquisition Savings Plans in response to this mandate and projected significant savings from the use of agency-wide and government-wide strategic sourcing initiatives. GSA is continuing its strategic sourcing efforts on a government-wide basis through its Chief Acquisition Officer Council (CAOC) and anticipates assisting the Administration in achieving its goal of cutting procurement spending by \$40 billion annually.

In June 2010, GSA successfully awarded 12 Blanket Purchase Agreements (BPAs) and then in July 2010 made 3 additional BPA awards in support of the second generation of the FSSI Office Supplies. The BPAs are broken down into three distinct pools; a direct result of feedback provided by participating agencies. Through these pools, GSA is able to provide both small and large businesses to the federal customer agencies.

- Pool One: Full Office Supply Catalog with an emphasis on socioeconomic concerns and price. The Government had a preference for Pool One BPA holders to be comprised of small businesses with a greater preference for at least one being a Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) Concern. GSA established *nine* BPAs for this pool.
- Pool Two: Full Office Supply Catalog with emphasis on price. GSA established *three* BPAs for this pool.
- Pool Three: Toner Catalog only with emphasis on socioeconomic concerns and price. The Government had a preference for Pool Three BPA holders to be comprised of small businesses with a greater preference for two awards to SDVOSB Concerns. GSA established *three* BPAs for this pool.

The period of performance for these BPAs is:

Base Year	June 1, 2010 to May 31, 2011
Option Period 1	(One year)
Option Period 2	(One year)
Option Period 3	(One year)

Currently, the roll out strategy and implementation process is underway. Since the BPAs were established, eight federal agencies have already committed to utilizing the FSSI BPAs.

The BPAs provide additional discounts to the negotiated discounted prices already available on GSA's Schedule 75 for office supplies. The overall goal is to give the Government a fast and effective way to order office supplies and commodities at even greater discounted prices with prompt, cost-effective delivery and quality customer service.

Additional benefits include:

- Customer friendly and ease of ordering
- Capturing economies of scale
- Ensuring compliance with applicable regulations to include the AbilityOne Program, sustainable purchase requirements, and the Trade Agreements Act (TAA)
- Fostering markets for sustainable technologies and environmentally preferable products
- Simplifying data collection and enhancing transparency by enabling agencies to better manage spend and measure cost savings for office supplies
- Align purchasing with existing agency procurement practices
- Enable achievement of socioeconomic goals

The BPAs can be accessed via GSA Advantage and DoD e-Mall.

Additionally, starting in December and January, customers using the SMARTPay card can *automatically* obtain BPA pricing from any method of purchase including GSA Advantage, DoD eMall, retail locations and direct to vendor. Ordering information can be found: www.gsa.gov/fssiofficesupplies

Visit www.gsa.gov/fssiofficesupplies to learn more.

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