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MASQUARTERLY

From the MAS PMO

As we enter the new fiscal year of 2019, GSA is transforming its Multiple Award Schedule (MAS) program to support our ongoing mission to be modern, efficient and easy. This consolidation to one Schedule will promote a more consistent experience for all our key stakeholders. In addition, our move to the Sales Reporting Portal (SRP) will help ensure that reporting sales and remitting the required Industrial Funding Fee (IFF) is done using a modern and efficient platform, making it easier for our partners to do business with GSA.

Enjoy the holiday season and this issue of the MAS Quarterly Newsletter! If you would like to provide feedback or topics for future MAS Newsletters, please send your suggestions to maspmo@gsa.gov.

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MAS in the News: Transformation of the Multiple Award Schedules Program

GSA announced it will modernize federal acquisition by consolidating the agency's 24 Multiple Award Schedules (MAS) into one single Schedule for products and services. The single Schedule will have one set of terms and conditions, ensuring more consistency in contracting practices.

The MAS transformation is part of GSA's Federal Marketplace strategy to make the government buying and selling experience easy, efficient and modern. It supports GSA's strategic goal to establish the agency as the premier provider of efficient and effective acquisition solutions across the government.

Consolidation will make it easier for customer agencies to find and buy the right solutions to fulfill their missions. They'll no longer have to buy products from one Schedule and services from another. It will also allow industry to come to the federal marketplace with their offerings using a solutions-based approach, which more closely aligns with the way agencies are buying.

Partnering with customer agencies and industry has and will continue to be a key component of the Schedules consolidation. GSA listened to the feedback our stakeholders shared about opportunities to improve the Schedules experience and the plan to consolidate to one Schedule reflects this feedback.

GSA is taking a measured and phased approach to transforming the Schedules and anticipates the project will take approximately two years. This phased approach will ensure we are able to incorporate stakeholder feedback throughout the process. To learn more about MAS Transformation, please visit <u>GSA's Interact post</u> or our <u>recent press release</u>.

GSA Updates TDR Site - Introduces FAS Sales Reporting Portal

Over the past two years, the portal created to capture GSA's Transactional Data Reporting (TDR) has evolved to incorporate a wide variety of contract vehicles and different reporting processes - it's no longer just a repository for transactional data.

To reflect this growth in scope, we've given the site both a new name - the FAS Sales Reporting Portal (SRP) and url - https://srp.fas.gsa.gov. These changes reflect not just the consolidation of reporting locations for multiple contract vehicles, but also simplifies the process of reporting sales and remitting fees.

Please direct any questions related to this transition to the MAS PMO via MASPMO@gsa.gov.

GSA Makes Final Decision to Sunset the Long Standing 72A Reporting System

GSA has made the decision to sunset a long standing legacy system supporting the MAS Sales and Industrial Funding Fee (IFF) Remittance program. The legacy <u>72A Reporting System</u> is scheduled to be shutdown during calendar year 2019 and will be replaced by the <u>FAS Sales Reporting Portal</u> (SRP) mentioned above, allowing GSA to streamline processes under one robust and modern system.

GSA's overall IT modernization efforts include improving its IT enterprise by building and maintaining a more modern and secure architecture for its IT systems. This transition supports that goal by providing all contractors with a single system for reporting sales and remitting IFF, making it more efficient for GSA and its Industry Partners. The FAS SRP currently houses all the Transactional Data Reporting (TDR) contracts and all new quarterly reporting MAS contractors since July 2018.

For more information, please see GSA's recent Interact notice: https://interact.gsa.gov/blog/gsa-makes-final-decision-sunset-long-standing-72a-reporting-system

Please direct any questions related to this transition to the MAS PMO via MASPMO@gsa.gov.

What is the Service Contract Act?

The Service Contract Act (SCA), now known as the Service Contract Labor Standards, establishes standards for prevailing compensation, safety, and health protections for employees performing work for contractors and subcontractors on service contracts entered into with the federal government and with the District of Columbia.

For service contracts \$2,500 and under, SCA Section 2(b)(1) requires payment of the minimum wage in the Fair Labor Standards Act. For service contracts over \$2,500, the Act requires the Contracting Officer to incorporate into the contract a requirement to pay prevailing wages and benefits issued by the Department of Labor in the form of SCA Wage Determinations (WDs).

How does the SCA Work Under Multiple Award Schedules (MAS)?

MAS for services incorporates all the SCA WD revision numbers for every location at the MAS Contract level. This ensures that prevailing wages are being paid wherever performance takes place and relieves the ordering activity from needing to incorporate SCA WDs into each order. These WD revision numbers are subsequently updated whenever the solicitation is "refreshed."

Featured Quarterly Department: Administrative Contracting Officers

GSA's Administrative Contracting Officers (ACOs) provide ongoing support to the Business Portfolios and Category Managers. ACOs also work closely with the Procurement Contracting Officers (PCOs) to resolve contract-related concerns and to provide input into contractor past performance. The ACOs also work with and support the Industrial Operations Analysts (IOAs) with their day-to-day interactions with the Multiple Award Schedule (MAS) contractor community.

ACOs are responsible for ensuring contractor compliance with various contract terms and conditions associated with MAS contracts. This includes negotiating follow-on Subcontracting Plans; issuing show cause letters; managing Industrial Funding Fee (IFF) under or over payments; performing contract closeouts, and processing Guaranteed Minimum (GM) payments.

ACOs work with vendors, helping them to maximize their potential, while also holding them accountable for contractual requirements. Each ACO strives for 100% successful and compliant vendors. "As an ACO, I enjoy developing relationships with vendors and providing quality customer service on behalf of GSA. ACOs assist vendors with improving their performance, and it is always rewarding to see a formerly non-compliant or underperforming vendor achieve success. Another fulfilling aspect of the ACO role is the knowledge that our work on the Small Business Subcontracting Plans influences large vendors to increase their spend with small businesses, which generates revenue for small businesses across the country. An ACO's communication with a vendor truly can make a positive impact." -- ACO Valerie Angell

Have a question that you would like to discuss with your ACO? Use the "IOA and ACO Locator" tool on the <u>Vendor Support Center</u> to look up your assigned ACO contact information

Helpful MAS Resources

GSA and Multiple Award Schedules:

GSA Schedules: https://www.gsa.gov/gsa-schedules

Schedules News and Training: www.gsa.gov/masnews

Electronic Subcontracting Reporting System (eSRS): https://www.esrs.gov/

MAS on GSA Interact: https://
interact.gsa.gov/groups/multipleaward-schedules

MAS Desk Reference: <u>www.gsa.</u> gov/mas-desk-reference

GSA's Blog: www.gsa.gov/blog

GSA's Vendor Support Center: vsc.gsa.gov

GSA Small Business Assistance: www.gsa.gov/acquisition/small-business

Finding Your IOA and ACO: https://vsc.gsa.gov/tools/aco_ioa.cfm

GSA's Office of the Procurement Ombudsman: gsa.gov/ombudsman

Preparing and Submitting a MAS Offer:

Roadmap to Preparing a MAS Offer: www.gsa.gov/acquisition/ purchasing-programs/gsaschedules/industry-partners/ guide

Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (Free Assistance): http://www.aptac-us.org/contracting-assistance/

GSA's Office of Small Business Utilization (OSBU): https:// www.gsa.gov/acquisition/smallbusiness

Marketing:

eLibrary - Contract Award Information: <u>www.gsaelibrary.gsa.</u> gov

eBuy - Electronic Request for Quote (RFQ) / Request for Proposal (RFP) System: <u>www.</u> <u>ebuy.gsa.gov</u>

Schedules Sales Query+ (SSQ+): https://ssq.gsa.gov

FedBizOpps: www.fbo.gov

Small Business Forecasting Tool: https://hallways.cap.gsa.gov/ app/#/x/forecast-of-contractingopportunities

GSA Advantage! - Online Shopping: <u>www.gsaadvantage.gov</u>

Feedback

Share feedback or your ideas for future MAS Newsletter content with us anytime at: maspmo@gsa.gov.