

Vol. 3 Iss. 2 Fall 2020

MASQUARTERLY

From the MAS PMO

Happy new fiscal year 2021 (FY 21)! The MAS PMO's FY 21 priorities include working with impacted contractors on their Phase 3 consolidation plans, improving the customer order experience, and supporting the Industrial Operations Analysts (IOAs) you partner with.

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter during what we know is a stressful and uncertain time, both professionally and personally. As you know, the MAS PMO is committed to being your trusted resource and partner.

As part of GSA's Federal Acquisition Service (FAS), we have spent months supporting our government's COVID-19 response efforts. GSA has been instrumental in helping agencies and the military secure lifesaving equipment and services across the country and overseas. At the same time, we've also been advancing priorities like our Federal Marketplace (FMP) Strategy, GSA's initiative making it easier to do business with the government. MAS Consolidation is one of the four cornerstones of that project. We've just issued our sixth FMP update or release - watch our video and read the project updates for the latest news.

We are currently in the third and final phase of our MAS Consolidation initiative and this issue of our newsletter is full of updates on our key milestones. Make sure you're subscribed to the MAS Interact group to stay informed on all things MAS!

Stay safe, stay well, and if you would like to provide feedback or topics for future MAS Newsletters, please send your suggestions to maspmo@gsa.gov.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

In This Issue

What's New

Requests for Information (RFIs): Vendor Support Center & Catalog Management page 2

GSA Advantage Catalog Update Deadline Extended page 2

Systems News: GSA FAS ID Multi Factor Authentication & Docusign page 3

Current MAS Program Updates

Special Item Number (SIN) Subgroups page 4

MAS Office Hours

MAS Modification Guidance page 5

Contractor Assessment Reference Guide page 5

MAS Solicitation Refresh #5 page 5



What's New

Vendor Support Center (VSC)

GSA's Vendor Support Center (VSC) is an educational platform - your starting point for researching the federal market and learning more about all available FAS contracting vehicles and solutions. We want to hear your thoughts and experiences with the VSC in order to improve and tailor it to your needs. Fill out our short survey and make your voice heard.

The Request for Information (RFI) provides screenshots of key sections of the VSC, along with instructions for submitting feedback. Responses are due Nov. 25, 2020.

Catalog Management

As a part of the Federal Marketplace Strategy, GSA wants to modernize its catalog management infrastructure and develop the Common Catalog Platform (CCP) to replace the Schedule Input Program (SIP). The Catalog Management team has issued an RFI seeking information from current MAS contract holders on current and future state catalog management infrastructure to better inform CCP requirements. Look for details on the RFI results in a future newsletter.

GSA Advantage Catalog Deadline Extended

The deadline for all contractors to update their price lists and GSA Advantage catalogs to the new consolidated MAS SINs has been extended to Mar. 31, 2021. This is a mandatory update. Your catalog will be removed from GSA Advantage if the deadline is not met.

Please take the steps outlined in the SIP/EDI Catalog Update Guide to ensure there is no disruption to your catalog status or access to eTools. Review the MAS Consolidation Price List Guide to update your Price List (Text File). Read the Interact post here.

Systems

GSA FAS ID Multi-Factor Authentication

GSA FAS ID is a secure, centralized identity management system that lets contractors access many GSA applications using a single email and password. On Oct. 10, 2020, the eBuy contractor login moved to a twostep, multi-factor authentication (MFA) process using GSA FAS ID. Read about it here.

In addition, we are planning for GSA's eOffer and eMod system to join several other FAS systems (FAS Sales Reporting Portal (SRP), GSA Advantage Purchase Order Portal, GSA Vendor Portal, eBuy Seller, and the Mass Mod Portal) in using GSA's FAS ID in late Q2 of FY 21.

DocuSign

As of Nov. 30, 2020, contractors will use DocuSign to digitally sign documents in eOffer and eMod. This change to DocuSign aligns with GSA's overall IT modernization efforts to support security and provide a solution that is recognized internationally.

During the DocuSign transition period Nov. 25-29, 2020, offerors and contractors will not be able to submit new offers and requests for modifications in eOffer and eMod. Please note that we cannot have any partially signed documents during the transition. All documents pending signature must be signed by the contracting officer and offeror/contractor no later than Nov. 23, 2020. Other functionality in eOffer/eMod will be available during the transition, such as the ability to create offers/mod requests and continue work on in-process offers/mod requests that have not been submitted.

On digital certificates: Until we fully transition to DocuSign and GSA FAS ID, digital certificates are still required to access eOffer and eMod. While digital certificates won't be needed for these applications after the transition, contractors may still need to maintain their digital certificates for other government and non-goverment customers.

Read more about this change here.

Updates to Current MAS Programs

SIN Subgroups

QUICK LINKS

Experience technical difficulties? **Contact** our Vendor Support Center

GSA eBuy was updated Aug. 1, 2020 to allow you to self-certify in certain subgroups of products and services under specific Special Item Numbers (SINs).

Subgroups were created to highlight specialized products and services offered under those SINs. Selecting the subgroup of offerings your company specializes in makes it easier for customers to find you in both eBuy and eLibrary. As some SINs contain thousands of contractors, the addition of subgroups helps the customer identify the segment of contractors that can perform services.

Not all SINs have subgroups and the selection of subgroups does not prevent you from seeing opportunities posted for the SIN(s) you have been awarded. Your ability to review all eBuy opportunities on your awarded SIN(s) does not change.

How to select SIN Subgroups:

- Step 1: Login to your vendor profile in eBuy
- Step 2: Click on the "Modify Subgroups" button located on the right hand side of the screen
- Step 3: Select applicable subgroups

MAS Office Hours

QUICK LINKS

Register for MAS Office Hours

The MAS PMO and Director Stephanie Shutt are hosting regular monthly office hours. These webinars cover different topics each month and are your chance to ask MAS experts anything!

On Oct 15, 2020, we discussed the MAS Program Management Office priorities for FY 21. Our Nov. 19, 2020 Office Hours will discuss new and potential offeror topics, including the MAS Roadmap. Learn more & register for the series here.

MAS Mod Guidance

QUICK LINKS

Modification and Mass Modification Guidance The MAS Mod Guidance and modification Price Proposal Templates (PPTs) are available on the <u>Modification and Mass Modification Guidance</u> page of GSA.gov. These are in the process of being updated to align with Phase 3 of MAS Consolidation.

Contractor Assessment (CA) Reference Guide

QUICK LINKS Read the Interact post here

GSA's MAS Contractor Assessment (CA) reference guide is designed to provide a foundational, transparent understanding of the CA process for our industry partners. CAs are conducted each year by GSA's Industrial Operations Analysts (IOAs) to verify that contractors are complying with all contractual terms and conditions and have the support necessary to be successful. Download the CA reference guide at the <u>Vendor Support Center</u>.

MAS Solicitation Refresh #5

QUICK LINKS

Read the Interact post here

The MAS Solicitation Refresh #5 took place on Nov. 9, 2020 and included a mass modification to existing MAS contracts with changes including:

- Section 889 Part B language
- Updated solicitation attachments
- Continuous contracts language

Contractors have 90 days to accept these changes.

Note: If you did not accept the August 2020 Refresh #4 modification to incorporate FAR clause 52.204-25 into your contract, you must accept the Refresh #5 modification by Dec. 1, 2020. If you fail to accept the modification by this date, GSA will temporarily discontinue your access to GSA eLibrary and GSA eBuy.

Helpful MAS Resources

GSA and Multiple Award Schedules:

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

Schedules Customer Training: www.gsa.gov/events

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:

Contract Opportunities: https://beta.SAM.gov/

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

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.