From the MAS PMO

The season of fireworks, barbeques, and thunderstorms is here!

The recently-announced MAS Consolidation effort continues to be our team's primary focus. Consolidating to a single Schedule from 24 separate Schedules will make it easier and more efficient for everyone to do business with federal, state, and local governments.

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

In This Issue

MAS
Program Management Office
Value | Transparency | Quality | Direction

MAS in the News: Federal Marketplace (FMP) Strategy Summer 2019 Release is Here!

GSA's first Federal Marketplace (FMP) Strategy release is now available! Learn how we're modernizing and simplifying the buying and selling experience for our customers, suppliers, and the acquisition workforce. Join the conversation by sharing your ideas and feedback!

More than twenty projects and policy considerations are aligned to GSA's FMP Strategy, including these four cornerstone initiatives, also known as "the Four Cs":

- Multiple Award Schedules (MAS) Consolidation
- Commercial Platforms
- Contract Writing
- Catalog Management

What's an FMP release?

In order to better share progress updates and gather feedback from our stakeholders, FAS is bundling project improvements into coordinated release cycles. FMP Strategy releases enable us to:

- Identify challenges and opportunities
- Align schedules and milestones
- Share progress and gather feedback

The FMP Summer '19 Release delivers an integrated set of policy, process, and technology improvements. Explore now and join the FMP Community of Practice today!

MAS in the News: GSA Posts Two Requests for Information (RFIs) for new Consolidated Solicitation

GSA's plans for making it easier for buyers and sellers to work with government are moving ahead. On June 7, 2019, GSA issued a Request for Information (RFI) asking industry for their feedback on our plans to consolidate the current 24 Multiple Award Schedules into a single Schedule. Industry was asked to weigh in on the proposed single solicitation format, including streamlined terms and conditions, and a new cover page outlining the instructions for the forthcoming consolidated MAS solicitation. This RFI closed on June 26, 2019.

On June 26, 2019, GSA issued a second RFI, this one seeking industry comment on new large categories, subcategories and Special Item Numbers (SINs) for the forthcoming consolidated solicitation. This RFI closed on July 17, 2019.

These RFIs mark the next step in a two-year modernization process for the MAS program that was launched in November 2018. GSA's goal is to transform federal acquisition by consolidating the agency's 24 MAS into one single Schedule for products and services by Oct. 1, 2019.

Please reach out to us at masrfi@gsa.gov with any questions about the RFIs.

Event Spotlight: 2019 IT Acquisition Summit

Attending the 2019 IT Acquisition Summit in Fort Worth, Texas on August 8 and 9, 2019? So are we! This training event brings together government and industry experts from across the nation to discuss Information Technology (IT) solutions that help government agencies achieve their missions. Speakers include our very own Stephanie Shutt, director of the MAS Program Management Office. GSA Assistant Commissioner, Office of IT Category Bill Zielinski (who is also the OMB designated government-wide IT category manager) will also be on hand, along with many other GSA executives and subject matter experts. Learn more and register here. Hope to see you there!

MAS Consolidation Industry Training & Recording

In May, the MAS PMO launched a monthly MAS Consolidation training aimed specifically at helping our industry partners prepare for the big change to one Schedule. Over 600 participants joined us for the May and June webinars - a good sign that this information is welcome AND needed! To ensure everyone has access to this very important information, we've posted a recording of the [webinar](#) to the GSA YouTube page for on-demand viewing.

This webinar recording includes an update on GSA's overarching strategy for MAS Consolidation, details about the impacts to prospective offerors and current MAS contract holders, and an extensive Q&A section. Want more? Please see our written [Q&As](#) on Interact.

Our next live trainings are on August 20 and 22, 2019. Subscribe to our [Interact page](#) for complete details and to get notified when registration opens.

Transition from 72A Reporting System to FAS Sales Reporting Portal Is Complete

The 72A Reporting System was sunset on July 1, 2019 and all active users have been transitioned to the [FAS Sales Reporting Portal (SRP)](#).

Effective July 2019, contractors will report sales and remit any owed Industrial Funding Fee (IFF) in the new FAS SRP. This is a reporting system transition only - there are no changes to the terms and conditions of your contract.

Please visit our [Interact page](#) for more information about the transition.

Please direct any questions about the sunsetting of 72A and the SRP transition to the TDR Team: FASSRP@gsa.gov.

MAS Shifting to Mandatory Order Status
We're listening!

One of the recurring comments we see from our federal agency partners on Customer Loyalty Surveys is a request for order status. In response to that issue, GSA's General Supplies & Services office has partnered with the MAS PMO and other portfolios to implement a mass modification to MAS contracts requiring contractors to provide order status.

Existing FAS contracts are being modified to require that contractors, whether they receive GSA Advantage orders via EDI or the Vendor Portal, take steps to report data points on the shipment date, carrier and even tracking number of their orders to GSA. If the order is on backorder or canceled, this information will also be provided for customer reference.

For more information, please visit the Vendor Support Center.

Improving Your Presence on *GSA Advantage!*

GSA wants to make it even easier for customers to find and buy the products and services they need and that you offer through GSA Advantage! Recent customer feedback from our Advantage! transactional survey indicates we can improve the quality of photos and descriptions of items featured on the site.

Whether you use GSA's free Schedule Input Program (SIP) or a privately provided Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) solution, keeping your information up-to-date is one of your best marketing tools. It's also a contractual requirement. SIP helps you upload your electronic catalog to Advantage! and make updates to products and services on your Schedule contract.

While we work to modernize our IT Systems, including the systems to manage product and service data on your Schedule contract, these resources offered through our Vendor Support Center will help you navigate our current system:

- Visit the SIP Start-Up Kit for information on getting your products and services online and maintaining your information.

- Attend virtual SIP training held every Wednesday to learn more about SIP and how it can help make uploading your catalog information easier.

If you have any questions, our helpdesk is ready to assist you at 1-877-495-4849 (Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST), or via email anytime at vendor.support@gsa.gov.

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/multiple-award-schedules

MAS Desk Reference: www.gsa.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/gsa-schedules/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/small-business

Marketing:

eLibrary - Contract Award Information: www.gsaelibrary.gsa.gov

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

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-contracting-opportunities

GSA Advantage! - Online Shopping: www.gsaadvantage.gov

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