



United States Department of the Interior
Office of the Secretary



To: IBC Acquisition Customers
From: U.S. Department of the Interior
Interior Business Center
Acquisition Services Directorate (AQD)
Date: April 15, 2013
Subject: End of Fiscal Year 2013 Deadlines

The Acquisition Services Directorate (AQD) would like to inform our customers about some important dates related to acquisition actions for Fiscal Year (FY) 2013. In order to ensure that we can meet your needs for acquisition actions in FY 2013 and at the outset of FY 2014, we would like to communicate the following timelines for both new projects and modifications.

Friday, **September 20, 2013**, is the last date for making contract awards for Fiscal Year 2013. All FY 2013 contract awards and modifications must be completed by this date. Please be advised that dates may be revised due to system constraints.

New Acquisition Projects

Due to Federal Acquisition mandates, many acquisition projects require a significant lead time, especially acquisitions of products or services with a total price that exceeds \$150,000. The lead time may be longer depending on the acquisition strategy for your project. For example, if the acquisition can be awarded against an established source, the lead time may be shorter than an open-market acquisition. Open-market acquisitions can take as long as six months, while orders against established sources average three – four months.

If your program anticipates needing an acquisition for products or services that will exceed \$150,000 completed in FY 2013, and you are not already working with AQD, please contact an AQD Branch Chief as soon as possible to discuss the timelines for your project. AQD will evaluate all projects on a case-by-case basis to determine whether the project can be completed by the end of the fiscal year. Except under rare circumstances, new projects for products or services with an estimated value exceeding \$150,000 will not be accepted after **June 28, 2013**. However, it is best to begin projects as early in the year as possible to avoid the year-end rush.

If your program anticipates needing an acquisition of products or services totaling less than \$150,000, including all options, by the end of FY2013, please submit your requisition no later than **July 26, 2013**. AQD will evaluate all projects on a case-by-case basis to determine whether the project can be completed by the end of the fiscal year. If you have any questions about submitting your requisition, please contact your Contracting Officer. **We strongly recommend you confirm with your Contracting Officer what supporting documents are required in addition to the requisition.**

Modifications, Including Exercising Options

For modifications that need to be completed in FY 2013, please submit your requisition no later than **July 26, 2013**. Please ensure your requisition includes the contract/order number, Contracting Officer or Contract Specialist name, and brief description of the requested action. This additional information should go in the comments section of the requisition and will allow AQD to quickly identify your base contract.

For modifications that need to be completed on **October 1, 2013**, or any time in the first few weeks of FY 2014, please submit a requisition that is subject to the availability of FY 2014 funds by **July 26, 2013**. This will allow AQD to plan our workload and ensure that your option is exercised in a timely fashion.

Deputy Assistant Secretary Approval

All IBC contract actions must be approved by the Deputy Assistant Secretary (DAS) prior to award. AQD will not make an award or exercise an option without this approval. AQD will also not retroactively exercise options if the approval is not obtained by the date of the option. If DAS approval is not obtained by the date of the option, your program will experience a break in services while your requirement is re-solicited and a new contract is put in place.

Summary

The table below summarizes the timelines discussed in this letter. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact your Contracting Officer or Contract Specialist.

Thank you for your continued support.

Table 1: Fiscal Year 2013 Year-End Timelines

Event	Date
New acquisitions for products or services over \$150,000	Submit Requisition NLT 6/28/2013
New acquisitions for products or services under \$150,000	Submit Requisition by 7/26/2013
Modifications that need to be completed prior to the end of FY 2013	Submit Requisition by 7/26/2013
Modifications that need to be completed at the beginning of FY 2014	Submit Requisition by 7/26/2013
All FY2013 procurement actions must be processed in FBMS (PRISM).	9/20/2013