

requirements associated with Form DS-4053, Department of State Mentor-Protégé Program Application.

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Parts 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 609, 611, 612, 613, 616, 617, 619, 622, 623, 625, 626, 628, 630, 632, 636, 637, 642, 651, 652, 653

Government procurement.

Accordingly, title 48, chapter 6 of the Code of Federal Regulations is proposed to be amended as follows:

1. The authority citation for 48 CFR Parts 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 609, 611, 612, 613, 616, 617, 619, 622, 623, 625, 626, 628, 630, 632, 636, 637, 642, 651, 652, and 653 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c); 22 U.S.C. 2658.

Subchapter A—General

PART 601—DEPARTMENT OF STATE ACQUISITION REGULATION

2. Section 601.105-3 is revised to read as follows:

601.105-3 Copies.

The DOSAR is available through the Department's Intranet system at <http://aope.a.state.gov>, or through the Internet from A/OPE's Acquisition Web site. The Internet address is: <http://www.statebuy.gov/>.

3. Section 601.106 is amended by removing from the last sentence "225,302 hours" and inserting "225,503 hours" in its place.

4. Section 601.603-1 is added to read as follows:

601.603-1 General.

Details of the Department's acquisition career management program are described in 6 FAH-6, the Acquisition Career Management Program Handbook, which is available on the Intranet from the A/OPE Web site (*see* 601.105-3 for address).

5. Section 601.603-3 is amended by revising paragraph (d) to read as follows:

601.603-3 Appointment.

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(d) *Personal services agreements.* Individuals who may sign personal services agreements (PSAs) are limited to the following:

- (1) The Human Resources Officer;
- (2) The Human Resources/Financial Management Officer; or,
- (3) The Management Officer or an American Foreign Service Officer designated to perform human resource functions.

6. In section 601.603-70, paragraph (a) is revised and a sentence is added at

the end of paragraph (b)(6) to read as follows:

601.603-70 Delegations of authority.

(a) *Delegations.* As stated in 601.603-3(a), there is no contracting officer authority conferred by virtue of position. Pursuant to 601.602-1(b), the Procurement Executive has designated the following as contracting activities as defined in FAR 2.101. These authorities are not redelegable. In addition, specific individuals are designated as heads of contracting activities (HCAs) (*see* FAR 2.101):

(1) *Overseas posts.* Each overseas post shall be regarded as a contracting activity to enter into and administer contracts for the expenditure of funds involved in the acquisition of supplies, equipment, publications, and services. The Principal Officer, the Management Officer, or the Supervisory General Services Officer are designated as HCAs; *provided*, that he/she has a contracting officer's warrant issued by the Procurement Executive. The Procurement Executive (or authorized A/OPE staff) may delegate to a contracting officer, on a case-by-case basis, the authority to award a contract or modification which exceeds the contracting officer's warrant level.

(i) No authority is delegated to enter into cost-reimbursement, fixed-price incentive, or fixed-price redeterminable contracts. Design/build solicitations and contracts may only be entered into with the written approval of A/OPE and OBO. Proposed construction contracts exceeding \$500,000 and any related architect-engineer contracts must have prior A/OPE approval.

(ii) When expressly authorized by a U.S. Government agency which does not have a contracting officer at the post, the officers named in paragraph (a)(1) introductory text of this section may enter into contracts for that agency. Use of this authority is subject to the statutory authority of that agency and any special contract terms or other requirements necessary for compliance with any conditions or limitations applicable to the funds of that agency. The agency's authorization shall cite the statute(s) and state any special contract terms or other requirements with which the acquisition so authorized must comply. In view of the contracting officer's responsibility for the legal, technical, and administrative sufficiency of contracts, questions regarding the propriety of contracting actions that the post is required to take pursuant to this authority may be referred to the Department for resolution with the headquarters of the agency concerned.

(2) *Office of Logistics Management; Office of Acquisition Management (A/LM/AQM).* The authority to enter into and administer contracts for the expenditure of funds involved in the acquisition of supplies and services, including construction, is delegated to the Director or designee as the HCA.

(3) *Foreign Service Institute.* The authority to enter into and administer contracts pursuant to Chapter 7, Title I, of the Foreign Service Act of 1980, as amended (22 U.S.C. 4021 *et seq.*), is delegated to the Director of the Foreign Service Institute, the Executive Director, the Deputy Executive Director, and the Supervisory Contracting Officer as the HCA.

(4) *Office of Foreign Missions.* The authority to enter into and administer contracts pursuant to Title II of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956, as amended (22 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.*), is delegated to the Director, Office of Foreign Missions, and the Administrative Officer as the HCA.

(5) *U.S. Mission to the United Nations.* The authority to enter into and administer contracts pursuant to the United Nations Participation Act of 1945, as amended (22 U.S.C. 287), is delegated to the Counselor for Administration as the HCA.

(6) *Diplomatic Telecommunication Service—Program Office.* The authority to enter into and administer contracts for the leasing or purchase of telecommunications services, circuits, subsystems, supplies and associated professional services is delegated to the Chief, Acquisition Branch as the HCA.

(7) *Regional Procurement Support Offices.* The authority to enter into and administer contracts for the expenditure of funds involved in the acquisition of supplies, equipment, publications, and services on behalf of overseas posts is delegated to each Director, Regional Procurement Support Office (RPSO) as the HCA at the following locations:

- (i) RPSO Frankfurt in conjunction with Consulate General Frankfurt; and
- (ii) RPSO Florida in conjunction with the Florida Regional Center.

(b) * * *

(6) * * * These authorities extend to any acquisition performed by any Department of State contracting activity on behalf of INL.

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PART 602—DEFINITIONS OF WORDS AND TERMS

7. Section 602.101-70 is amended by adding, in alphabetical order, a definition of "Chief of Mission"; and, by revising the definition of "Despatch Agency", as follows: