

the SIC Manual, the product or service description in the solicitation and any attachments to it, the relative value and importance of the components of the procurement making up the end item being procured, and the function of the goods or services being purchased. Other factors considered include previous Government procurement classifications of the same or similar products or services, and the classification which would best serve the purposes of the Small Business Act. A procurement is usually classified according to the component which accounts for the greatest percentage of contract value.

(c) The SIC code assigned to a procurement and its corresponding size standard is final unless timely appealed to SBA's Office of Hearings and Appeals (OHA), or unless SBA assigns a SIC code or size standard as provided in paragraph (d) of this section.

(d) An unclear, incomplete or missing SIC code designation or size standard in the solicitation may be clarified, completed or supplied by SBA in connection with a formal size determination or size appeal.

(e) Any offeror or other interested party adversely affected by a SIC code designation or size standard designation may appeal the designations to OHA under part 134 of this chapter.

**§ 121.403 Are SBA size determinations and SIC code designations binding on parties?**

Formal size determinations and SIC code designations made by authorized SBA officials are binding upon the parties. Opinions otherwise provided by SBA officials to contracting officers or others are advisory in nature, and are not binding or appealable.

**§ 121.404 When does SBA determine the size status of a business concern?**

Generally, SBA determines the size status of a concern (including its affiliates) as of the date the concern submits a written self-certification that it is small to the procuring agency as part of its initial offer including price. The following are two exceptions to this rule:

(a) The size status of an applicant for a Certificate of Competency (COC) relating to an unrestricted procurement is determined as of the date of the concern's application for the COC.

(b) Size status for purposes of compliance with the nonmanufacturer rule set forth in § 121.406(b)(1) and the ostensible subcontractor rule set forth in § 121.103(f)(3) is determined as of the date of the best and final offer.

**§ 121.405 May a business concern self-certify its small business size status?**

(a) A concern must self-certify it is small under the size standard specified in the solicitation, or as clarified, completed or supplied by SBA pursuant to § 121.402(d).

(b) A contracting officer may accept a concern's self-certification as true for the particular procurement involved in the absence of a written protest by other offerors or other credible information which causes the contracting officer or SBA to question the size of the concern.

(c) Procedures for protesting the self-certification of an offeror are set forth in §§ 121.1001 through 121.1009.

**§ 121.406 How does a small business concern qualify to provide manufactured products under small business set-aside or MED procurements?**

(a) *General.* In order to qualify as a small business concern for a small business set-aside or 8(a) contract to provide manufactured products, an offeror must either:

(1) Be the manufacturer of the end item being procured (and the end item must be manufactured or produced in the United States); or

(2) Comply with the requirements of paragraph (b), (c) or (d) of this section as a nonmanufacturer, a kit assembler or a supplier under Simplified Acquisition Procedures.

(b) *Nonmanufacturers.* (1) A concern may qualify for a requirement to provide manufactured products as a nonmanufacturer if it:

(i) Does not exceed 500 employees;

(ii) Is primarily engaged in the wholesale or retail trade and normally sells the items being supplied to the general public; and