

§ 101-26.102 Special buying services.**§ 101-26.102-1 General.**

The special buying services of GSA are performed through the GSA special order program (SOP). The SOP allows an agency to obtain items not included in either the GSA stock or Federal Supply Schedule program. All executive agencies within the United States (including Hawaii and Alaska), in order to maximize the use of the Government's centralized supply system, shall request SOP items by submitting requisitions for GSA centrally managed items to GSA. GSA will process all requisitions for SOP items, regardless of total line item value, from activities electing to purchase from GSA. If an agency determines that alternative sources are more favorable, procurement from other sources is authorized: Provided, that the dollar thresholds and criteria outlined in § 101-26.301(b)(1) through (3) are followed.

[56 FR 12456, Mar. 26, 1991]

§ 101-26.102-2 Utilization by military agencies.

Military activities shall utilize the buying services of GSA when:

(a) GSA has agreed with the Secretary of Defense, or with the Secretary of a military department in connection with the requirements of that department, to perform such buying services; and

(b) The items involved are not properly obtainable from GSA stock or Federal Supply Schedules.

[29 FR 15610, Nov. 20, 1964, as amended at 36 FR 17423, Aug. 31, 1971]

§ 101-26.102-3 Procurement leadtime.

When GSA performs the purchasing services for other agencies or activities as contemplated by this § 101-26.102-3, calculation of the delivery dates required for the items involved must be based on the procurement leadtimes illustrated in the GSA publication, FEDSTRIP Operating Guide. These leadtimes are based on the normal time required after receipt of agency requisitions by GSA to effect delivery to destinations within the 50 States.

(a) Time required to obtain any additional essential information from the

requisitioning office for use in issuing a solicitation for bids or offers is not included in the leadtimes.

(b) If unusually large quantities or complex items are required, leadtime adjustments should be made to reflect the specific requirement. As an example, standard furniture items can usually be delivered in less than 90 days after receipt of the requisition. However, for large quantity or complex orders requiring a definite quantity procurement, delivery times may range from 4 to 6 months. Footnotes relating to classes where this is a frequent occurrence are shown in the procurement leadtime table illustrated in the FEDSTRIP Operating Guide.

(c) The procurement leadtime table illustrated in the FEDSTRIP Operating Guide does not apply to public exigency or other high priority requisitions; however, it should be used as a guide to establish realistic required delivery dates for such requisitions.

[32 FR 17939, Dec. 15, 1967, as amended at 40 FR 41093, Sept. 5, 1975; 57 FR 3949, Feb. 3, 1992]

§ 101-26.102-4 Payment to GSA contractors.

Policies and procedures covering payment to GSA contractors for supplies and services furnished by GSA to Government agencies are in subpart 101-2.1.

[47 FR 8779, Mar. 2, 1982]

§ 101-26.103 Establishing essentiality of requirements.**§ 101-26.103-1 Policy for personal property.**

To obtain maximum benefit from Government funds available for procurement of personal property, each executive agency shall:

(a) Insure that personal property currently on hand is being utilized to the fullest extent practical and provide supporting justification prior to effecting new procurement for similar type property. (When the proposed procurement is for similar items from non-GSA sources, the provisions of § 101-26.100-2 apply.)

(b) Procure the minimum quantity and quality of property which is required to support the mission of the

agency and to satisfy the function for which the property is required.

(c) Limit procurement of different varieties, types, sizes, colors, etc., of required items to those essential in satisfying the functional end-use purpose. To this end the quantity, quality, and variety of personal property required to adequately perform the end-use function should be determined prior to initiation of procurement processes.

[36 FR 17423, Aug. 31, 1971]

§ 101-26.103-2 Restriction on personal convenience items.

Government funds may be expended for pictures, objects of art, plants, or flowers (both artificial and real), or any other similar type items when such items are included in a plan for the decoration of Federal buildings approved by the agency responsible for the design and construction. Determinations as to the need for purchasing such items for use in space assigned to any agency are judgments reserved to the agency. Determinations with respect to public space such as corridors and lobbies are reserved to the agency responsible for operation of the building. Except as otherwise authorized by law, Government funds shall not be expended for pictures, objects of art, plants, flowers (both artificial and real), or any other similar type items intended solely for the personal convenience or to satisfy the personal desire of an official or employee. These items fall into the category of "luxury items" since they do not contribute to the fulfillment of missions normally assigned to Federal agencies.

[36 FR 17423, Aug. 31, 1971]

§ 101-26.104 End-of-year submission of requisitions for action by GSA.

(a) Purchase documents for supplies or services submitted to GSA at or near the close of a fiscal year shall reflect actual agency requirements and shall not be used as a means of exhausting appropriation balances.

(b) Under the FEDSTRIP/MILSTRIP systems, the requisitions submitted to GSA are not required to reflect the applicable appropriation or fiscal year funds to be charged. The fund code

entry on the requisition simply indicates to the supply source (GSA) that funds are available to pay the charge, thereby providing authority for the release of material and subsequent billing. Requisitions received by GSA in purchase authority format are normally converted to FEDSTRIP/MILSTRIP documentation so that processing can be accomplished expeditiously through a uniform system based on the use of automated equipment. Accordingly, primary responsibility rests with the ordering agency for ensuring that requisitions intended to be chargeable to appropriations expiring the last day of the fiscal year are submitted in sufficient time for GSA to consummate the necessary action before the end of the fiscal year. Requisitions submitted on or before the last day of the fiscal year may be chargeable to appropriations expiring on that date provided the ordering agency is required by law or GSA regulation to use GSA supply sources. When the ordering agency is not required to use GSA sources, requisitions for GSA stock items may be recorded as obligations provided the items are intended to meet a bona fide need of the fiscal year in which the need arises or to replace stock used in that fiscal year; requests for other than GSA stock items are to be recorded as obligations at the time GSA awards a contract for the required items. In the latter case, GSA procurement leadtimes illustrated in the GSA publication, FEDSTRIP Operating Guide, should be used as a guide for timely submission of these requisitions. The leadtimes referred to relate to the number of days between submission of a requisition and actual delivery of the items involved. While this may furnish some guidance to requisitioners, there is no direct relationship between those leadtimes and the time it takes for GSA to make an award of a contract.

(c) End-of-year submission of requisitions which require GSA to award a contract not later than the last day of the fiscal year in order to obligate the appropriation or funds of the ordering agency will be annotated to indicate that GSA procurement of the requested items must be accomplished not later than the last day of the fiscal year in