

# Contracting Guide November 2016

1

# **Table of Contents**

Section 1: Overview of Contract Management

Section 2: Planning

Section 3: Solicitation

Section 4: Contract Development

Section 5: Contract Monitoring

Section 6: Contract Renewals

Section 7: Contract Close-Out

Section 8: Contract Process Maps

## Does the Training Apply to Me?

Government Code Sec. 2261.256, requires that each state agency develop and comply with a purchasing accountability and risk analysis procedure. The procedure must provide for: (1) assessing the risk of fraud, abuse, or waste in the contractor selection process, contract provisions, and payment and reimbursement rates and methods for the different types of goods and services for which the agency contracts; (2) identifying contracts that require enhanced contract monitoring or the immediate attention of contract management staff; and (3) establishing clear levels of purchasing accountability and staff responsibilities related to procurement.

TEA created the *Contract Development and Administration Manual* in 2010 and this new Contract Management Training and Handbook are designed to address the TGC requirements by providing detailed documents that identifies clear levels of purchasing accountability and staff responsibilities related to contract.

#### **Source Guides**

The following are additional source guides for this handbook:

- State Contracting Standards and Oversight TGC 2261
- Competitive Sealed Proposals (RFP) TGC 2156
- Purchasing: General Rules and Procedures TGC 2155
- Purchase of Automated Information Systems (RFO) TGC 2157
- EDGAR 2CFR Part 200 (Procurement Rules July 2016 One Year Grace Period)
- CPA Contract Management Guide
- TEA Contract Administration Manual
- OP 04-02 Agency Service Providers Criminal History Reviews
- OP 08-03 Contracts for Services
- OP 07-04 Agency Standards of Conduct and Conflicts of Interest
- OP 08-13 Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Program
- Agency approved Contract Terms and Conditions
- Agency Contract Management Training modules: 1) Planning for the Contract, 2) Developing the Competitive Solicitation, 3) Developing the Contract, and 4) Contract Monitoring Process

3

#### **Code of Ethics**

The standards of conduct that apply to all state government employees includes,

"It is the policy of this state that a state officer or state employee may not have a direct or indirect interest, including financial and other interests, or engage in a business transaction or professional activity, or incur any obligation of any nature that is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of the officer's or employee's duties in the public interest."

The nature of contracting functions makes it critical that all people in the process remain independent, free of obligation or suspicion, and completely fair and impartial.

Maintaining the integrity and credibility of a contracting program requires a clear set of guidelines, rules and responsibilities to govern the behavior of purchasing employees.

Credibility and public confidence are vital throughout the process. Any erosion of honesty, integrity or openness tends to be more injurious to contracting than to most other public programs. The shadow of doubt or "perception" can be as harmful as the conduct itself.

#### A State Employee may not:

- participate in work on a contract by taking action as an employee through decision making, approval, disapproval, recommendation, giving advice, investigation or similar action knowing that the employee, or member of their immediate family has an actual or potential financial interest in the contract, including prospective employment;
- solicit or accept anything of value from an actual or potential Vendor;
- be employed by, or agree to work for, a Vendor or potential Vendor

The Agency has a limited contact policy: All of us at the Agency share the responsibility of safeguarding the integrity and fairness of the contracting process. We cannot risk even the appearance of impropriety. Therefore, all TEA staff members are strictly prohibited from discussing, in any way, any aspect of ongoing solicitations, proposals, evaluation phases, contracts with anyone outside of the Agency except as part of the open public meetings that the Agency conducts.

## **Statutory Requirements**

## Federal Requirements (EDGAR)

Fixed amount awards may be used if the project scope is specific and adequate costs, historical or unit price data is available to establish a fixed amount based on a reasonable estimate of actual costs. Payments must be based on meeting specific requirements. Accountability is based on performance and results. §200.201

Contracts shall include clear performance goals, indicators, and milestones reached throughout the term of the contract. Performance and financial reporting frequency shall be established to measure performance and provide documentation for reporting vendor performance. §200.301

The agency must maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest. §200.112

The agency must maintain records sufficient to detail the history of the procurement, this includes rationale for the procurement method, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, and the basis for the contract price. §200.318

The agency must perform a cost or price analysis in connection with every procurement over \$150,000. The estimate must be made before receiving bids or proposals.

The agency is required to negotiate price as a separate element for any non-competitive contract 7% - 9% is considered acceptable for services. §200.323

Micro-purchases (under \$3,000) must be distributed equitably among qualified entities. §200.320 (a)

The USDE must authorize noncompetitive proposals in response to written requests from the agency. §200.320 (f) (3). Even though an entity was named in the federal grant, the agency must still request permission to contract with them directly.

The Federal Agency Acceptance of Negotiated Indirect Cost Rates. The negotiated rates must be accepted by the agency unless the agency made public a capped rate. §200.306

## **State Requirements**

Contracts over \$1M must be signed by the Commissioner. SB 20

Contract retention schedule is 7 years after completion. TGC 411.1855

By rule, the agency shall assess the complexity of the services, the contract amount, if the services are new or changed significantly, high profile project, the risk if the work is not performed adequately and any other factors that may impact the project. Projects deemed medium or high risk shall be comonitored by contract and program staff.

Require posting all contracts over \$15,000 to the agency's website.

Require all agency employees involved in the procurement or contracting process to disclose any possible conflict of interest. Additional form needed when over \$1M.

Prohibit contracts with contractors in which staff (Division Directors and above) have a financial interest.

Requires awarded contractor to complete the Ethics Commission Form 1295 if over \$1M.

All contracts over \$5M require the agency's procurement director to sign off on the procurement method and indicate in writing any potential issues that could arise in the contracting process.

Contracts over \$10M or \$1M if non-competitive require an Attestation Letter be sent to the LBB prior to the first payment.

6

# Section 1: Overview of Contract Management

# What is my Role?

Contract Management refers to the entire contracting process from planning to closeout. This includes tracking tasks: monitoring contractor performance, invoice payment processing, negotiating amendments, assessing penalties, and updating contract data. At TEA, the Procurements and Contracts staff, Legal, Program Area and the HUB staff work together during the planning phase for a solicitation and/or contract development. Once the contract has been awarded, it is the responsibility of the Program Area to administer the contract.

#### **Roles and Responsibilities**

#### **Program Area**

- Manage the daily operational aspects of the contract
- Communicate and keep written documentation with contractor on a regular basis
- Review and approve invoices includes verifying costs are within approved budgets and have sufficient documentation to support the invoice
- Set performance measures to ensure progress of completion for the deliverables
- Request contract and budgetary amendments before performance of the work
- Notify Contract staff of contractor performance issues
- Periodically perform risk assessments throughout the life of the contract
- Complete contractor/vendor performance evaluations and submits them to Contract staff

#### **Contract Staff**

- Facilitates the contract management process and provides technical assistance on state procurement law and options for contracting for the Agency
- Works with Program Areas to create competitive solicitations and contracts
- Creates the contract document and maintains official procurement file
- Process contract amendments and budget revisions
- Co-approves and reviews invoices or contracts over \$100,000
- Enters the performance evaluations into CPA portal
- Publishes and reports contract information to the public and state oversight agencies
- Reviews and approves the probability of HUB opportunities for contracts and approves HUB Subcontracting Plan (HSP) and changes to the HSP

## **Contract Management Responsibilities**

#### The primary functions of contract management include:

- Participating in the development of the solicitation and writing the draft statement of work, identifying specifications for and deliverables to be required, identifying risks to the contract that may require special terms and conditions and other contract documents.
- Determining during solicitation development if the Contractor's compensation structure is appropriate for the work.
- Serving as the point of contact for disseminating the instructions regarding the work to the Contractor.
- Managing, documenting, and ensuring appropriate approval of any changes to the contract.
- Implementing a quality control/assurance process which includes maintaining appropriate records and documenting significant events.
- Monitoring the Contractor's progress and performance to ensure goods and services conform to the contract requirements.
- Verifying accuracy of invoices and authorizing payments consistent with the contract terms which includes determining if the payments are reasonable and allowable.
- Identifying and resolving disputes with Contractor in a timely manner. Notify the contract staff to exercise state remedies, as appropriate, when a Contractor's performance is deficient.
- Performing contract closeout process ensuring all necessary contract documents are completed invoices are reconciled, contractor performance and lessons learned are documented.

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#### Contract management functions generally do not include the following:

- Instructing the contractor to start work before the contract or work order is fully executed.
- Changing the scope of the contract without doing so through the formal amendment process.
- Directing the contractor to perform work that is not specifically described in and funded by the Contract.
- Extending the time period of the contract without execution of an approved amendment.

# Section 2: Planning

Effective planning should include consideration of the risk, value, term, scope, complexity and/or strategic nature of the contract.

Planning a contract is a process that begins with understanding the major steps involved. The table below provides a brief description of the steps in the contract planning process, the major activities involved and the associated forms, its relationship to the requisition, and the staff responsible in each step.

| Planning<br>Steps | Major Activities  | Associated Forms  | Staff<br>Responsible    |
|-------------------|---|---|-------------------------|
| 1-11              | <ul> <li>Determine Need to Contract</li> <li>Identify Source of Funds (SOF) and amount</li> </ul> | <ul><li>Request to Requisition</li><li>Policy Memo</li></ul>  | Program                 |
| 12                | <ul> <li>Complete the Risk Assessment*</li> </ul>   | Risk Assessment   | Program                 |
| 13-15             | Kickoff Meeting   | <ul><li>Kickoff Meeting Agenda</li><li>Non-Disclosure(s)</li></ul>  | Contract                |
| 34                | <ul> <li>Project Requirements</li> <li>Develop the Solicitation</li> </ul>                        | <ul> <li>Project Requirements</li> <li>Developing the Solicitation<br/>Checklist or Developing the<br/>Non-Competitive Checklist</li> <li>Cost/Price Worksheet if<br/>using federal funds over<br/>\$150,000</li> </ul> | Program and<br>Contract |

<sup>\*</sup>The Risk Assessment is completed in the Planning stage but should be reviewed yearly to add language in the amendment if needed.

Planning a contract is a process that begins with understanding the major steps involved. The table below provides a brief description of the steps in the contract planning process, the major activities involved and the associated forms, its relationship to the requisition, and the staff responsible in each step.

# Contract Risk Assessment Worksheet

OP 08-03, Contracts for Services

Texas Education Agency - OPR: Purchasing, Contracts, and Agency Services (PCAS)

| Program/Funding:           |  | Required Date: |  | Division/Org:  |    |
|----------------------------|--|----------------|--|----------------|----|
| Description of Service(s): |  |                |  |                |    |
| Start Date:                |  | End Date:      |  | Project Manage | r: |

|    | Service Risk Factors   | Pts  | Risk<br>Value | Response Strategies   |
|----|--|------|---------------|---|
| 1  | Estimated dollar value less than \$1M:<br>From \$1M-10M:<br>Exceeds \$10M over the life of the contract:   | (20) |               | High dollar contracts have a higher possibility of presenting risk. Staff must mitigate risks. \$1M require written contract monitoring plan. Over \$10M require Contract Administration Manager to conduct the kick off meeting. |
| 2  | This is a new program or service, or a significant change to an existing service (within the past year or new negotiations will be required.                 | (10) |               | New programs, services, or new project managers require early monitoring to ensure any technical assistance issues are addressed adequately.  |
| 3  | Statement of work is complex - there are multiple components to the service to be provided   | (10) |               | Complex programs or services may require early monitoring to ensure any technical assistance issues are addressed adequately and may require additional contract language.  |
| 4  | Contractor will have access to TEA or student data that includes confidential information (e.g. SSN, FERPA etc)  | (20) |               | See OP 10-03 Confidential Enterprise Information & Use of Social Security Numbers. User Agreements required.  |
| 5  | Work involves data collections, surveys of school (students, parents, or educators)  | (10) |               | Data Governance Board (DGB) must review and approve all survey documents per OP 10-07.  |
| 6  | Work will involve Information Technology (IT) component (e.g. access to TEA website, portals, links, storage of data, website training modules, etc.)        | (10) |               | Include the TEA Security Director and IT appropriate staff,   |
| 7  | Contractor will develop products, test questions, training materials, ancillary materials, education related kits for math or reading, etc (works for hire). | (10) |               | Include Intellectual Property/License staff for new products and include legal staff review (Contract's Attorney).  |
| 8  | Contractors will have direct access to students.   | (20) |               | Contractors with access to students must complete a background check prior to access at the campus per OP 04-02.  |
| 9  | Contracts will be awarded for this program or these services utilizing:  Competitive Procurement  Non-competitive/Sole Source                                | (10) |               | If contract is non-competitive or Sole Source, documentation of the basis for the award and proprietary justification must be included in the contract file.  |
| 10 | Program or service has a high profile, high priority, or a risk of receiving negative press  | (20) |               | Determine the program and fiscal implications of negative press.  |
| 11 | Other Risk Factors (explain & assign value):   | (20) |               | Data-share language must be included in each contract and Contract must be monitored for compliance.  |
|    | TOTAL RISK SCORE:  |      |               |   |

#### Kickoff meeting is required for all contracts. All contracts must be monitored for compliance.

- 1-50 LOW RISK: Contract & Program staff discussion.
- 51-100 MEDIUM RISK: Contract, program staff and subject matter expert (SME) required to meet.
- 100+ HIGH RISK: Contract Administration Manager must conduct the kickoff meeting.

# Section 3: Solicitation Phase

The competitive solicitation approach described in this section is applicable to acquisitions of all non-IT goods and services.

Competition is one of the basic principles in State procurement. The nature of effective competition varies with the goods and services being acquired. Depending upon decisions made during the planning phase, the procurement may be informal or formal, the selected competition method will be a written solicitation document (RFP, RFQ, RFO). Procurement activities must be conducted in an open and fair environment that promotes competition among the prospective contractors.

| Planning<br>Steps | Major Activities   | Associated Forms   | Staff<br>Responsible |
|-------------------|--|--|----------------------|
| 35                | <ul> <li>Development of the Competitive<br/>Solicitation</li> <li>Ethics 1295 (if applicable)</li> <li>Criminal History (if applicable)</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Project Requirements</li> <li>Form 1295</li> <li>HSP Review for<br/>Probability of<br/>Subcontracting</li> </ul>    | Contract             |
| 36-38             | <ul> <li>Approval of the Competitive<br/>Solicitation by:         <ul> <li>Program staff</li> <li>Comptroller or DIR</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  | DIR SOW Form   | Contract             |
| 39-49             | <ul> <li>Posting the Competitive         Solicitation:</li></ul>   | <ul> <li>Hard Copy</li> <li>Hard Copy of list of<br/>Vendors</li> <li>Conference Agenda</li> <li>Addendums Issued</li> </ul> | Contract             |
| 50                | <ul> <li>Receive Proposal Responses:</li> <li>Check-in Responses to<br/>determine if they are<br/>Responsive</li> <li>Review HSP</li> <li>Non-Disclosure/Conflict of<br/>Interest for Evaluation team</li> </ul>   | <ul><li>Proposal Checklist</li><li>HSP Review</li><li>Non-Disclosure</li></ul>   | Contract             |
| 51-68             | <ul> <li>Evaluation Process:         <ul> <li>Initial and Oral Presentation /<br/>Product Demonstration</li> <li>Negotiations/BAFO</li> <li>Criminal History Review (if contractor will have direct or indirect access to a student during the term of the contract)</li> <li>Selection and Award</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Score Matrix</li> <li>Award Memo</li> <li>Disclosure Statement over \$1M</li> <li>Form 1295</li> </ul>              | Contract             |

**Statement of Work (SOW):** A detailed description of what is required of the contractor which includes the project and contractor requirements to satisfactorily perform the work. The SOW forms the basic framework for the resulting contract.

**Requirements:** Identification of the project details and capability of the contractor, functional and technical project needs, budget, schedule, and any other necessary information that is needed to satisfy the contract.

**Deliverable:** Term used in project management to describe a tangible or intangible object produced as a result of the project that is intended to be delivered to a customer. A deliverable could be a report, a document, a server upgrade or any other building block of an overall project.

#### **Elements of a Deliverable**

- 1. A description of work
- 2. A standard for performance
- 3. Method or procedure to verify that the deliverable meets the standard
- 4. Method of process to monitor /ensure quality in the deliverable
- 5. An acceptance process for each deliverable
- 6. A compensation structure that ties to the deliverables

**Note:** The SOW, Requirements, and Deliverable requirements also apply to non-competitive contract with ESC's and other state agencies including public institutions of higher education.

# Section 4: Contract Development

The contract ultimately evolves from the statement of work (SOW) which is a derived from the solicitation and the contractor's response.

The Statement of Work is the core of the Contract. The contract ultimately evolves from the statement of work (SOW) which is derived from both from the solicitation and the response. The SOW defines the contractors' activities, tasks, deliverables, timeline and pricing/budget for the work to be done according to specifications.

A well drafted SOW will save time, resources, and money and will improve the quality of the goods or services provided. Each deliverable should be tied to a performance measure as the mechanism to determine the work is progressing and confirms if payment should be released.

| Planning<br>Steps | Major Activities   | Associated Forms   | Staff<br>Responsible |
|-------------------|--|--|----------------------|
| 65-68             | <ul> <li>Development of the Contract</li> <li>Clear SOW and Budget tied to Deliverables</li> <li>Criminal History Performed</li> </ul>   | Contract Monitoring Plan if over \$1M  | Contract             |
| 69                | <ul> <li>Approval of the Contract by:</li> <li>Program staff</li> <li>Additional TEA staff as applicable</li> </ul>  |  | Contract             |
| 69                | <ul> <li>Contract Sent to Contractor for<br/>Signature and Returned</li> <li>Routing for TEA signature</li> <li>Contractor in Good Standing</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Requisition</li> <li>SAM Hardcopy</li> <li>Attestation Letter if over<br/>\$10M or \$1M Non-<br/>competitive</li> <li>Certification Form</li> </ul> | Contract             |
| 70                | Post -Award Contract Meeting   | Post-Award Contract     Checklist and Agenda   | Program              |
|                   | <ul> <li>Set up Contract and PO (encumbrance) in CAPPS</li> <li>Notify the unsuccessful vendors</li> <li>Post Award to ESBD</li> <li>Conduct Debriefings</li> <li>Contract submitted to LBB</li> <li>Contract posted to TEA Website</li> </ul> | Purchase Order   | Contract             |

Key information in the contract must be presented in a manner that is clear, concise, complete, and orderly. This task requires significant skill because they must be able to conceptualize an entire project, ask analytical questions, understand sequential steps, translate complex thoughts into words, and manage the process.

Well-written contracts save the agency money. When the scope and terms of a contract are clearly defined, a contractor's risk subsides, allowing them to be more competitive with their pricing. Contractors who are clear on what is being requested of them can more accurately develop their proposals.

Contractors tend to inflate their contract pricing when the contract scope and terms are unclear; in order to cover any risks that may incur, contractors may add an additional "cushion" to their pricing.

New state and federal requirements have added transparency to contracting processes and made us more conscientious about how public dollars are spent, it is imperative that contracts are initially developed with an end-goal in mind on how they will be administered once the contract is awarded.

There are five basic items that can help generate more detailed questions that will help shape the contract and ensure that basic requirements are not omitted.

- 1. Develop clear specifications/scope of work
- 2. Establish a baseline for cost and quantity
- 3. Develop strong contract language
- 4. Develop clear performance measures
- 5. Perform ongoing contract management



# Recent SAO Audit Findings

TEA did not execute contracts in a timely manner.

The Agency allowed the contractor to perform services while they were still negotiating contract terms, conditions, and budget.

The Agency did not develop a contract monitoring plan to monitor the contract.

# Section 5: Contract Monitoring

The purpose of this section is to increase awareness of the importance of contract monitoring and to explain the basic tools to effectively monitor the contract.

Every TEA contract carries significant risks affecting the performance and costs. In the absence of a solid contract monitoring plan, unforeseen problems and higher costs can occur if a well- planned contract management plan is not established.

Contract monitoring is a combination of administration and managing people. Both are essential to successfully monitor the contract to a close. You must become familiar with your assigned contract. You are the owner and be assertive about the project.

| Planning<br>Steps |                                      | Major Activities   |   | Associated Forms                                      | Staff<br>Responsible    |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|-------------------------|
| 72                | •                                    | Contract Monitoring Plan required if over \$1M Criminal History Performed and Notification from the Fingerprinting Unit  | • | Contract Monitoring Plan if over \$1M                 | Program                 |
| 73-82             | •                                    | Invoices Received:  o Supporting documentation submitted with the invoice o Evidence to Support Monitoring Activities o Co-approval of invoices for Contracts over \$100,000 | • | Contract Monitoring<br>Checklist if over<br>\$100,000 | Program and<br>Contract |
| 84-94             | Contract Performance Completed Yearl |  | • | Contractor Performance                                | Program                 |

To reduce the chances of contract mishaps, contract management activities must be carefully planned and consistently used to track progress throughout the life of the contract. Successful project management activities will always be aligned with contract requirements.

- 1. **Design** effective communication channels that lead to successful contract monitoring.
- 2. **Formulate** a Contract Monitoring Plan to document actions, progress etc.
- 3. **Recognize and correct** defective performance.
- 4. **Identify** the benefits of using a tracking tool to manage and record monitoring activities.
- 5. **Access** accurate and timely information about the progress of the contracted services.
- 6. **Execute** the closing of a contract.

## Payment Under Contract

#### ARTICLE IV. PAYMENT UNDER CONTRACT

Subject to the availability to TEA of funds for the purpose(s) of this contract, TEA shall pay to Contractor by State of Texas warrant(s) the amount of \$4,988,117.00 for the performance, satisfactory to the TEA, of Contractor's functions and duties under this Contract. Payment to Contractor by TEA will be made in accordance with the Task Activity Plan and Budget, labeled Attachment 1, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

Prior to authorizing payment to Contractor, TEA shall evaluate Contractor's performance using the performance standards set forth in all documents constituting this Contract. Contractor shall provide invoices to TEA for deliverables or services provided/performed. No payment whatsoever shall be made under this Contract without the prior submission of detailed, correct invoices.

# **SAO Contract Audit Finding**

The Agency did not sufficiently monitor the fiscal year 2015 contract. Specifically, the Agency did not verify that services had been received prior to payment, program expenditures were allowable, and payments were linked to clear and measurable deliverables.

The Agency did not identify high-risk areas for monitoring or complete contract renewal and close-out procedures.



# Section 6: Contract Amendments and Renewals

What do I need to demonstrate before extending or renewing a contract? The contract renewal gives the impression that the only option available to you is to extend under the terms of your existing contract. This is a little misleading, because in reality you can negotiate deliverables and the rate.

#### **Amendments**

An amendment is an addition, deletion or change to contract and can only be accomplished by mutual agreement of all the parties. Once a contract is amended, the portions of the contract affected by the amendment are superseded and can no longer be given any force or effect. Amendments may be needed to add or delete work from the scope, extend the contract term, allow for additional time to complete the work, and reflect changes in requirements that arise due to events occurring after execution of the contract. In many cases, the contractor is not entitled to additional time or compensation for the extension of the period for performance unless the TEA is responsible for delays in the completion of performance. It is important to contact the Contracts staff before proceeding with any discussion on an extension with the contractor.

#### Renewals

Contracts generally have a definite termination date and expire at the end of their term. Usually, contracts contain options for renewal which allows you to extend or renew the term of the contract before its expiration date. Options for renewal should be clearly specified and must be by mutual agreement of the parties. Contracts should contain clause that will allows for renewals if it is determined that the contract should be renewed rather than rebid. The renewal process should occur prior to the end date. Renewals should not be automatic because it is less work than developing a new solicitation/contract. By completing the contract renewal form you can decide if it is in the best interest of the agency to continue performance under the contract when the market conditions may have changed or the needs of the division may have changed. An option for renewal includes additional forms be submitted with the request. The contract must also include a provision to renew and specify the terms and conditions of the contract during the renewal period.

## **TEA Contracting Guide**

| Planning<br>Steps | Major Activities   | Associated Forms   | Staff<br>Responsible |
|-------------------|--|--|----------------------|
| Сторо             | <ul> <li>Decision to renew the contract</li> <li>Review Risk Assessment</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Contract Renewal form</li> <li>Cost Price Analysis if<br/>over \$150,000 &amp; using<br/>federal funds</li> <li>Request to Requisition</li> </ul> | Program              |
|                   | <ul> <li>Develop Amendment which should include (revised or updated) budget and Task/Activities to support work to be performed during the fiscal year term</li> <li>Program Staff approval</li> </ul> |  | Contract             |
|                   | <ul> <li>Send the Amendment to Contractor</li> <li>Amendment returned and routed for approval and signature</li> </ul>   |  | Contract             |
|                   | <ul> <li>Set up Amendment and PO (encumbrance) in CAPPS</li> <li>Amendment submitted to LBB</li> <li>Amendment posted to TEA Website</li> </ul>  |  | Contract             |

# Section 7: Contract Close-Out

The use of a checklist of closeout procedures helps to assure that all actions have been completed.

Contract Closeout occurs when a contract has met all the terms of a contract and all administrative actions have been completed, all disputes settled, and final payment has been made.

It is vital that these administrative actions that are contractually required; i.e. property, confidential data destroyed or sanitized, possession of all works developed under the contract, and all invoices are reviewed prior to approving the final invoice.

Your leverage is significantly diminished if all payments have been released.

It is responsibility of each agency to ensure that the work under a contract has been completed and the contract is ready for closeout prior to final payment.

Every contract close-out should include the checklist to assist during that process. Each contract is unique and the checklist can be customized as required to meet the particular circumstance.

The contract monitoring plan should include all necessary documentation at the time of closeout.

# Final payment should never be made until all work is complete and all deliverables are received and accepted.

| Planning<br>Steps | Major Activities   | Associated Forms   | Staff<br>Responsible |
|-------------------|--|--|----------------------|
|                   | <ul> <li>Contract ends</li> <li>All Invoices are paid, reconciled &amp; PO is liquidated</li> <li>All documents, materials, data bases, source code received by TEA</li> <li>Confidential student data destroyed/sanitized</li> <li>Contract Monitoring Plan / Monthly Checklist submitted to Contracts</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Contract Close-Out<br/>Checklist</li> <li>Lesson Learned Form</li> <li>Contractor Performance<br/>Form</li> <li>Contract Monitoring Plan<br/>/ Monthly Checklist</li> </ul> | Program              |
|                   | New solicitation or Contract Needed<br>return to Planning Stage  |  | Program              |

New solicitation or contract needed? Return to Section 1: Planning

# Section 8: Contract Process Map

Understanding Responsibilities in the Process Maps

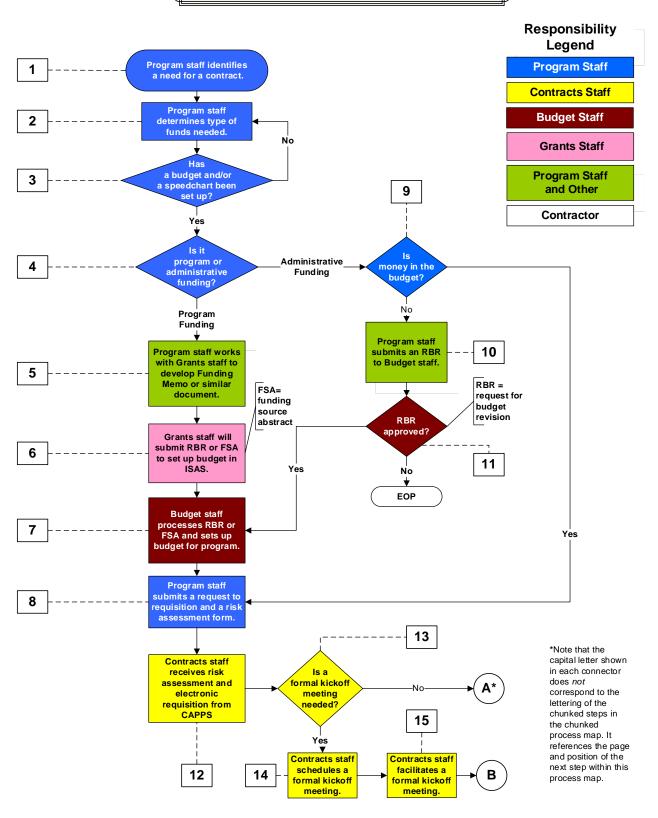
### Process Step = Key Task + Responsibility

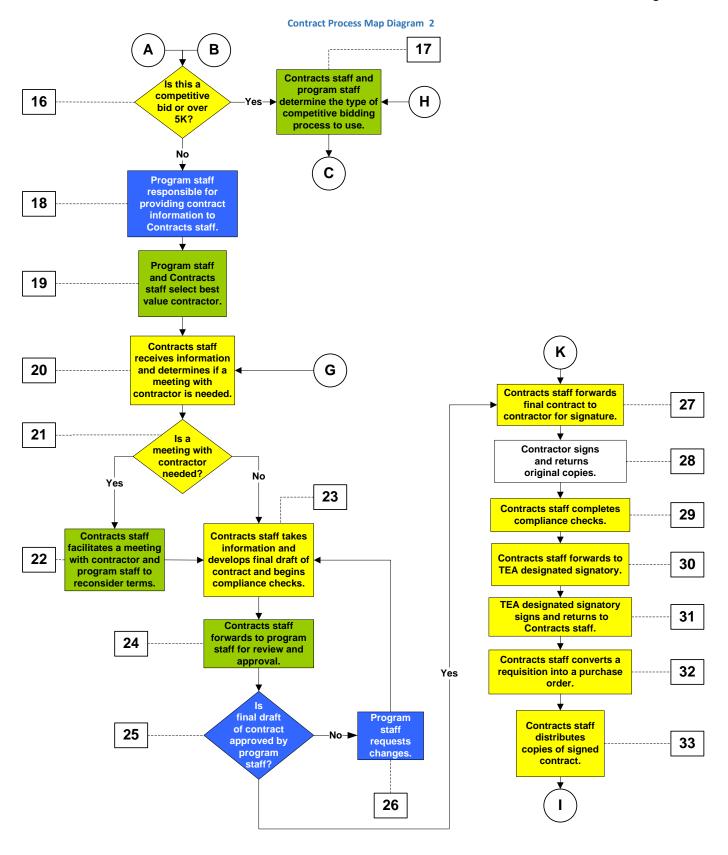
Each process step identifies the key task or activity to be performed *and* assigns clear responsibility for that process step. Dual or ambiguous responsibility for key tasks is eliminated.

The following key indicates the process box color that corresponds to the staff responsible for a task.

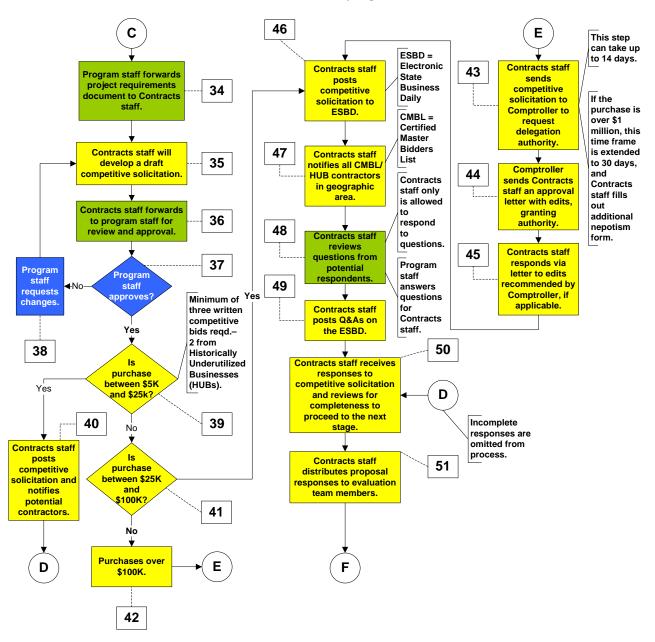
|       | Blue-shaded shapes show the responsibilities of the Program staff.   |
|-------|--|
|       | Yellow-shaded shapes show the responsibilities of the Contracts staff.   |
|       | Burgundy-shaded shapes show the responsibilities of the Budget staff.  |
|       | Pink-shaded shapes show the responsibilities of the Discretionary Grants staff.  |
|       | Green-shaded shapes show responsibilities that are shared by the Program staff and staff in another division (joint responsibilities). |
| "1"   | Numbers identify steps in the process.   |
| Clear | Clear shapes show the responsibilities of the Contractor.  |

# Contract Development and Administration

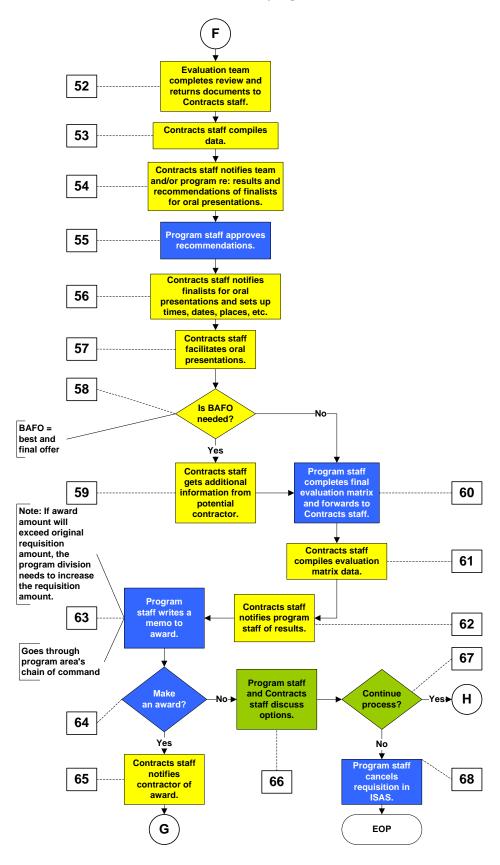




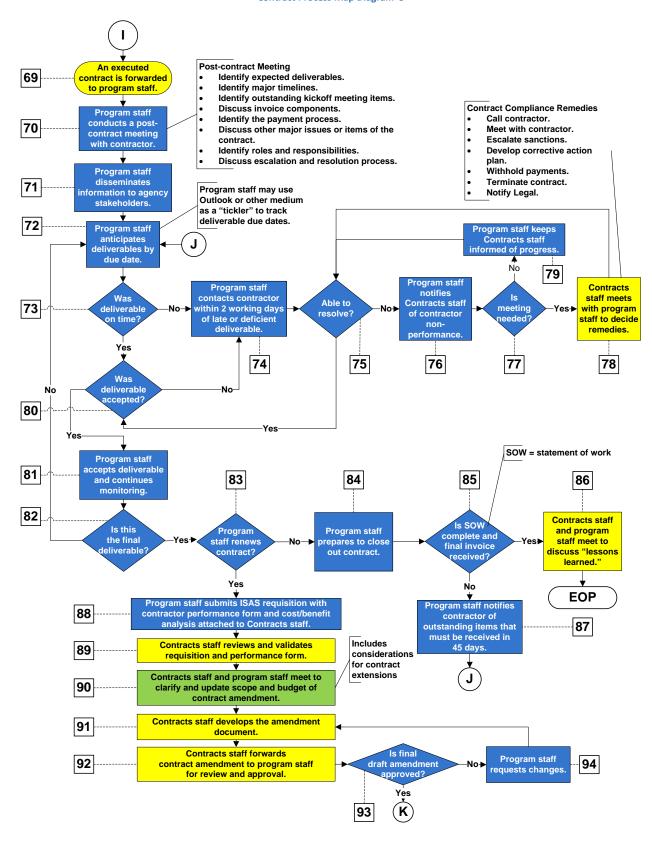
#### Contract Process Map Diagram 3



#### Contract Process Map Diagram 4



#### **Contract Process Map Diagram 5**



# **Forms**

# **Planning**

Risk Assessment

Request to Requisition

Policy Memo

Kick off Meeting Agenda

Non-Disclosure

**Project Requirements** 

Developing the Solicitation Checklist or

Developing the Contract Checklist (non-competitive)

Cost/Price Worksheet if using federal funds over \$150,000

## **Solicitation**

**Project Requirements** 

Form 1295

HSP Review for Probability of Subcontracting

**DIR SOW Forms** 

Proposal Conference Agenda

Addendums Issued

**Proposal Checklist** 

**HSP Review** 

Non-Disclosure/Conflict of Interest

Score Matrix

**Award Memo** 

Disclosure Statement over \$1M Form 1295

## **Contract Development**

Contract Monitoring Plan if over \$1M

Requisition

SAM Hardcopy

Attestation Letter if over \$10M or \$1M Non-competitive

Certification Form

Post-Award Contract Checklist and Agenda

Purchase Order

## **Contract Monitoring**

Contract Monitoring Plan if over \$1M Contract Monitoring Checklist if over \$100,000 Contractor Performance

## **Contract Amendments & Renewals**

Contract Renewal form
Cost Price Analysis if over \$150,000 & using federal funds
Request to Requisition

## **Contract Close-Out**

Contract Close-Out Checklist
Lesson Learned Form
Contractor Performance Form
Contract Monitoring Plan / Monthly Checklist

# Notes