

U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE
Government Publishing & Print Procurement

GENERAL TERMS, CONDITIONS, AND SPECIFICATIONS

For the Procurement of

NCA Gravesite Locator Maps

as requisitioned from the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) by the

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

Single Award

CONTRACT TERM: The term of this contract is for the period beginning August 1, 2026 and ending July 31, 2027, plus up to four (4) optional 12-month extension periods that may be added in accordance with the “OPTION TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE CONTRACT” clause in SECTION 1 of this contract.

BID OPENING: Bids shall be opened virtually at 11:00 a.m., Eastern Time (ET), on June 22, 2026, at the U.S. Government Publishing Office. All parties interested in attending the bid opening shall email bids@gpo.gov one (1) hour prior to the bid opening date and time to request a Microsoft Teams live stream link. This must be a separate email from the bid submission. The link will be emailed prior to the bid opening.

BID SUBMISSION: Bidders must email bids to bids@gpo.gov for this solicitation. No other method of bid submission will be accepted at this time. The program number and bid opening date must be specified in the subject line of the emailed bid submission. Bids received after the bid opening date and time specified above will not be considered for award.

THIS IS A NEW PROGRAM. THERE IS NO ABSTRACT AVAILABLE.

For information of a technical nature, contact Lou Belden at lbelden@gpo.gov or (202) 512-1479.

SECTION 1. – GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

GPO CONTRACT TERMS: Any contract which results from this Invitation for Bid will be subject to the applicable provisions, clauses, and supplemental specifications of GPO Contract Terms (GPO Publication 310.2, effective December 1, 1987 (Rev 01-18)) and GPO Contract Terms, Quality Assurance through Attributes Program for Printing and Binding (GPO Publication 310.1, effective May 1979 (Rev. 09-19)).

GPO Contract Terms (GPO Publication 310.2) – <https://www.gpo.gov/docs/default-source/forms-and-standards-files-for-vendors/contractterms2018.pdf>.

GPO QATAP (GPO Publication 310.1) – <https://www.gpo.gov/docs/default-source/forms-and-standards-files-for-vendors/qatap-rev-09-19.pdf>.

SUBCONTRACTING: The predominant production function is printing. Bidders who must subcontract the predominant production function will be declared non-responsible.

QUALITY ASSURANCE LEVELS AND STANDARDS: The following levels and standards shall apply to these specifications:

Product Quality Levels:

- (a) Printing (page related) Attributes – Level III.
- (b) Finishing (item related) Attributes – Level III.

Inspection Levels (from ANSI/ASQC Z1.4):

- (a) Nondestructive Tests – General Inspection Level I.
- (b) Destructive Tests – Special Inspection Level S-2.

Specified Standards: The specified standards for the attributes requiring them shall be:

<u>Attribute</u>	<u>Specified Standard</u>
P-7. Type Quality and Uniformity	Average type dimension

Prior to award, contractor may be required to provide information related to specific equipment that will be used for production.

OPTION TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE CONTRACT: The Government has the option to extend the term of this contract for a period of 12 months by written notice to the contractor not later than 30 days before the contract expires. If the Government exercises this option, the extended contract shall be considered to include this clause, except, the total duration of the contract may not exceed five (5) years as a result of, and including, any extension(s) added under this clause. Further extension may be negotiated under the “EXTENSION OF CONTRACT TERM” clause. See also “ECONOMIC PRICE ADJUSTMENT” for authorized pricing adjustment(s).

EXTENSION OF CONTRACT TERM: At the request of the Government, the term of any contract resulting from this solicitation may be extended for such period of time as may be mutually agreeable to the GPO and the contractor.

ECONOMIC PRICE ADJUSTMENT: The pricing under this contract shall be adjusted in accordance with this clause, provided that in no event will any pricing adjustment be made that would exceed the maximum permissible under any law in effect at the time of the adjustment. There will be no adjustment for orders placed during the first period specified below. Pricing will thereafter be eligible for adjustment during the second and any succeeding performance period(s). For each performance period after the first, a percentage figure will be calculated as described below and that figure will be the economic price adjustment for that entire next period. Pricing adjustments under this clause are not applicable to reimbursable postage or transportation costs, or to paper, if paper prices are subject to adjustment by separate clause elsewhere in this contract.

For the purpose of this clause, performance under this contract will be divided into successive periods. The first period will extend from August 1, 2026 to July 31, 2027, and the second and any succeeding period(s) will extend for 12 months from the end of the last preceding period, except that the length of the final period may vary. The first day of the second and any succeeding period(s) will be the effective date of the economic price adjustment for that period.

Pricing adjustments in accordance with this clause will be based on changes in the seasonally adjusted "Consumer Price Index For All Urban Consumers - Commodities Less Food" (Index) published monthly in the CPI Detailed Report by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The economic price adjustment will be the percentage difference between Index averages as specified in this paragraph. An index called the variable index will be calculated by averaging the monthly Indexes from the 12-month interval ending three (3) months prior to the beginning of the period being considered for adjustment. This average is then compared to the average of the monthly Indexes for the 12-month interval ending April 30, 2026, called the base index. The percentage change (plus or minus) of the variable index from the base index will be the economic price adjustment for the period being considered for adjustment.

The Government will notify the contractor by contract modification specifying the percentage increase or decrease to be applied to invoices for orders placed during the period indicated. The contractor shall apply the percentage increase or decrease against the total price of the invoice less reimbursable postage or transportation costs and separately adjusted paper prices. Payment discounts shall be applied after the invoice price is adjusted.

PREAWARD SURVEY: In order to determine the responsibility of the contractor or any subcontractor, the Government reserves the right to conduct an on-site preaward survey at the contractor's/subcontractor's facility or to require other evidence of technical, production, managerial, financial, and similar abilities to perform, prior to the award of a contract. As part of the financial determination, the contractor in line for award may be required to provide one or more of the following financial documents:

- 1) Most recent profit and loss statement
- 2) Most recent balance sheet
- 3) Statement of cash flows
- 4) Current official bank statement
- 5) Current lines of credit (with amounts available)
- 6) Letter of commitment from paper supplier(s)
- 7) Letter of commitment from any subcontractor

The documents will be reviewed to validate that adequate financial resources are available to perform the contract requirements. Documents submitted will be kept confidential and used only for the determination of responsibility by the Government. Failure to provide the requested information in the time specified by the Government may result in the Contracting Officer not having adequate information to reach an affirmative determination of responsibility.

POSTAWARD CONFERENCE: Unless waived by the Contracting Officer, the total requirements of the job as indicated in these specifications will be reviewed by Government representatives with the contractor's representatives at the U.S. Government Publishing Office, Washington, DC, immediately after award. At the option of the Government, the postaward conference may be held via teleconference. Person(s) that the contractor deems necessary for the successful implementation of the contract must be in attendance.

ASSIGNMENT OF JACKETS, PURCHASE AND PRINT ORDERS: A GPO jacket number will be assigned and a purchase order issued to the contractor to cover work performed. The purchase order will be supplemented by an individual print order for each job placed with the contractor. The print order, when issued, will indicate the quantity to be produced and any other information pertinent to the particular order.

ORDERING: Items to be furnished under the contract shall be ordered by the issuance of print orders by the Government. Orders may be issued under the contract from August 1, 2026 through July 31, 2027, plus for such additional period(s) as the contract is extended. All print orders issued hereunder are subject to the terms and conditions of the contract. The contract shall control in the event of conflict with any print order. A print order shall be "issued" upon notification by the Government for purposes of the contract when it is electronically transmitted or otherwise physically furnished to the contractor in conformance with the schedule.

REQUIREMENTS: This is a requirements contract for the items and for the period specified herein. Shipment/delivery of items or performance of work shall be made only as authorized by orders issued in accordance with the clause entitled "ORDERING." The quantities of items specified herein are estimates only and are not purchased hereby. Except as may be otherwise provided in this contract, if the Government's requirements for the items set forth herein do not result in orders in the amounts or quantities described as "estimated," it shall not constitute the basis for an equitable price adjustment under this contract.

Except as otherwise provided in this contract, the Government shall order from the contractor all the items set forth which are required to be purchased by the Government activity identified on page 1.

The Government shall not be required to purchase from the contractor, requirements in excess of the limit on total orders under this contract, if any.

Orders issued during the effective period of this contract and not completed within that time shall be completed by the contractor within the time specified in the order, and the rights and obligations of the contractor and the Government respecting those orders shall be governed by the terms of this contract to the same extent as if completed during the effective period of this contract.

If shipment/delivery of any quantity of an item covered by the contract is required by reason of urgency prior to the earliest date that shipment/delivery may be specified under this contract, and if the contractor will not accept an order providing for the accelerated shipment/delivery, the Government may procure this requirement from another source.

The Government may issue orders which provide for shipment/delivery to or performance at multiple destinations.

Subject to any limitations elsewhere in this contract, the contractor shall furnish to the Government all items set forth herein which are called for by print orders issued in accordance with the "ORDERING" clause of this contract.

ADDITIONAL EMAILED BID SUBMISSION PROVISIONS: The Government will not be responsible for any failure attributable to the transmission or receipt of the emailed bid including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Illegibility of bid.
2. Emails over 75 MB may not be received by GPO due to size limitations for receiving emails.
3. The bidder's email provider may have different size limitations for sending email; however, bidders are advised not to exceed GPO's stated limit.

4. When the email bid is received by GPO, it will remain unopened until the specified bid opening time. Government personnel will not validate receipt of the emailed bid prior to bid opening. GPO will use the prevailing time (specified as the local time zone) and the exact time that the email is received by GPO's email server as the official time stamp for bid receipt at the specified location.

PAYMENT: Submitting invoices for payment via the GPO fax gateway (if no samples are required) utilizing the GPO barcode coversheet program application is the most efficient method of receiving payment. Instruction for using this method can be found at the following web address:

<http://winapps.access.gpo.gov/fms/vouchers/barcode/instructions.html>.

Invoices may also be mailed to: U.S. Government Publishing Office, Office of Financial Management, Attn: Comptroller, Stop: FMCE, Washington, DC 20401.

For more information about the billing process, refer to the General Information of the Office of Finance web page located at: <https://www.gpo.gov/how-to-work-with-us/vendors/how-to-get-paid>.

Contractor's billing invoice must be itemized in accordance with the items in the "SCHEDULE OF PRICES."

SECTION 2. – SPECIFICATIONS

SCOPE: These specifications cover the production of maps requiring such operations as electronic prepress, printing, binding, packing, and distribution.

TITLE: NCA Gravesite Locator Maps.

FREQUENCY OF ORDERS: Approximately 5 to 20 orders per month.

QUANTITY: Approximately 1 to 20 copies per format per order.

NOTE: More than one (1) format may be ordered on the same print order requiring the same schedule.

NUMBER OF PAGES: Approximately 1 to 44 pages per format per order.

TRIM SIZES:

Format A: 21 x 15" (flat)

Format B: 27-1/2 x 17-1/2" (flat)

Format C: 24 x 18" (flat)

Format D: 42 x 30" (flat)

GOVERNMENT TO FURNISH: Electronic media will be furnished as follows –

Storage Media: Email; contractor-hosted SFTP.

Software: Adobe Acrobat (current or near current version).

NOTE: All software upgrades (for specified applications) which may occur during the term of the contract must be supported by the contractor.

Fonts: All printer and screen fonts will be embedded.

The contractor is cautioned that furnished fonts are the property of the Government and/or its originator. All furnished fonts are to be eliminated from the contractor's archive immediately after completion of the contract.

Additional

Information: Files will be furnished in PDF format.

All graphics will be furnished in place in furnished files.

CMYK will be used for color identification.

Samples of previously produced maps may be furnished upon request – to be used as a guide only.

Identification markings such as register marks, commercial identification marks of any kind, etc., except GPO imprint, form number, and revision date, carried in the furnished electronic files, must not print on the finished product.

CONTRACTOR TO FURNISH: All materials and operations, other than those listed under "GOVERNMENT TO FURNISH," necessary to produce the products in accordance with these specifications.

The contractor must be able to accept files electronically via their secure contractor-hosted SFTP server. Appropriate log-on instructions and protocol shall be provided by the contractor at time of award. The contractor shall provide security, which at a minimum, shall require a unique user ID and password for access.

ELECTRONIC PREPRESS: Prior to image processing, the contractor shall perform a basic check (preflight) of the furnished media and publishing files to assure correct output of the required reproduction image. Any errors, media damage, or data corruption that might interfere with proper file image processing must be reported to the ordering agency as specified on the print order.

The contractor shall create or alter any necessary trapping, set proper screen angles and screen frequency, and define file output selection for the imaging device being utilized. Furnished files must be imaged as necessary to meet the assigned quality level.

When required by the Government, the contractor shall make minor revisions to the electronic file. It is anticipated that the Government will make all major revisions.

Prior to making revisions, the contractor shall copy the furnished file and make all changes to the copy.

Upon completion of each order, the contractor must furnish final production native files (digital deliverables) with the furnished material. The digital deliverables must be an exact representation of the final product and shall be returned on the same type of storage media as was originally furnished. The Government will not accept, as digital deliverables, PostScript files, Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF) files, or any proprietary file formats other than those supplied, unless specified by the Government. (The Government will accept PDF files as digital deliverables when furnished by the Government.)

STOCK/PAPER: The specifications of all paper furnished must be in accordance with those listed herein or listed for the corresponding JCP Code numbers in the “Government Paper Specification Standards No. 13” dated September 2019.

Government Paper Specification Standards No. 13 – https://www.gpo.gov/docs/default-source/forms-and-standards-files-for-vendors/vol_13.pdf.

All paper used in each order must be of a uniform shade.

White 25% Cotton Bond, basis weight: 20 lbs. per 500 sheets, 17 x 22”, equal to JCP Code G45.

PRINTING: At contractor’s option, the product may be produced via conventional offset or digital printing provided Quality Level III standards are maintained. Final output must be a minimum of 150-line screen and at a minimum resolution of 1200 x 1200 dpi x 1 bit or 600 x 600 dpi x 4-bit depth technology. Digital device must have a RIP that provides an option for high quality color matching such as Device Links Technology and/or ICC Profiles. NOTE: Contractor must produce the entire job either conventional offset or digital printing; split production methods are not acceptable without prior approval.

Print each map page face only in black ink only or in four-color process. Printing consists of text and line matter.

MARGINS: Margins will be as indicated on the print order or in the furnished electronic files.

BINDING: Trim each map page four sides.

When ordered, Formats A, B, C will side-stitch on left edge with three (3) stitches. When ordered, Format D will side-stitch on left edge with five (5) stitches. NOTE: All stitching is on the short dimension for each Format.

PACKING: Roll map(s) and insert into appropriately-sized shipping/ mailing tube. If more than one (1) format-size map is going to the same destination, all maps may be rolled together and inserted into the same tube. All shipping/ mailing tubes must be of sufficient strength and durability which will guarantee that the product will not be damaged and the package will not open nor split during shipping/ mailing.

LABELING AND MARKING: If shipped, contractor to download GPO Form 905 (R. 7-15) – Labeling and Marking Specifications which can be located on GPO.gov, fill in appropriate blanks, and attach to shipping containers. If mailed, contractor to affix a label to each unit of mail packaged in mailing tubes.

DEPARTMENTAL RANDOM COPIES (BLUE LABEL): All orders must be divided into equal sublots in accordance with the chart below. A random copy must be selected from each subplot. Do not choose copies from the same general area in each subplot. The contractor will be required to certify that the copies were selected as directed using GPO Form 917, Certificate of Selection of Random Copies, which can be located at gpo.gov. The random copies constitute a part of the total quantity ordered, and no additional charge will be allowed.

<u>Quantity</u> <u>Ordered</u>		<u>Number of</u> <u>Sublots</u>
500	- 3,200	50
3,201	- 10,000	80
10,001	- 35,000	125
35,001	and over	200

These randomly selected copies must be packed separately and identified by a special label, GPO Form 2678 – Departmental Random Copies (Blue Label), which must be printed on blue paper and affixed to each affected container. This form can be located at gpo.gov. The container and its contents shall be recorded separately on all shipping documents and sent in accordance with the distribution for each print order.

A copy of the print order/specification and a signed Certificate of Selection of Random Copies must be included.

A copy of the signed Certificate of Selection of Random Copies must accompany the invoice sent to U.S. Government Publishing Office, Financial Management Services, for payment. Failure to furnish the certificate may result in delay in processing the invoice.

QUALITY ASSURANCE RANDOM COPIES: In addition to the Departmental Random Copies (Blue Label), the contractor may be required to submit quality assurance random copies to test for compliance against the specifications. The print order will indicate the number required, if any. When ordered, the contractor must divide the entire order into equal sublots and select a copy from a different general area of each subplot. The contractor will be required to certify that copies were selected as directed using GPO Form 917-Certificate of Selection of Random Copies (located on GPO.gov). Copies will be paid for at the running rate offered in the contractor's bid and their cost will not be a consideration for award. A copy of the print order must be included with the samples.

Business Reply Mail labels will be furnished for mailing the quality assurance random copies. The copies are to be mailed at the same time as the first scheduled shipment. A U.S. Postal Service approved Certificate of Mailing, identified by Program, Jacket and Print Order numbers, must be furnished with billing as evidence of mailing.

DISTRIBUTION: Ship/mail f.o.b. contractor's city to one (1) to three (3) addresses nationwide (lower 48 states and District of Columbia only).

Complete addresses and quantities will be furnished with each print order.

Contractor to ship or mail reimbursable (whichever method is most economical to the Government) by traceable means. NOTE: If mailed, mailing must be at the First Class rate.

If shipped, the contractor is responsible for all shipping costs. If mailed, the contractor will be required to apply the appropriate postage to each mailing. Contractor will be reimbursed for all shipping/ mailing costs upon submission of complete all shipping/ mailing receipts with billing invoice for payment.

All mailings must conform to the appropriate regulations in the U.S. Postal Service manuals for “Domestic Mail,” if applicable.

Upon completion of each order, contractor must notify the ordering agency (on the same day the order ships/mails) via email to the address indicated on the print order. The subject line of the email shall be “Distribution Notice for Program 30-S, Print Order XXXXX, Jacket Number XXX-XXX.” The notice must provide all applicable tracking numbers, shipping/ mailing methods, and title of products. Contractor must be able to provide copies of all shipping/ mailing receipts upon agency request.

Upon completion of each order, any furnished samples are to be recycled, destroyed, or otherwise disposed of, at contractor’s option.

As applicable, all expenses incidental to picking up furnished materials and furnishing sample copies must be borne by the contractor.

SCHEDULE: Adherence to this schedule must be maintained. Contractor must not start production of any job prior to receipt of the individual print order (GPO Form 2511).

Print orders and furnished materials will be furnished via email or contractor-hosted SFTP site.

No definite schedule for placement of orders can be predetermined.

The following schedule begins the workday after notification of the availability of print order and furnished material; the workday after notification will be the first workday of the schedule.

Complete production and distribution must be made within five (5) workdays of receipt of notification of the availability of print order and furnished materials.

The ship/deliver date indicated on the print order is the date products ordered for shipping/ mailing f.o.b. contractor’s city must be picked up by small package carrier or delivered to the postal service.

Unscheduled material such as shipping documents, receipts or instructions, delivery lists, labels, etc., will be furnished with each order or shortly thereafter. In the event such information is not received in due time, the contractor will not be relieved of any responsibility in meeting the shipping schedule because of failure to request such information.

For compliance reporting purposes, the contractor must notify the U.S. Government Publishing Office of the date of shipment or delivery, as applicable. Upon completion of each order, contractor must contact the Shared Support Services Compliance Section via email at compliance@gpo.gov; or via telephone at (202) 512-0520. Personnel receiving the email or call will be unable to respond to questions of a technical nature or to transfer any inquiries.

SECTION 3. – DETERMINATION OF AWARD

The Government will determine the lowest bid by applying the prices offered in the “SCHEDULE OF PRICES” to the following units of production which are the estimated requirements to produce one (1) year’s production under this contract. These units do not constitute, nor are they to be construed as, a guarantee of the volume of work which may be ordered under this contract for a like period of time.

The following item designations correspond to those listed in the “SCHEDULE OF PRICES.”

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
I. (a)	20	1	83	2
(b)	23	2	133	5
(c)	6	1	20	1
(d)	6	1	54	2
II.	127			

SECTION 4. – SCHEDULE OF PRICES

Bids offered are f.o.b. contractor’s city.

Prices must include the cost of all required materials and operations for each item listed in accordance with these specifications.

Bidder must make an entry in each of the spaces provided. Bids submitted with any obliteration, revision, or alteration of the order and manner of submitting bids may be declared nonresponsive.

An entry of NC (No Charge) shall be entered if bidder intends to furnish individual items at no charge to the Government. Bids submitted with NB (No Bid), NA (Not Applicable), or blank spaces for an item may be declared nonresponsive.

The Contracting Officer reserves the right to reject any offer that contains prices for individual items of production (whether or not such items are included in the DETERMINATION OF AWARD) that are inconsistent or unrealistic in regard to other prices in the same offer or to GPO prices for the same operation if such action would be in the best interest of the Government.

All invoices submitted to the GPO shall be based on the most economical method of production. Fractional parts of 100 will be prorated at the per-100 rate.

Contractor’s billing invoices must be charged in accordance with the line items in the “SCHEDULE OF PRICES.”

I. PRINTING, BINDING, PACKING, AND DISTRIBUTION: Prices offered must be all inclusive and include the cost of materials and operations necessary (including paper; excluding side-stitching) for the printing, binding, packing, and distribution of the products listed in accordance with these specifications.

	<u>Black Ink Only</u>		<u>Four-Color Process</u>	
	Makeready and/or <u>Setup</u> (1)	Running Per 100 <u>Copies</u> (2)	Makeready and/or <u>Setup</u> (3)	Running Per 100 <u>Copies</u> (4)
(a) Format A (21 x 15” flat)..... per page	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
(b) Format B (27-1/2 x 17-1/2” flat) per page	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
(c) Format C (24 x 18” flat)..... per page	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
(d) Format D (42 x 30” flat)..... per page	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

II. ADDITIONAL OPERATIONS:

Side-stitching (3 or 5 stitches) per copy\$ _____

 Initials

SHIPMENTS: Shipments will be made from: City _____ State _____.

The city(ies) indicated above will be used for evaluation of transportation charges when shipment f.o.b. contractor's city is specified. If no shipping point is indicated above, it will be deemed that the bidder has selected the city and state shown below in the address block, and the bid will be evaluated and the contract awarded on that basis. If shipment is not made from evaluation point, the contractor will be responsible for any additional shipping costs incurred.

DISCOUNTS: Discounts are offered for payment as follows: _____ Percent _____ Calendar Days. See Article 12 "Discounts" of Solicitations Provisions in GPO Contract Terms (Publication 310.2).

AMENDMENT(S): Bidder hereby acknowledges amendment(s) number(ed) _____.

BID ACCEPTANCE PERIOD: In compliance with the above, the undersigned agrees, if this bid is accepted within _____ calendar days (60 calendar days unless a different period is inserted by the bidder) from the date for receipt of bids, to furnish the specified items at the price set opposite each item, delivered at the designated point(s), in exact accordance with specifications. *NOTE: Failure to provide a 60-day bid acceptance period may result in expiration of the bid prior to award.*

BIDDER'S NAME AND SIGNATURE: Unless specific written exception is taken, the bidder, by signing and submitting a bid, agrees with and accepts responsibility for all certifications and representations as required by the solicitation and GPO Contract Terms – Publication 310.2. When responding by email, fill out and return one copy of all pages in "SECTION 4. – SCHEDULE OF PRICES," including initialing/signing where indicated. Valid electronic signatures will be accepted in accordance with the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, §2. Electronic signatures must be verifiable of the person authorized by the company to sign bids. *Failure to sign the signature block below may result in the bid being declared non-responsive.*

Bidder _____
(Contractor's Name) (GPO Contractor's Code)

(Street Address)

(City – State – Zip Code)

By _____
(Printed Name, Signature, and Title of Person Authorized to Sign this Bid) (Date)

(Person to be Contacted) (Telephone Number)

(Email) (Fax Number)

THIS SECTION FOR GPO USE ONLY

Certified by: _____ Date: _____ Contracting Officer: _____ Date: _____
(Initials) (Initials)
