

Department of Veterans Affairs

871.100

for construction, that are based on detailed purchase descriptions or formal specifications for telecommunications equipment, as defined in VA manual MP-6, Part VIII (available at any VA facility).

(b) The Telecommunications Support Service must review and approve the descriptive literature required by the clause in 852.211-71, Special notice, furnished by the contractor after award, before delivery or installation by the contractor. Promptly upon receipt of the descriptive literature, contracting officers will forward it, together with a copy of the contract, the formal specification, or the detailed purchase description, to the DSPE.

(c) Solicitations, including those for construction, for telecommunications equipment based on "brand name or equal" purchase description are subject to the following:

(1) Before award, contracting officers will forward to the DSPE the abstract of bids, one copy of each offer received, including descriptive literature and pertinent letters, and the comments and recommendations of the contracting officer.

(2) No commitments are to be made to contractors before receiving Central Office's response.

(3) The solicitation must allow at least 30 calendar days for acceptance to allow sufficient time for the review required by this paragraph. (See FAR 52.214-16.)

870.113 Paid use of conference facilities.

When contracting for the use of conference facilities, contracting officers shall follow and comply with the Federal Travel Regulation, 41 CFR Part 301-74, Conference Planning, and shall document the contract file as specified therein, including documentation of efforts to locate Government-owned space and efforts to reduce costs.

870.115 Food service equipment.

(a) All new food service equipment purchased for Dietetic Service through other than Defense General Supply Center sources must meet requirements set forth by the National Sanitation Foundation.

(b) The contracting officer will accept an affixed National Sanitation Foundation label and/or documentation of the certification by the National Sanitation Foundation from the contractor as evidence that the subject equipment meets sanitation standards issued by the National Sanitation Foundation.

PART 871—LOAN GUARANTY AND VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

Subpart 871.1—Loan Guaranty and Direct Loan Programs

Sec.

871.100 Scope of subpart.

871.101 Policy.

871.102 Authorization for repairs to properties.

871.104 Qualification of bidders.

871.106 Lien waivers.

871.107 Stipulations against liens.

Subpart 871.2—Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Service

871.200 Scope of subpart.

871.201 General.

871.201-1 Requirements for the use of contracts.

871.201-2 Requirements when contracts are not required.

871.201-3 Medical services.

871.201-4 Letter contracts.

871.202 Marking and release of supplies.

871.203 Renewals or supplements to contracts.

871.204 Guaranteed payment.

871.205 Proration of charges.

871.206 Other fees and charges.

871.207 Payment of tuition or fees.

871.208 Rehabilitation facilities.

871.209 Records and reports.

871.210 Correspondence courses.

871.211 Information concerning correspondence courses.

871.212 Contract clauses.

AUTHORITY: 38 U.S.C. 501; 40 U.S.C. 121(c); and 48 CFR 1.301-1.304.

SOURCE: 73 FR 2717, Jan. 15, 2008, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart 871.1—Loan Guaranty and Direct Loan Programs

871.100 Scope of subpart.

This subpart sets forth policy and procedures with respect to the loan guaranty and direct loan programs as

871.101

they pertain to property management, including the acquisition, management, and disposition of property, real, personal, or mixed, that were secured by loans guaranteed, insured, or made under Title 38, U.S.C.

871.101 Policy.

All acquisitions for the repair and maintenance of VA property acquired under 38 U.S.C. Chapter 37 must be made in accordance with FAR Parts 14, 15, and 16, Parts 814, 815, and 816 of this chapter, and this subpart.

871.102 Authorization for repairs to properties.

(a) Except as provided in this subpart, Directors, Loan Guaranty Officers, and Assistant Loan Guaranty Officers, VA Regional Offices, are authorized to approve a repair program for any VA property acquired under Chapter 37, Title 38, U.S.C., if the cost does not exceed \$25,000. A repair program means the aggregate amount of the proposed contracts that are contemplated in a property analysis by the Loan Guaranty activity.

(b) In cases where the expenditure is known or estimated to exceed \$25,000, the Loan Guaranty Officer, or his or her designee, must forward the request, together with the loan guaranty folder, to the Under Secretary for Benefits for approval.

(c) During the period when VA has assumed custody of the property from a holder and before its conveyance to VA under 38 CFR 36.4320, repairs not in excess of \$3,500 are authorized, when appropriate to make the property ready for sale at an earlier date than would otherwise be possible if the repair program was delayed until VA acquired absolute title. In cases where the expenditure is known or estimated to exceed \$3,500, the Loan Guaranty Officer, or his or her designee, must forward the request, together with the loan guarantee folder, to the Under Secretary for Benefits for approval.

(d) The holder must not make repairs to a property when it has continued custody, except for emergency repairs not in excess of \$500, unless the holder gives adequate notice to the Director, Regional Office. Emergency repairs means immediate action to preserve

48 CFR Ch. 8 (10–1–10 Edition)

the property from serious damage or to correct a situation imminently dangerous to life or limb, including the initial cleanup of the property to prevent the risk of damage by fire or vandalism.

(e) An approved management broker may be authorized, when the property is assigned, to incur expenses for fuel and utilities or other recurring items that VA is required to furnish to its tenants or are required to maintain the property if the following conditions are met:

(1) Advance blanket authorization to a management broker must be limited to repairs not in excess of \$500 in any transaction.

(2) The management broker must either submit receipts with an invoice or maintain receipts for inspection.

(3) Expenditures in excess of \$500 require prior approval of the Director, Regional Office, having jurisdiction of the property.

(4) The management broker must aggregate the costs of repairs when determining whether prior approval is required.

871.104 Qualification of bidders.

(a) Bidders must be qualified in accordance with procedures outlined in FAR subpart 9.1 and subpart 809.1 of this chapter.

(b) Management brokers are not acceptable bidders for a repair contract due to their close association on a fee basis with VA. This restriction also applies to any contracting firm in which the management broker has an interest and in which it could be presumed that the firm would have an advantage over the other bidders. This does not preclude the management broker from performing routine recurring maintenance or minor repairs. When seeking payment for maintenance or repairs, the management broker must establish that any charges are not in excess of the prevailing fees for similar services in the area.

871.106 Lien waivers.

(a) In a contract for \$2,500 or more, the contracting officer must include the following requirements: