General Services Administration

532.905 Payment documentation and process.

For contracts of the type shown in 532.7201(a)(1) through (4):

(a) Contractors are to submit invoices or vouchers to the contracting officer for approval. Invoices must be annotated with the date of receipt, as required by FAR 32.905. That date will be used to determine interest penalties for late payments. The contracting officer or designee must review the processing of invoices or vouchers before payment to determine if the items and amounts claimed are consistent with the contract terms and represent prudent business transactions. The contracting officer must ensure that these payments are commensurate with physical and technical progress under the contract. If the contractor has not deducted questionable amounts from the invoice or amounts required to be withheld, the contracting officer must make the required deduction, except as provided in 532.7203. Subject to 532.7201. the contracting officer must note approval of any payment on (or attached to) the invoice or voucher submitted by the contractor and forward the invoice or voucher to the appropriate contract finance office for retention after certification and scheduling for payment by a disbursing office.

(b) See GSAM 532.7203 for the handling of audit findings.

[74 FR 54917, Oct. 26, 2009]

532.908 Contract clauses.

(a) GSA has a FAR deviation that allows this agency to use the clause at 552.232–1, Payments, in lieu of the clause at FAR 52.232–1, Payments.

(b) General. Before exercising the authority to modify the date for constructive acceptance or constructive approval of progress payments in paragraph (a)(5)(i) of the clause at FAR 52.232-25, Prompt Payment, the contracting officer must prepare a written justification explaining why a longer period is necessary. An official one level above the contracting officer must approve the justification. The time needed should be determined on a case-by-case basis, but the specified constructive acceptance period shall not exceed 30 days. (c) Stock, Special Order, and Schedules Programs. (1) GSA has obtained a FAR Deviation to authorize payment within 10 days of receipt of a proper invoice. The authority applies only to:

(i) Orders placed by GSA under the referenced programs;

(ii) That include FAR 52.232–33, Mandatory Information for Electronic Funds Transfer Payment; and

(iii) For which the order is placed, and the contractor submits invoices, using EDI in accordance with the Trading Partner Agreement.

(2) If the contract is for commercial items and will include FAR 52.212–4, use the clause with its Alternate II. If the contract is not for commercial items, use the clause at 552.232–25, Prompt Payment, instead of FAR 52.232–25.

[74 FR 54918, Oct. 26, 2009]

Subpart 532.70—Authorizing Payment by Government Charge Card

532.7002 Solicitation requirements.

(a) In solicitations for supplies and services, except FSS schedule solicitations, request offerors to indicate if they will accept payment by Governmentwide commercial purchase card. Identify the card brand(s) under the GSA SmartPay program that may be used to make payments under the contract, on the cover page or in Section L of the solicitation.

(b) For FSS schedule contracts, identify the card brand(s) under the GSA SmartPay program that may be used to make payments under the contract in the contract award letter.

(c) For orders placed by GSA, you may authorize payment by Governmentwide commercial purchase card only for orders that do not exceed \$100,000 (see GSA Order, Guidance on Use of the Credit Card for Purchases (CFO 4200.1)).

(d) Consider requesting offerors to designate different levels for which they may accept payment by Governmentwide commercial purchase card, for example:

"If awarded a contract under this solicitation, the offeror agrees to accept payment by

532.7003

Governmentwide commercial purchase card for orders of:

—\$2,500 or less

-\$25,000 or less

—\$50,000 or less

—\$100,000 or less''

[65 FR 11247, Mar. 2, 2000]

532.7003 Contract clause.

For indefinite-delivery, indefinitequantity (IDIQ) contracts other than Schedules, insert the clause at 552.232– 77, Payment By Government Charge Card, if the contract will provide for payment by Government charge card as an alternative method of payment for orders. For Schedule contracts that provide for payment using the Government charge card, use the clause(s) prescribed at part 538.

[74 FR 54918, Oct. 26, 2009]

PART 533—PROTESTS, DISPUTES, AND APPEALS

Subpart 533.1—Protests

Sec.

533.103 Protests to the agency. 533.103–1 Filing a protest.

Subpart 533.2—Disputes and Appeals

533.209 Suspected fraudulent claims.533.211 Contracting officer's decision.

AUTHORITY: 40 U.S.C. 121(c).

SOURCE: 64 FR 37224, July 9, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart 533.1—Protests

533.103 Protests to the agency.

533.103–1 Filing a protest.

(a) Any protester filing an agency protest has the choice of requesting either that the contracting officer or the Agency Protest Official decide the protest. If the protest is silent on this matter, the contracting officer will decide the protest. If a party requests a review at a level above the contracting officer, the Agency Protest Official will decide the protest. The decision by the Agency Protest Official for GSA is an alternative to a decision by the contracting officer on a protest. The Agency Protest Official for GSA will not

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consider an appeal of the contracting officer's decision on an agency protest.

(b) If an agency protest is filed, the deciding official uses the procedures in FAR 33.103 and this section to resolve the protest. The deciding official will provide a fair and quick review of any protest filed with the agency.

(c) The filing timeframes in FAR 33.103(e) apply. An agency protest is filed when the complete protest is received at the location the solicitation designates for serving protests. GSA's hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Protests delivered after 4:30 p.m. Will be considered received and filed the following business day.

(d) The protest must meet all the following conditions:

(1) Include the information required by FAR 33.103(d)(2).

(2) Indicate that it is a protest to the agency.

(3) Be filed in writing with the contracting officer.

(4) State whether the protester chooses to have the contracting officer or the Agency Protest Official decide the protest. If the protest does not include the protester's choice, then the contracting officer will decide the protest (see paragraph (a) of this subsection).

(e) The following procedures apply to information submitted in support of or in response to an agency protest:

(1) GSA procedures do not provide for any discovery.

(2) The deciding official has discretion to request additional information from either the agency or the protester, orally or in writing, as may be necessary to render a timely decision on the protest. However, protests are normally decided on the basis of information initially provided by the protester and the agency.

(3) To the extent permitted by law and regulations, the parties may exchange relevant information.

(4) The agency must make a written response to the protest within ten days unless another date is set by the deciding official.

(5) The agency must also provide the protester with a copy of the response on the same day it files the protest response with the deciding official. If the agency believes it needs to redact or