

## § 900.30

### **§ 900.30 When the Secretary declines all or a portion of a proposal, is the Secretary required to provide an Indian tribe or tribal organization with technical assistance?**

Yes. The Secretary shall provide additional technical assistance to overcome the stated objections, in accordance with section 102(b) of the Act, and shall provide any necessary requested technical assistance to develop any modifications to overcome the Secretary's stated objections.

### **§ 900.31 When the Secretary declines all or a portion of a proposal, is an Indian tribe or tribal organization entitled to any appeal?**

Yes. The Indian tribe or tribal organization is entitled to an appeal on the objections raised by the Secretary, with an agency hearing on the record, and the right to engage in full discovery relevant to any issue raised in the matter. The procedures for appeals are in subpart L of these regulations. Alternatively, at its option the Indian tribe or tribal organization has the right to sue in Federal district court to challenge the Secretary's decision.

### **§ 900.32 Can the Secretary decline an Indian tribe or tribal organization's proposed successor annual funding agreement?**

No. If it is substantially the same as the prior annual funding agreement (except for funding increases included in appropriations acts or funding reductions as provided in section 106(b) of the Act) and the contract is with DHHS or the BIA, the Secretary shall approve and add to the contract the full amount of funds to which the contractor is entitled, and may not decline, any portion of a successor annual funding agreement. Any portion of an annual funding agreement proposal which is not substantially the same as that which was funded previously (e.g., a redesign proposal; waiver proposal; different proposed funding amount; or different program, service, function, or activity), or any annual funding agreement proposal which pertains to a contract with an agency of DOI other than the BIA, is subject to the declination criteria and procedures in subpart E. If there is a disagreement over the availability of appropriations, the Secretary

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may decline the proposal in part under the procedure in subpart E.

### **§ 900.33 Are all proposals to renew term contracts subject to the declination criteria?**

Department of Health and Human Services and the Bureau of Indian Affairs will not review the renewal of a term contract for declination issues where no material and substantial change to the scope or funding of a program, functions, services, or activities has been proposed by the Indian tribe or tribal organization. Proposals to renew term contracts with DOI agencies other than the Bureau of Indian Affairs may be reviewed under the declination criteria.

## **Subpart F—Standards for Tribal or Tribal Organization Management Systems**

### GENERAL

### **§ 900.35 What is the purpose of this subpart?**

This subpart contains the minimum standards for the management systems used by Indian tribes or tribal organizations when carrying out self-determination contracts. It provides standards for an Indian tribe or tribal organization's financial management system, procurement management system, and property management system.

### **§ 900.36 What requirements are imposed upon Indian tribes or tribal organizations by this subpart?**

When carrying out self-determination contracts, Indian tribes and tribal organizations shall develop, implement, and maintain systems that meet these minimum standards, unless one or more of the standards have been waived, in whole or in part, under section 107(e) of the Act and subpart K.

### **§ 900.37 What provisions of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) circulars or the "common rule" apply to self-determination contracts?**

The only provisions of OMB Circulars and the only provisions of the "common rule" that apply to self-determination contracts are the provisions

adopted in these regulations, those expressly required or modified by the Act, and those negotiated and agreed to in a self-determination contract.

**§ 900.38 Do these standards apply to the subcontractors of an Indian tribe or tribal organization carrying out a self-determination contract?**

An Indian tribe or tribal organization may require that some or all of the standards in this subpart be imposed upon its subcontractors when carrying out a self-determination contract.

**§ 900.39 What is the difference between a standard and a system?**

(a) Standards are the minimum baseline requirements for the performance of an activity. Standards establish the “what” that an activity should accomplish.

(b) Systems are the procedural mechanisms and processes for the day-to-day conduct of an activity. Systems are “how” the activity will be accomplished.

**§ 900.40 When are Indian tribe or tribal organization management standards and management systems evaluated?**

(a) Management standards are evaluated by the Secretary when the Indian tribe or tribal organization submits an initial contract proposal.

(b) Management systems are evaluated by an independent auditor through the annual single agency audit report that is required by the Act and OMB Circular A-128.

**§ 900.41 How long must an Indian tribe or tribal organization keep management system records?**

The Indian tribe or tribal organization must retain financial, procurement and property records for the minimum periods described below. Electronic, magnetic or photographic records may be substituted for hard copies.

(a) *Financial records.* Financial records include documentation of supporting costs incurred under the contract. These records must be retained for three years from the date of submission of the single audit report to the Secretary.

(b) *Procurement records.* Procurement records include solicitations, purchase orders, contracts, payment histories and records applicable of significant decisions. These records must be retained for three years after the Indian tribe or tribal organization or subcontractors make final payment and all other pending matters are closed.

(c) *Property management records.* Property management records of real and personal property transactions must be retained for three years from the date of disposition, replacement, or transfer.

(d) *Litigation, audit exceptions and claims.* Records pertaining to any litigation, audit exceptions or claims requiring management systems data must be retained until the action has been completed.

STANDARDS FOR FINANCIAL  
MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

**§ 900.42 What are the general financial management system standards that apply to an Indian tribe carrying out a self-determination contract?**

An Indian tribe shall expend and account for contract funds in accordance with all applicable tribal laws, regulations, and procedures.

**§ 900.43 What are the general financial management system standards that apply to a tribal organization carrying out a self-determination contract?**

A tribal organization shall expend and account for contract funds in accordance with the procedures of the tribal organization.

**§ 900.44 What minimum general standards apply to all Indian tribe or tribal organization financial management systems when carrying out a self-determination contract?**

The fiscal control and accounting procedures of an Indian tribe or tribal organization shall be sufficient to:

(a) Permit preparation of reports required by a self-determination contract and the Act; and

(b) Permit the tracing of contract funds to a level of expenditure adequate to establish that they have not been used in violation of any restrictions or prohibitions contained in any