Under this program, PTA centers provide day-to-day assistance to firms seeking to do business with Federal agencies and State and local governments in the form of such services as helping to prepare bids and proposals, marketing to potential buyers, establishing electronic commerce capability, setting up or improving quality assurance and accounting systems, and resolving payment problems. This specialized and professional assistance may consist of, but is not limited to, outreach and counseling services. Participants in this program make a concerted effort to seek out and assist small businesses, small disadvantaged businesses, women-owned small businesses, historically underutilized business zone small businesses, historically Black colleges and universities and minority institutions, and veteran-owned small businesses (including service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses). A listing of the current PTA centers can be viewed at http://www.dla.mil/pt/a.

In addition, there are three other sources of information that provide assistance to prospective contractors in finding DoD contracting opportunities. The “Guide to DoD Contracting Opportunities” is a publication that provides a step-by-step approach to business dealings with DoD. It is located at http://www.acq.osd.mil/sadbu/Doing_Business/index.htm and provides marketing ideas and helpful advice for registering your company. Also, FedBizOpps is a single Government-wide point of entry for Federal procurement opportunities. Government buyers are able to publicize their business opportunities by posting information directly to FedBizOpps via the Internet, and commercial vendors seeking jobs can search, monitor, and retrieve opportunities solicited by the entire Federal contracting community. Additional information on FedBizOpps can be found at http://www.fedbizopps.gov. This is also a useful site to identify subcontracting opportunities, since contract awards to prime contractors are also published at FedBizOpps.

The Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and the Defense FAR Supplement (DFARS) are the regulations that govern DoD contracting. The FAR and the DFARS work in tandem. They prescribe contractor responsibilities and employment practices that apply to all contractors, large and small. The Defense Acquisition Regulations (DFARS) are the regulations that govern contractor responsibilities and DFARS work in tandem. They prescribe opportunities, since contract awards to prime contractors are also published at www.fedbizopps.gov.

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