

Your Technology Solutions Advantage

GWACs Quick Reference Guide for Integrated Information Technology Needs



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Simplify the procurement of Information Technology (IT) solutions with GSA's GWACs, acquisition vehicles tailored specifically for IT.

What are GWACs?

Governmentwide Acquisition Contracts (GWACs) are multiple-award, indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity (MA/IDIQ) contracts, enabling agencies to meet their IT services requirements through a solutions-based integrated approach. GSA's GWACs allow federal agencies the opportunity to acquire IT services-based solutions tailored specifically to their mission requirements.

Whether you are in the market for a major systems development project, disaster recovery and information assurance, innovative e-Business solutions or procuring IT services from small businesses, look no further than GSA GWACs. GWACs save you time and money because the contracts are already competed and awarded. Essentially, projects become orders issued against the existing GWAC contract, which significantly reduces procurement lead time and enables orders to be awarded more efficiently and effectively.

All contractors undergo a stringent source selection process to be awarded a GWAC. This selection process ultimately results in a "best in class" contractor pool that will support your best value decision at the order level. Through this pool of contractors, federal agencies gain access to innovative technology solutions while meeting their agencies' socioeconomic goals when purchasing from small business GWAC contractors.

Who We Are

GWACs are part of GSA's Federal Acquisition Service's (FAS) Integrated Technology Services (ITS), whose portfolio provides government agencies a full range of acquisition solutions for information technology and telecommunications goods and services. The ITS portfolio includes multiple acquisition channels to help customer agencies achieve their missions: IT Schedule 70, Network Services Solutions, Strategic Solutions and GWACs.

GSA maintains two GWAC Centers across the country, staffed by contracting experts in awarding and managing IT contracts. These professionals assist customer agencies and industry partners by performing a variety of program support functions, including: statement of work (SOW) reviews, training, contractual and advisory support, and information about proper ordering procedures.

The contracting experts at the GWAC Centers help lay the groundwork for successful technology acquisitions – which allows federal agencies to focus their time and energy on completing the projects key to accomplishing their missions.

GWACs Value Added Features and Benefits

Features	Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Contract types include: fixed price, labor hour, and time and material terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Offers flexibility of contract types to mitigate risk
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ancillary support permitted when it is integral to and necessary to the IT effort	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Facilitates integrated IT solutions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Access to exceptionally qualified small business industry partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Enables federal clients to earn small business credit
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Pre-competed, easy-to-use contract with streamlined ordering procedures based on FAR 16.505	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Saves time and money by reducing procurement lead time
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Complimentary scope compatibility reviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Promotes contract compliance and reduces risk of adverse audits
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Compliance with Section 843 of the National Defense Authorization Act (N DAA) of 2008 and Section 863 of NDAA 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none">FAR 16.505 Fair Opportunity process supports best value awards
<ul style="list-style-type: none">No protests on orders under \$10M, except on the grounds that the order increases the scope, period, or maximum value of the GWAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Minimizes protest risk and supports timely order award for optimal mission support

Building Partnerships

Key to the success of any IT project is communication between all stakeholders – the customer agency, industry partner, and GWAC Center – and that is exactly what is accomplished when using a GWAC. Acquiring technology solutions through a GWAC creates a customer-centric focus in meeting individual IT requirements, because GWAC professionals are engaged to ensure requirements are met by leveraging current and emerging technologies.

New Technology

GWACs give customer agencies access to world-class contractors offering the latest technology innovations. The ability to assimilate new technologies at both the contract and order level provides GWACs with the flexibility to maintain their state-of-the-art technology offerings throughout their contract life. This attribute sets GWACs apart from traditional contract mechanisms.

Solutions-Based Contracts

Solutions-based means that GWACs are created to provide comprehensive IT services including hardware, software or other related components as part of the IT requirement to form a total technology solution.

GWAC Contractors

The GWAC contract holders go through a competitive source selection process to become a prime contractor on GSA's GWACs. In addition to offering their own unique solutions to customer requirements, they have the ability to combine their resources with teaming members and subcontractors to expand their capabilities and provide a comprehensive solution to the customer. This flexibility enables contractors the ability to deliver greater value.

GSA eTools

The Center for Acquisition Excellence is available free of charge 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to provide customer agencies and contractors with online training, including GSA GWAC information. www.gsa.gov/cae

eBuy is an online Request for Quotation (RFQ), Request for Information (RFI) and Request for Proposal (RFP) tool designed to facilitate a wide range of commercial supplies and services offered by GSA Schedule and Governmentwide Acquisition Contract (GWAC) contractors. www.gsa.gov/ebuy

eLibrary is the online source for the latest contract award information for GSA Schedules; Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Schedules; and Technology Contracts, including Governmentwide Acquisition Contracts (GWACs), Network Services and Telecommunications Contracts, and Information Technology (IT) Schedule 70. www.gsa.gov/elibrary

IT Solutions Shop (ITSS) provides an automated, convenient, and secure means for federal agencies to order and accept services and commodities from vendor partners when utilizing GSA's Assisted Acquisition Services.

Accessing the GWACs

Customers wishing to use GWACs to support their IT requirements have two options: **Direct or Assisted Acquisition.**

1. Direct Acquisition

Any warranted Contracting Officer from a federal agency wishing to award an order against a GSA GWAC must receive a Delegation of Procurement Authority (DPA) from GSA. This is a simple process in which GSA provides the training on the proper use of GSA GWACs, and then issues the DPA. A DPA is issued to each warranted Contracting Officer requesting it, after a brief training session is provided by GSA.

The training is offered through:

- Conference call
- Webinar
- Self-paced, online course at the GSA Center for Acquisition Excellence at www.gsa.gov/cae
- Onsite training, conferences and events

2. GSA Assisted Acquisition

GSA offers value-added, customized acquisition, project management and financial management services designed to help you get the outcome you need when you need it. You choose the services and level of support needed to meet your unique requirements – whether they're small or large, simple or complex. For a nominal fee, GSA's Assisted Acquisition Services helps you perform efficient and effective acquisitions and attain best value.

GSA Assisted Acquisition

(703) 605-3699

Email: assistedservices@gsa.gov

GSA's GWAC Contacts

www.gsa.gov/gwacs

Enterprise Acquisition Division

(877) 534-2208

Alliant

www.gsa.gov/alliant

Small Business Acquisition Division

(877) 327-8732

8(a) STARS II

www.gsa.gov/8astars2

Alliant Small Business

www.gsa.gov/alliantsb

Veterans Technology Services (VETS)

www.gsa.gov/vetsgwac



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