

**Department of
Veterans Affairs**

Memorandum

Date: **MAY 16 2013**

From: Deputy Secretary (001)

Subj: Waiver Revision to the Mandatory Use of Solutions for Enterprise-Wide Procurement (SEWP) IV Contract (VAIQ 7343830)

To: Under Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries, Deputy Assistant Secretaries, and other Key Officials

1. The NASA SEWP IV contract has been the mandatory source for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Information Technology (IT) commodities acquisitions since July 2006 as noted in the attached memo dated July 25, 2006, Mandatory VA Use of NASA SEWP IV Contracts and the memo dated June 1, 2007, VA Use of NASA SEWP IV Contracts (WebCIMS 378171). With the award of VA's IT Commodities Enterprise Contracts (CEC), the attached memos are hereby revised.
2. All IT commodities equipment procured through VA's Office of Acquisition Operations, Technology Acquisition Center (TAC) are required to use the CEC contracts as their primary vehicle. If the requirement can not be met through CEC, the TAC Contracting Officer will continue the use of NASA SEWP. Commodities ordered by VA Acquisition Centers outside of TAC, are required to comply with this requirement for VA IT commodity acquisitions.
3. IT Acquisition Request System (ITARS) continues to be required for IT and IT-related acquisitions including those not purchased with IT funds. Any product that will be connected to a VA network operated and maintained by OIT, or that will be used to store sensitive information, must be approved through the current ITARS process. Products approved for VA will be flagged on the SEWP Web site. All CEC products are approved for VA use.
4. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Luwanda F. Jones, Executive Director, IT Acquisition Strategy & Facilities Management at (202) 461-7198 or by e-mail at Luwanda.Jones@va.gov.



W. Scott Gould

Attachments

**DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS**

Memorandum

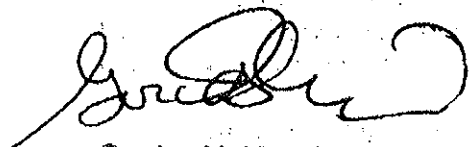
Date: July 25, 2006
From: Deputy Secretary (001)
Subj: Mandatory VA Use of NASA SEWP IV Contracts
To: Under Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries, Deputy Assistant Secretaries, and Other Key Officials

1. The VA PCHS-2 contracts have been the mandatory source for IT hardware and software for the past four years. They are now near the end of their contract life and new contracts will have to be utilized. We have determined that the best option for VA will be to use the SEWP IV contracts which NASA expects to award by October. Beginning 30 days after award, the SEWP IV contracts will be VA's mandatory source for IT hardware and software.

2. In addition, in support of Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSB), VA will allocate 12% of total SEWP IV expenditures to those firms. Printers, Non-Enterprise Software, and Peripherals and Specialty Devices will be exclusively acquired from SDVOSB firms. There are expected to be at least six contract awards to SDVOSB firms so there should be adequate competition for these items.

3. In the meantime, the PCHS-2 contracts remain mandatory, although some acquisitions, particularly commodities may be directed to the present NASA SEWP III contracts.

4. Further guidance will be provided as progress is made toward the SEWP IV awards. If you have any questions, please contact Robert Howard, Supervisor, Office of Information and Technology at 202-273-8842, or have a member of your staff contact Gary Shaffer at 202-357-3923.



Gordon H. Mansfield

DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS

Memorandum

Date: JUN 01 2007

From: Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology (005)

Subj: VA Use of NASA SEWP IV Contracts (WebCIMS 378171)

To: Under Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries and Other Key Officials

1. On May 1, NASA formally awarded the SEWP IV government-wide contracts for information technology (IT) hardware and software. Last July, the Deputy Secretary signed a memorandum making these contracts mandatory for all VA offices. The contracts have been available for use since mid-May and as of June 15 VA offices must use the SEWP IV contracts for all IT acquisitions. When appropriate, waivers may be requested through the IT Tracker approval process.

2. IT Tracker continues to be required for all IT and IT-related acquisitions including those items not purchased with IT Funds. Any products that will be connected to a VA network operated and maintained by OI&T, or that will be used to store sensitive information, must be approved through IT Tracker. Products approved for VA will be "flagged" on the SEWP web-site. When acquiring these pre-approved products an expedited approval process similar to the prior PCHS-2 contract is used. Customers acquiring an approved product will check the "100% VA Approved SEWP Acquisition" drop down box in the IT Tracker System. To avoid delays, the six digit tracking number should be shown on the SEWP order. Waivers may be requested in the "Description" field.

3. Orders over \$3,000 require an appropriate level of competition which can be achieved by utilizing the SEWP RFI/RFQ Tool at <https://www.sewp.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/rfq.pl>. Note that VA is committed to a strong socioeconomic program. VA has determined that at least 12% of SEWP IV expenditures will be made from Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSB). This includes all printers, shrink-wrap commercial software, and peripheral devices. There are six SDVOSBs and three additional veteran-owned small businesses that have SEWP IV contracts.

4. Guidance on using SEWP is available at <http://www.sewp.nasa.gov/VA/info.shtml>. If you have any questions please contact me or have a member of your staff contact Gary Shaffer, Director, IT Capital Execution Service, at 202-357-3923.



Robert T. Howard