

APBI Question Registry

Briefer - Michele Foster (MF):

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| 1-MF- Are you able to tell me when we will have on-ramp for T4NG and SEWP again? | As stated in Ms. Foster's presentation, an on-ramp for T4NG just occurred and TAC onboarded nine SDVOSB contractors onto the contract. Another on-ramp is not contemplated at this time. NASA administers the NASA SEWP contract so any such on-boarding of new contractors to that GWAC would be performed by NASA, not VA. |
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Round Table: Charles Worthington (CW), Bradley Houston (BH), Dan McCune (DM), John Zachary (JZ), Luwanda Jones (LJ):

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| 8- To expand on Chris Brooks question above at 9:41...How are we able to engage in the market research process? Without many RFIs for solutions it seems these decisions are being made either internally or internally w/ contractors already present in the space. | VA product and solution development teams use the market research process in a variety of ways including budgeting, multi-year planning, analysis of alternatives, as well as tactically as part of acquisition execution processes. VA also utilizes other market research tools such as Research Services and Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs) when crafting solutions. VA encourages all industry partners to engage in robust participation in all our market research efforts to help us craft the best solutions possible. VA has developed a web site that serves as a front door for vendors seeking to do business with or collaborate with the VA. This web site will accommodate vendors with IT solutions, as well as vendors with non-IT solutions. The website is very user friendly, and VA is committed to monitoring submissions and responding to the vendors in a timely manner. The URL is https://www.pathfinder.va.gov/ . |
| 12- Is there a list of Prime Contractors whom we can reach out to for subcontracting? | The list of T4NG Prime Contractors can be found on VA's Virtual Office of Acquisition (VOA) website at https://www.voa.va.gov/ under T4NG Prime POC Listing. In addition, the list can also be found on page 19 of the APBI Briefing slides. |
| 15- Thank you for the SPM pipeline information. This was very helpful for industry to support VA's future with best approaches. Will OIT be sharing similar detailed data for other than SPM/business facing application opportunities? Especially out years (beyond what was provided in ATOMS APBI folder) | VA posts opportunities via a variety of methods including SAM.gov, ATOMS, APBI, as well as the new Pathfinder site. https://www.pathfinder.va.gov |
| 18- With regard to emerging technologies, what is the best way for a contractor to present the technologies? | Please go to " https://www.pathfinder.va.gov/ ". This web site will collect your pertinent information and send it to our Vendor Management Office (VMO). The VMO will work closely with you to host a meeting between your company and VA stakeholders that have an interest in your technology solution. |

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| 21- Can you please post Pathfinder URL on the chat please | https://www.pathfinder.va.gov/ |
| 31 -With the dramatic rise in what we have to pay qualified talent, is there any plan to reintroduce price reasonableness back into the acquisition process? This was a very effective process in the original T4 | VA conducts price reasonableness determinations for all acquisitions. If you mean price realism, price realism is and will be contained in solicitations on a case-by-case basis. |

Briefer – Michael Parrish (MP):

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| 4-MP- Has the VA begun to explore the use of Digital Footprinting and behavioral biometrics as part of their Security posture? | VA's Office of Information Security is not currently exploring digital footprints or behavioral biometric technologies as part of our cybersecurity visibility and monitoring suite of tools. |
| 10- Will the VA be relaunching the need for an enterprise exam and appointment scheduling system like the old program MASS and when? | MASS, or a separate scheduling system, is not being pursued or "relaunched" by VA at this time. VA is utilizing the scheduling solution provided by Cerner. |
| 15- Will we see more pipeline transparency like Dan shared today? | Thank you for your inquiry. The Department recently launched Pathfinder.va.gov. Pathfinder allows an opportunity for VA to move forward in vendor engagements in a way that is unprecedented. It supports a backend system that ensures vendors have transparency, equity and support throughout the entire process in a timely and visible manner. This also improves VA's response time to companies or individuals looking for the status of their submission. The recent implementation of this solution combined with a strategy for increased vendor engagements will offer greater transparency. |

Briefer – Dana Newcomb (DN):

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| 1-DN- Do you ever use the Alliant 2 GWAC? | TAC has issued orders off the original Alliant (latest 2016) and none off of Alliant 2. To determine the appropriate acquisition strategy, market research is required to be performed to identify a wide variety of issues such as the most appropriate contract vehicle and type, customary business practices, sustainment issues and a host of other key decision criteria. Although Alliant 2 GWAC has not been used to date, that does not preclude it from being used on future opportunities. |
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Briefer – Sharon Ridley (SR):

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| 2-SR- How can a WOSB get verified | Women-Owned Small Businesses (WOSB) certified by the Small Business Administration (SBA) that also have Veteran status may apply for verification through VA's Center for Verification and Evaluation (CVE). Applications are available on the CVE's VetBiz Portal site at |
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<https://www.vetbiz.va.gov/>. The CVE application process currently takes an average of 33 days to complete once an account is created and all documents are submitted.

Note: The Women Owned Small Business (WOSB) Federal Contracting program and the Veterans First Contracting program have their own distinct requirements. The WOSB Federal Contracting program is certified by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and the Veterans First Contracting program is verified by the VA Center for Verification and Evaluation (CVE). However, a Contractor is permitted to be a member of both programs simultaneously. For example, a woman veteran who owns her own small business would have the potential to be a member of the WOSB Federal Contracting program and Veterans First Contracting program provided she met each program's requirements.