

SECTION SF 30 BLOCK 14 CONTINUATION PAGE

Attachment J-5.A.2.1 Definition of Participation

Participation Credit for Proposals under a Multiphase Solicitation

Effective July 1, 2021, Contract Year 4, Participation Credit can be earned under a Multiphase Solicitation as follows:

- (a) The Contractor had responded to an agency's official solicitation an RFP/RFQ, which included the selection procedures in the solicitation indicating the multiphase evaluation approach;
- (b) Price or cost was considered as one of the evaluation factors in the selection decision;
- (c) A receipt of a Government advisory notice stating the contractor was not considered as a viable offeror for an award, and advising the contractor not to participate in subsequent phases;
- (d) A notification of a Government-initiated down-selection that resulted in the exclusion of the Contractor from further consideration within a solicitation for a Task Order in advance of subsequent phases prior to award; and
- (e) The Contractor provides verification to the GWAC ACO of the multiphase solicitation, proposal and down selection outcomes to support earning the Participation credit. Participation is credited on the date the agency states in their solicitation (or amended solicitation) as the due date or deadline for Government receipt of Contractor Proposals.

NOTICE:

- i. A Voluntary down selection situation is defined as a Contractor who makes its own decision to withdraw or exclude itself from further consideration. Therefore, a Voluntary down selection after phase/step one of the official solicitation with a Government advisory notice (as delineated in (c)), will be considered for Participation credit, beginning in contract year four and continuing during subsequent contract years.
- ii. A Mandatory down selection situation is defined as a Contractor who is being excluded by the Government from further consideration. Therefore, a Mandatory down selection after phase/step one of the official solicitation will be considered for Participation credit, beginning in contract year four and continuing during subsequent contract years.
- iii. Additionally, there are other types of multiphase solicitations including an Advisory multi-step process, see FAR 15.202. In this scenario, the Government publishes a presolicitation notice that provides a general description of the scope or purpose of the Task Order and invites potential Offerors to submit information that allows the ordering agency to advise the Offerors about their potential to be viable competitors. The Government evaluates all responses and advises each respondent in writing either that it will be invited to participate in the resultant Task Order or, based on the contractor's information submitted, that it is unlikely to be a viable competitor. Regardless of the Government's advice, the Contractor may still participate in the resultant Task Order even when the Government's response is negative. Therefore, Offerors responding to a presolicitation notice (not to be confused with an official RFP/RFQ containing a voluntary down-select, multi-step/phase) will not receive a participation credit.

J-5.A.2.2 Definition of What is Not Participation

What is **not** Participation – *Participation* in Contractor Engagement, as defined in this Master Contract, does not include Contractor activities, listed below, for purposes of crediting or assessing required performance *Participation* Standards.

(k) Unsolicited sole source bid, proposal, or capability statement.

(l) Any other Contractor Activities not mentioned above that is performed prior to submitting a proposal in response to an agency official RFP/RFQ under this Master Contract.