

Introduction to the Polaris GWAC

Guiding your Agency's Technology Needs into the Future

Planned for 2023, Polaris will be a multiple-award indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity (MA-IDIQ) Governmentwide Acquisition Contract (GWAC). Polaris will provide access to customized information technology (IT) services and IT service-based solutions from small businesses.

Polaris is planned to have four distinct set-aside pools of industry partners:



Small Business



Women-Owned Small Business



Historically Underutilized Business Zone (HUBZone)



Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business

Polaris will help federal agencies access cutting-edge technology solutions offered by small businesses by using an already-established contract vehicle. Polaris will streamline the task-order process and save taxpayer funds.

ORDERING INFORMATION

Before issuing task orders against Polaris, Contracting Officers (COs) must complete training on the use of the Polaris contract and obtain a written Delegation of Procurement Authority (DPA) from the GSA Polaris COs. Training will be offered at no cost via:

- ❖ Self-paced online courses
- ❖ On-site training conferences and events
- ❖ Web or audio conferences

Visit www.gsa.gov/gwactraining for information on GWAC training opportunities.

CONTRACT SCOPE

The Polaris contract will offer IT service solutions such as system design, software development, cloud services, cybersecurity, and IT operations and maintenance. The contract will also help agencies acquire emerging technologies such as quantum computing and artificial intelligence.

Ancillary support such as clerical work, data entry, and IT products may be included if integral to and necessary for the IT services-based effort.

GSA offers an optional scope-review service to help determine whether your project is within the scope of the Polaris GWAC. You can find more information at www.gsa.gov/gwacscopereview.



FEATURES AND BENEFITS OF POLARIS

FEATURES	BENEFITS
Unlimited master-contract ceiling and five-year base period with one five-year option	Allows for long-term planning of large-scale program requirements
Contract types include fixed-price, labor-hour, cost reimbursement, and time-and-material terms	Offers flexibility of contract types to mitigate risk
Ancillary services and/or equipment are permitted when integral and necessary for the IT services-based solution	Facilitates integrated IT services-based solutions
Access to highest technically qualified small business industry partners in four distinct pools	Enables federal clients to earn small business credit while fulfilling mission needs
Pre-competed, easy-to-use contract with streamlined ordering procedures based on FAR 16.505	Saves time and money by reducing procurement lead time
Complimentary scope compatibility reviews	Promotes contract compliance and reduces risk of adverse audits
No protests on orders under \$10 million, except on the grounds that the order increases the scope, period, or maximum value of the GWAC	Minimizes protest risk and supports timely order award for optimal mission support
Supports agency efforts for Section 889 of the FY 2019 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC), Supply Chain Risk Management (SCRM), and environmental sustainability	Ensures compliance with the latest government mandates

GSA E-TOOLS

GSA eBuy is an online request for information (RFI) and request for proposal (RFP) tool for GWAC stakeholders. www.gsa.gov/ebuy

GSA eLibrary is the online source for the latest contract-award information for GWACs. www.gsa.gov/elibrary

The **GWAC Dashboard** is an interactive tool that allows GWAC stakeholders to view and segment GWAC task-order award information to make better business decisions. www.gsa.gov/gwacdashboards

The **Acquisition Gateway** is a workspace for acquisition professionals and federal buyers to connect with resources, tools, and each other to improve acquisition governmentwide. hallways.cap.gsa.gov/login-information

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- ❖ Visit www.gsa.gov/polaris for the most-current information on the Polaris GWAC.
- ❖ Contact our IT Customer Service Center at ITCSC@gsa.gov or 855-ITaid4U (855-482-4348). The phone line is open from Sundays at 9 p.m. to Fridays at 8:30 p.m. (ET).