# 34.005-2 Mission-oriented solicitation.

(a) Before issuing the *solicitation*, whenever practicable and consistent with agency procedures, the *contracting officer should* take the actions outlined in paragraphs (a)(1) and (2):

(1) Advance notification of the *acquisition should* be given the widest practicable dissemination, including publicizing through the *Governmentwide point of entry* (see subpart 5.2) and *should* be sent to as wide a selection of potential sources as practicable, including smaller and newer firms, Government laboratories, *federally funded research and development centers*, educational institutions and other not-for-profit organizations, and, if it would be beneficial and is not prohibited, foreign sources.

(2) If appropriate, hold a presolicitation conference (see 15.201) and/or send copies of the proposed *solicitation* to all prospective *offerors* for their comments. After evaluation of these comments, the *solicitation should* be revised, if appropriate.

(b) The *contracting officer shall* send the final *solicitation* to all prospective *offerors*. It *shall*-

(1) Describe the nature of the need in terms of mission capabilities required, without reference to any specific systems to satisfy the need;

(2) Indicate, and explain when appropriate, the schedule, capability, and cost objectives and any known constraints in the *acquisition*;

(3) Provide, or indicate how access can be obtained to, all Government data related to the *acquisition*;

(4) Include selection requirements consistent with the *acquisition* strategy; and

(5) Clearly state that each *offeror* is free to propose its own technical approach, main design features, subsystems, and alternatives to schedule, cost, and capability goals.

(6) Require the use of an *Earned Value Management System* that complies with the guidelines of Electronic Industries Alliance Standard 748 (EIA-748) (current version at time of *solicitation*). See 34.201 for *earned value management systems* and reporting requirements.

(c) To the extent practicable, the *solicitation shall* not reference or mandate Government specifications or standards, unless the agency is mandating a subsystem or other *component* as approved under agency procedure.

**Parent topic:** 34.005 General requirements.