1817.7000 Definitions.

(a) *Down-selection.* In a phased acquisition, the process of selecting contractors for later phases from among the preceding phase contractors.

(b) *Phased Acquisition.* An incremental acquisition implementation comprised of several distinct phases where the realization of program/project objectives requires a planned, sequential acquisition of each phase. The phases may be acquired separately, in combination, or through a down-selection strategy.

(c) *Progressive Competition.* A type of down-selection strategy for a phased acquisition. In this method, a single solicitation is issued for all phases of the program. The initial phase contracts are awarded, and the contractors for subsequent phases are expected to be chosen through a down-selection from among the preceding phase contractors. In each phase, progressively fewer contracts are awarded until a single contractor is chosen for the final phase. Normally, all down-selections are accomplished without issuance of a new, formal solicitation.

Parent topic: Subpart 1817.70—Phased Acquisition