



ACQUISITION  
AND SUSTAINMENT

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
3000 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3000

In reply refer to  
DARS Tracking Number: 2021-O0002 Revision 2

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, UNITED STATES CYBER  
COMMAND (ATTN: ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE)  
COMMANDER, UNITED STATES SPECIAL OPERATIONS  
COMMAND (ATTN: ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE)  
COMMANDER, UNITED STATES TRANSPORTATION  
COMMAND (ATTN: ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE)  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY  
(PROCUREMENT)  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
(PROCUREMENT)  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE  
(CONTRACTING)  
DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Verification of Eligibility for the Women-Owned Small Business Program

Effective October 28, 2022, this class deviation supersedes and revises Class Deviation 2021-O0002, Revision 1, issued on March 11, 2021. This class deviation provides for an alternative to the use of the System for Award Management (SAM) as part of the procedures for contracting officers to verify the eligibility of concerns for awards made under the Women-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Program, until SAM and the Dynamic Small Business Search (DSBS) are updated to align with the revisions made to the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) pursuant to the final rule for FAR case 2020-013, Certification of Women-Owned Small Businesses, published on September 23, 2022, at 87 FR 58237, and effective October 28, 2022.

Contracting officers shall use the following procedures in lieu of certain procedures at FAR 19.1503(b)(2) and 19.1505(e) and (f) that require contracting officers to check SAM to verify the eligibility of an economically disadvantaged women-owned small business concern (EDWOSB) concern or a WOSB concern for a set-aside or sole-source award under the WOSB Program. In lieu of checking SAM, contracting officers shall check DSBS at [https://web.sba.gov/pro-net/search/dsp\\_dsbs.cfm](https://web.sba.gov/pro-net/search/dsp_dsbs.cfm) to verify that the offeror is certified either as an EDWOSB concern or a WOSB concern, or has a pending application for certification.

This deviation does not alter any requirements or procedures relating to pending applications for certification. If the apparently successful offeror has a pending application in DSBS, the contracting officer shall follow the procedures set forth in FAR 19.505(f) to notify the SBA's Director of Government Contracting by email at [WOSBpendingcertification@sba.gov](mailto:WOSBpendingcertification@sba.gov), who will make a determination regarding the offeror's EDWOSB or WOSB status within 15 calendar days of receipt by the SBA. In accordance with FAR 19.505(f)(2), if the contracting officer does not receive a determination from the SBA within 15 calendar days, the contracting

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officer at their discretion may provide the SBA additional time to make a determination, or may proceed with award to the next highest evaluated offeror.

This class deviation remains in effect until rescinded. My point of contact is Ms. Susan Pollack, who may be reached at [susan.w.pollack.civ@mail.mil](mailto:susan.w.pollack.civ@mail.mil).

John M. Tenaglia  
Principal Director,  
Defense Pricing and Contracting