



Doing Business with Fairchild Air Force Base

Technical Assistance Guide

Gregory (Greg) S. Wemhoff

Fairchild Small Business Specialist

8 September 2026

INTRODUCTION

The 92d Contracting Squadron (92 CONS) at Fairchild AFB, Washington is responsible for purchasing supplies, construction, and services necessary to support the mission of the 92d Air Refueling Wing. This program involves buying all supply items not available through depot channels and the purchase of services/construction necessary to sustain the base.

Fairchild AFB is just as interested in doing business with you as you are in doing business with us. Owners, managers, and other business personnel are government taxpayers, and we try to get the best deal for our requirement owners at Fairchild AFB and the taxpayer. Sometimes getting a better deal means that we must award contracts to companies outside of the local community. If you want to help us keep dollars in this area, then be competitive and deliver on time. Public Law 95-507 requires all Department of Defense (DoD) activities to spend a “fair” portion of their contracting dollars with small business firms. The Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) states that purchases between \$15,000 and \$350,000 must be made from small businesses unless competitive offers at reasonable prices are not expected from at least two responsible small businesses. As members of DoD, we must enhance and protect fairness and impartiality. In addition to the small business program, there are many other programs established by law or executive order which affect our procurement procedures in determining contract awards, such as the Buy American Act and programs for purchasing from the Ability One Program (Persons with Disabilities).

Location: Fairchild AFB is located approximately 10 miles west of Spokane, Washington, off Interstate 90 on Highway 2, just outside Airway Heights, Washington.

CONTRACTING WITH THE GOVERNMENT

92 CONS is always looking for competitive and competent small business firms who can supply the products and services we need. Interested businesses must begin by learning how DoD conducts its business and by seeking out those military purchasing offices that need the supplies and services they can furnish. There isn't anything mysterious about selling your products or services to the military. Basic principles include:

- Provide a product or service that the Air Force needs at a fair price.
- Learn your customers' needs and buying policies and practices.
- Follow up with buyers and remember: ONLY PEOPLE WORKING IN THE CONTRACTING OFFICE AND HOLDERS OF GOVERNMENT VISA CARDS HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO OBLIGATE THE GOVERNMENT.

How to get started:

1. Complete the System for Award Management (SAM) registration process (see below)
2. Introduce yourself to the appropriate contracting officers and buyers.
3. For requirements estimated to cost over \$25,000, Sam.gov includes a summary of upcoming solicitations for products and services that Fairchild AFB and other federal agencies are planning to buy. In addition, large dollar contract awards are advertised in this publication which may afford subcontracting opportunities to small businesses. SAM is available at <https://SAM.gov>
4. Local trade organizations, especially for construction, may maintain lists of projects.
5. Valuable information on doing business with the government, and the Air Force specifically, is available online at <https://www.airforcesmallbiz.af.mil/>.

Government Purchase Card (GPC): GPC is the government-wide commercial purchase card (VISA) that may be used to obtain supplies and equipment at \$15,000 or less. The card may be used on Federal Supply Schedules such as GSA up to \$25,000, as well as up to \$350,000 using the Expanded Use program. The card is limited to under \$2,500 for services, and under \$2,000 for construction. The GPC program allows base organizations to purchase exactly what they need, when they need it, with the VISA card. The unique GPC card has the cardholder's name embossed on it and may be used ONLY by that person. It is imprinted with the Great Seal of the United States and the words: "United States of America" to avoid being mistaken for a personal credit card. If you want this business, then you need to make a business decision on whether you want to honor credit cards.

Competitive Acquisitions: By law, when requirements are estimated to exceed \$10,000, the government is required to accomplish its purchases using competitive procedures. Accordingly, contracting is generally done by soliciting proposals from as many qualified sources of supply, construction, or services as deemed necessary to assure competition.

Contracting Officer: Certain government employees are authorized to enter into contracts for supplies, construction, or services on behalf of the government and in the name of the United States of America. These individuals are warranted contracting officers. They are the only individuals authorized to financially obligate the government. The contracting officer can delegate certain tasks to other government representatives: however, he/she cannot delegate their authority. **NEVER** agree to send a product or provide a service to Fairchild AFB unless ordered by a contracting officer or holder of a GPC (VISA) card. To do so will be strictly at your own risk/expense. We will not be able to pay you since this would be an unauthorized order. If approached by anyone who claims to represent Fairchild AFB, please get his or her name, organization, phone number, and then contact us immediately. To emphasize again, if not authorized by the Contracting Squadron or a GPC (VISA) cardholder, then you are operating at your own risk.

System for Award Management (SAM) Registration: SAM is the "single DoD registration for contractors who conduct business or who are interested in conducting business with the Department." Contractors must be registered in CCR to be considered for solicitations, awards, and payment. Input directly to SAM through the Internet at <https://SAM.gov>

Wide Area Workflow (WAWF): DoD requires that invoices be submitted electronically through WAWF for all purchases except those using GPC (VISA). WAWF is a secure Web-based system for electronic invoicing, receipt, and acceptance. Payments are also made electronically. Additional information is available at <https://piec.eb.mil/>

Small Business Policy: Our office fully supports DoD policy to place a fair proportion of its purchases and contracts with small businesses. At Fairchild AFB, every effort is made to encourage small businesses to participate in competition for our requirements. Whenever we can, we set aside our purchases for small business firms.

Definition of Small Business: The Small Business Administration (SBA) gives us the definition of a small business. A small business is a concern, including its affiliates, that is independently owned and operated, is not dominant in the field in which it is offering on government contracts, and can further qualify under criteria set forth in SBA regulations. In addition, a manufacturer or a regular dealer submitting offers in its own name must agree to furnish end items manufactured or produced by small business concerns. That requirement does not apply to construction or service contracts. A small business concern must also meet the criteria established for specific industries. When a firm is in doubt as to the specific small business definition that applies to a particular procurement, advice may be requested from the contracting officer, the Small Business Specialist in the Contracting Squadron, or the SBA. The maximum number of employees determines the size status for suppliers of commodities, and annual receipts of the firm determine size status for services and construction firms. Some general examples follow:

<u>Type Business</u>	<u>Size</u>
Most Manufacturers/Distributors of Supplies	500-1500 employees*
General Construction Contractors	\$45,000,000**
Special Construction Trade Contractors	\$19,000,000**

The examples are general and may be modified from time to time. Size limitations may be accessed at <https://www.sba.gov/document/support-table-size-standards>

*"Number of employees" is a measure of the average employment of a business concern, including the employees of its domestic and foreign affiliates, based on the number of persons employed on a full-time, part-time, temporary, or other basis during each of the pay periods of the preceding 12 months. If a business hasn't been in existence for 12 months, "number of employees" means the average employment of such concerns and its affiliates during the period that such concerns have been in existence.

**"Annual Receipts" of a concern is gross receipts averaged over a three-year period. If a firm has been in business less than three years, the figure would be total receipts for the period it has been in business, divided by the number of weeks including fractions of a week, and multiplied by 52.

Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB): A SDB concern means a small business concern, (1) which is at least 51% unconditionally owned by one or more socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, or in the case of any publicly owned business, at least 51% of the voting stock is unconditionally owned by one or more such individuals; and (2) whose management and daily business operations are controlled by such individuals.

<https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting/contracting-assistance-programs/small-disadvantaged-business>

Socially Disadvantaged Individuals: Socially disadvantaged individuals are those who have been subjected to racial or ethnic prejudice or cultural bias because of their identity as a member of a group without regard to their individual qualities. Socially and economically disadvantaged individuals include Asian Americans, Black Americans, Native Americans, and other minorities or individuals found to be disadvantaged by the SBA pursuant to Section 8(a) of the Small Business Act.

Economically Disadvantaged Individuals: Economically disadvantaged individuals are those socially disadvantaged individuals whose ability to compete in the free enterprise system has been impaired due to diminished capital and credit opportunities as compared to others in the same business area who are not socially disadvantaged. In determining the degree of diminished credit and capital opportunities, the SBA shall consider, but not be limited to, the assets and net worth of such socially disadvantaged individuals.

Woman-Owned Business: A woman-owned business is a business which is at least 51% owned, controlled, and operated by a woman or women. Controlled is defined as exercising the power to make policy decisions. Operated is defined as actively involved in the day-to-day management.

<https://www.sba.gov/business-guide/grow-your-business/women-owned-businesses>

Historically Underutilized Business Zone (HUBZONE) Program: The purpose of this program is to provide federal contracting assistance for qualified small business concerns located in historically underutilized business zones in an effort to increase employment opportunities, investment, and economic development in those areas. Status as a qualified HUBZone small business concern is determined by the SBA <https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting/contracting-assistance-programs/hubzone-program>

Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business Concern: A service-disabled veteran owned small business concern means a small business concern which is at least 51% owned by one or more service-disabled veterans or, in the case of any publicly owned business, at least 51% of the stock is owned by one or more service-disabled veterans, and whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or such individuals. Service-disabled veteran means a veteran, as defined in 38 U.S.C. 101(2), with a disability that is service-connected, as defined in 38 U.S.C. 101(16). <https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting/contracting-assistance-programs/veteran-contracting-assistance-programs>

POINTS OF INTEREST

Simplified Acquisitions: Simplified acquisition procedures are normally used for supplies, services, or construction requirements estimated under \$350,000. Our buyer may send a simple “Request for Quotations” to potential vendors or call them on the telephone for price quotations, and award to the company that quotes the lowest price for the requirement. In addition, purchase requests above \$25,000 will be posted on the internet at <https://sam.gov/content/opportunities>. The document most often used to award a small purchase is the SF Form 1449, Order for Commercial Items.

Shipments: Make sure shipments are properly marked on the outside of shipping containers to include the purchase order or contract number and are directed to the correct location. This may be different from one order to another. Block 15 of the SF Form 1449 specifies the shipping address, point of contact name, phone number and email.

Invoices: As stated earlier, invoices are submitted electronically through Wide Area Workflow (WAWF) in accordance with Defense Federal Acquisition Supplement (DFARS) 252.232-7003, Electronic Submission of Payment Request and Receiving Reports. Information regarding WAWF is available on the internet at <https://picetraining.eb.mil/wbt/xhtml/wbt/wawf/index.xhtml>. Include the purchase order/contract number on your electronic invoice.

If you offer a prompt payment discount, remember that short-term discounts (less than 15 days) cannot be accepted. Contractors are currently paid only by electronic funds (EFT). Ensure your EFT information is correct and complete on your CCR registration. In no case should invoices be submitted before an item or service is received.

Delivery/Performance Dates: Deliver no later than the date promised to avoid being delinquent. In some cases, particularly on construction contracts, you can be charged liquidated damages for late performance.

Formal Contracts:

Most of our acquisitions over \$350,000 are solicited electronically by one of two methods:

Invitations for Bids (IFB). Sealed bidding is a method of contracting that employs competitive bids and public openings. Award is made to the responsible bidder, whose bid is most advantageous to the government, considering only price and the price-related factors.

Requests for Proposals (RFP). A contract awarded using other than a sealed bidding procedure is a negotiated acquisition. Most of our competitively negotiated acquisitions are awarded based on technical criteria (if applicable), past performance, and price.

Some common mistakes in submitting bids or proposals are:

- Failure to sign bid/proposal
- Late bids/proposals (contractors who hand carry bids/proposals need to be aware that extra time may be required to get clearance to enter the base)
- Qualifying bids/offers (If there is a question of whether the government has misstated its requirements or if terms are not clear, bidder/offerors should make this known to the buyer or contracting officer early in the solicitation stage. This allows time to issue clarifications before the bid opening or proposal due date.)
- Failure to provide the required past performance information, if requested
- Failure to comply with all terms of the IFB or RFP and submit all required information/documents

Prospective bidders/offerors are expected to attend site visits/pre-proposal conferences. This is not a requirement for submitting a bid or proposal, but bidders/offerors may see something at the site visit that will have a major impact on the bid/proposal or on performance.

If you are new at competing for government contracts, do not hesitate to contact the buyer, contracting officer or the Small Business Specialist to go over the solicitation package and answer your questions.

Invoices procedures, safety requirements, base passes for employees and their vehicles, and other subjects are normally discussed at a pre-performance conference when a formal contract is awarded to your firm.

ACQUISITION FLIGHT A – FLIGHT CHIEF – (509)247-2608 / FAX (509)247-8685

(GOODS AND SERVICES)

Responsible for various contract services over \$350,000, including refuse/recycling collection, packing and crating of household goods, laundry services, equipment maintenance, etc.

ACQUISITION FLIGHT B– FLIGHT CHIEF – (509)247-4867 / FAX (509)247-8685

(CONSTRUCTION)

Responsible for purchasing and administering construction and architect-engineering contracts, for base wide support to include water, wastewater, HVAC, environmental, structures, roads, electrical, and other infrastructure sustainment projects to include renovations and additions to existing facilities.

ACQUISITION FLIGHT P– FLIGHT CHIEF – (509)247-4597 / FAX (509)247-8685

(PLANS AND PROGRAMS)

Operates and monitors our computer system, analyzes data, and recommends improvements to Management procedures. If you need assistance with or have questions about the GPC (VISA) program, please contact this flight.

SMALL BUSINESS KEY WEBSITES

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

System for Award Management – <https://SAM.gov>

North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) – www.census.gov/www/naics/

GENERAL SMALL BUSINESS INFORMATION

Size Standards – <https://www.sba.gov/document/support--table-size-standards>

Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) – <http://acquisition.gov>

Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB) – <https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting>

Women-Owned Small Business Program <https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting>

HUBZONE Business Program – <https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting>

Air Force Office of Small Business Programs – <https://www.airforcesmallbiz.af.mil/>

DoD Office of Small Business Programs – <https://www.acq.osd.mil/index.html>

Small Business Administration – www.sba.gov

Size Standards – <https://www.sba.gov/document/support--table-size-standards>

General Services Administration – www.gsa.gov

Federal Business Opportunities – <https://SAM.gov>

Procurement Technical Assistance Centers – <https://www.aptac-us.org/find-a-ptac/>

Federal Acquisition Regulations – <https://www.acquisition.gov/browse/index/far>

DoD Procurement Page – <https://www.acq.osd.mil/>

WHERE TO FIND OPPORTUNITIES

Federal Business Opportunities – <https://SAM.gov>

General Services Administration – <https://www.gsa.gov/buying-selling/forecast-of-contracting-opportunities>

NASA Office of Procurement – <https://www.nasa.gov/office/procurement/>

US Dept of Agriculture Procurement – <https://www.dm.usda.gov/smallbus/forecast.htm>

US Dept of Defense –Business Ops – <https://business.defense.gov/Small-Business/Marketing-to-DoD/>

US Dept of Energy Procurement Asst – <https://www.energy.gov/fe/solicitations-and-business-opportunities>

US Dept HUD Contracting – https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/administration/careers/contractopps

US Dept of Transportation – <https://www.transportation.gov/>

US Dept of Treasury Procurement – <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/small-business-programs/small-and-disadvantaged-business-utilization/how-to-do-business-with-treasury/part-iii-small-business-opportunities>

US Environmental Protection Agency – <https://www.epa.gov/contracts>

US State Dept Protection Agency – <https://www.state.gov/marketing-resources-doing-business-with-the-department-of-state/>

Defense Commissary Agency – <https://www.commissaries.com/our-agency/business-with-deca>

SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE CENTERS

WA Procurement Technical Assistance Center (now WA APEX Accelerator) – <https://washingtonapex.org/>
Small Business Development Centers – <https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/resource-partners/small-business-development-centers-sbdc>
US Dept of Commerce Minority Business Development – <https://www.commerce.gov/bureaus-and-offices/mbda>

OFFICES OF SMALL & DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS UTILIZATION (OSDBU)

US Air Force OSDBU – <https://www.airforcesmallbiz.af.mil/>
US Army Corps of Engineers– <https://www.usace.army.mil/Business-With-Us/Small-Business/>
Defense Logistics Agency OSDBU – <https://www.dla.mil/SmallBusiness/>
US Dept of Veteran’s Affairs OSDBU – <https://www.va.gov/osdbu/>
US Dept of Agriculture OSDBU – <https://www.dm.usda.gov/smallbus/index.php>
US Dept of Commerce OSDBU – <https://www.dm.usda.gov/smallbus/index.php>
US Dept of Health & Human Services OSDBU-
<https://www.hhs.gov/about/agencies/asfr/ogapa/acquisition/index.html>
US Dept of Justice OSDBU – <https://www.justice.gov/osdbu>

SCIENCE/INNOVATION OPPORTUNITIES

Connecting Industry and DoD - <https://defenseinnovationmarketplace.dtic.mil/>
Air Force Research Lab - <https://afresearchlab.com/>
GSA OASIS Tool - <https://discovery.gsa.gov>
Air Force Collider Project - <https://afirlsbhub.com/colliders/>
Air Force Small Business Innovation Research Program - <https://www.afsbirsttr.af.mil/>

AF Small Business Assistance Office

Email: usaf.pentagon.saf-sb.mbx.air-force-small-biz@mail.mil
Facebook: <https://m.facebook.com/airforcesmallbiz>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/afsmallbiz>
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/airforcesmallbiz>

Multiple Award Construction Contract	(MACC) Multi Discipline Design/Build \$1M+
MJ Takisaki, Inc.	
Northcon, Inc.	
Burton Construction, Inc	
Halme Cascade General Contracting, Co.	
National Native American Construction, Inc	
Multiple Award Task Order Contract	(MATOC) Multi Discipline Design Build \$25K-\$1M
Yukon Northcon, LLC	
Verdis - Takisaki JV II	
Cascade-NNAC JV	
FEDVET Construction	
AC Lopez Construction	
Expedited Task Order Contract	(ETOC) Multi Discipline Construct Only \$25K-\$350K
YOY Inc., dba Verdis	
ONYX Construction	
Rockin' D.W.	
Architectural/ Engineering	
WJA Architects	
SPEES LLC	

FY27 Requirement Forecast

5yr Fall Arrest Inspection
 5yr Talent Assessment/Human Opt
 5yr Fuel Pit Water Removal IDIQ
 5yr Fire Dept Trainer Mx
 5yr Fire Ext Mx
 5yr Chapel Support Services
 5yr Carpet Installation Service IDIQ

FY28 Requirement Forecast

5yr Oil Water Separator/Grease Trap
 5yr Transient Alert
 5yr Catholic Priest
 5yr Fall Arrest Inspection
 5yr AV Sustainment (CCTV Mx)
 5yr Fire Dept Trainer Mx
 5yr Fire Suppression
 5yr Carpet Installation Service IDIQ

Miscellaneous recurring service requirements under \$350K annually

\$15M in Gov't Purchase Card purchases
 \$15M - \$30M potential sub-contract opportunity for construction
 \$2-\$10M in fiscal year end spend program supporting missions at Fairchild