

VA National Acquisition Center's (NAC)

FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULE (FSS)

Our mission is to provide world class healthcare products & services to the federal marketplace

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Threshold Changes

Simplified Acquisition & Subcontracting Thresholds Increasing on October 1, 2010

On August 30, 2010, the Federal Acquisition Regulatory (FAR) Council issued a [final rule](#) to implement section 807 of the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 ([PL 108-375](#)), which became effective on October 1, 2010. Section 807 of PL 108-375, Inflation Adjustment of Acquisition-Related Dollar Thresholds, requires an adjustment to the acquisition-related thresholds every 5 years (in years evenly divisible by 5) in order to incorporate inflation using the Consumer Price Index for all urban (CPI-U). The statute defines an acquisition-related dollar threshold as a "dollar threshold that is specified in law as a factor in defining the scope of the applicability of a policy, procedure, requirement, or restriction provided in that law to the procurement of property or services by an executive agency, as determined by the FAR Council."

The [final rule](#) establishes the following acquisition-related thresholds:

- The micro-purchase base threshold of \$3,000 ([FAR 2.101](#)) remains unchanged.
- The simplified acquisition threshold ([FAR 2.101](#)) was raised from \$100,000 to \$150,000.
- The commercial items test program ceiling ([FAR 13.500](#)) was raised from \$5,500,000 to \$6,500,000.
- The cost or pricing data threshold ([FAR 15.403-4](#)) was raised from \$650,000 to \$700,000.
- The prime contractor subcontracting plan ([FAR 19.702](#)) floor was raised from \$550,000 to \$650,000, and the construction threshold of \$1,000,000 increases to \$1,500,000.
- The FedBizOpps pre-award and post-award notices ([FAR Part 5](#)) remain at \$25,000.

Please be mindful that Section 807 of PL 108-375 does not permit the escalation of acquisition-related thresholds established by the [Davis-Bacon Act](#), the [Service Contract Act](#), or the [Trade Agreements Act](#) since the statute does not authorize the FAR Council to escalate thresholds that were created through an executive order or implementing agency (unless the executive order or agency regulations are first amended).

Training Topic

How to Search for Products/Services on the FSS

Currently, [eligible FSS users](#) are authorized to purchase approximately 12 million commercial items/services off of FSS contracts. As such, market research is a key component for both ordering activities and FSS contractors. In order to learn how you can conduct a search and find a specific item or a category of products on a FSS contract, please review the websites below.

▪ [NAC Contract Catalog Search Tool \(CCST\)](#)

The [NAC CCST](#) allows any inquiring party to browse all products available under the VA FSS and National Contract Service programs. Search criteria include:

- Item Description (key word search)
- FSS/BPA/BOA Contract Number or Contractor Name
- FSS Schedule

The NAC CCST also performs a Socioeconomic Contract Search, in which users can identify small business contract sources under specific socioeconomic categories. This search identifies all FSS contracts awarded to small business concerns, including: service-disabled veteran-owned, veteran-owned, 8(a), HUB Zone, woman-owned, and all other small business categories.

▪ [GSA Advantage](#)

[GSA Advantage!](#) is an online shopping service that allows ordering activities to place orders against FSS contracts. The online catalog was designed to make the federal buying process more efficient by providing ordering activities with the ability to search, identify, compare and order items that offer the best value (refer to [FAR 2.101](#)). By using GSA Advantage, ordering activities can access millions of services and supplies — 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. GSA Advantage allows ordering agencies to:

- Search for items using keywords, supplier names, contract number, etc.
- Compare features, prices, and delivery options
- Select a convenient payment method and place orders directly online
- View order history to track status, re-order or cancel

▪ [GSA eLibrary](#)

GSA [eLibrary](#) is the official online source for a complete listing of GSA and VA schedules, and contract award information. GSA eLibrary is available 24/7 and is updated daily to ensure access to the latest Schedules contract award information. Key features of the GSA eLibrary include:

- Access to information on millions of services/supplies
- Access to contractor websites and e-mail addresses
- Ability to search by geographical location

- [VA FSS eTools](#)
- [Google Uncle Sam](#)

VA FSS Working For You

VA Online Sales Reporting System

In partnership with the General Services Administration (GSA), the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Federal Supply Schedule (FSS) will now collect quarterly sales report figures and Industrial Funding Fee (IFF) quarterly payments through a new GSA/VA Sales Online Portal: <https://vasalesportal.gsa.gov/>. As such, VA FSS contractors will be transitioning to use this new portal in order to submit their sales reports and IFF payments electronically, which will streamline the sales reporting process and ensure more efficiency in the management of the VA FSS program. Please note that VA FSS contractors will not face any charges for reporting or submitting payments through the electronic Sales Portal.

At this time, all VA FSS contractors under the 621I Professional Services schedule should have registered and reported their firm's 3rd quarter sales through the online portal. During the next phase of the transition, all VA FSS contractors (except contractors under the 651IA Medical Equipment & Supplies schedule) should register with the online portal. Please review the schedule detailed in the upper right hand corner in order to learn when your firm will be able to use the online Sales Reporting System.

Please note that your firm's contract administrator will receive an e-mail from a representative of our office on the first day of the reporting period for the applicable quarter referenced above, which will contain pertinent information, such as registration instructions. In order to expedite the registration process and make sure your firm's registration is not rejected, please have an authorized point of contact (under the FSS contract) register your company (e.g. the FSS contract administrator, the FSS sales contact, etc.).

If you attempt to register with the online Sales Reporting System prior to your firm's applicable quarter, you will **NOT** be granted access. However if your firm volunteered to participate in the Sales Reporting Pilot and you have already registered with the online portal, **PLEASE CONTINUE TO USE THE ELECTRONIC TOOL.**

Please direct all IFF and sales reporting related questions to the VA Sales Desk at fsssales@va.gov.

- [View the Online Sales Reporting User Guide](#)

Online Sales Reporting Timetable

4th Qtr FY 2010 (July 1 - Sept 30)

- 651B Drugs, Pharmaceuticals, & Hematology Related Products
- 651IC Dental Equipment & Supplies
- 651IF Patient Mobility Devices
- 65VA X-Ray Equipment & Supplies
- 65VII Invitro Diagnostics, Reagents, Test Kits & Test Sets
- 66 III Cost-Per-Test, Clinical Laboratory Analyzers
- 621II Medical Laboratory Testing & Analysis Services

1st Qtr FY 2011 (Oct 1 - Dec 31)

- All FSS Contractors (including 651IA Medical Equipment & Supplies)

National News

Recent Emergency & Disaster Declarations

Under the [Disaster Recovery Purchasing Program](#), state and local Government entities may purchase products and services off of FSS contracts in order to facilitate the recovery from a major disaster (e.g. hurricane or a nuclear attack). As such, there were 10 declarations by President Obama during the month of September 2010, which can be seen below.

Major Disaster Declarations (September 2010)

Number	Date	State	Disaster Type
1936	9/13	NM	Severe Storms & Flooding
1937	9/15	TN	Severe Storms & Flooding
1938	9/23	SD	Severe Storms & Flooding
1939	9/28	US Virgin Islands	Hurricane Earl

Emergency Declarations (September 2010)

Number	Date	State	Incident
3314	9/01	NC	Hurricane Earl
3315	9/02	MA	Hurricane Earl

Fire Assistance Declarations (September 2010)

Number	Date	State	Incident
2855	9/06	CO	Four Mile Canyon Fire
2856	9/10	CA	Glenview Fire
2857	9/12	CO	Reservoir Fire
2858	9/15	CA	Canyon Fire
2859	9/19	UT	Machine Gun Fire

- [Frequently Asked Questions About the Disaster Recovery Purchasing Program](#)

Upcoming Events

VA NAC INDUSTRY DAY



The [National Acquisition Center \(NAC\) Industry Day](#) Conference has been scheduled and will be held on March 15 – 16, 2011 at the [InterContinental Chicago O'Hare](#). Additional information, such as presentation topics, will be forthcoming in the near future, so please be sure to review the NAC's homepage: <http://www1.va.gov/oamm/oa/nac/index.cfm>.

VA NAC FSS Customer Training

FSS Customer Training Schedule (Only Applicable to Government Agencies)

- VA NAC FSS Customer Training (Webinar)
 - October 6, 2010 at 8:30am (CST)
 - October 13, 2010 at 11:30 (CST)
- **[Registration Instructions](#)**

If you would like to schedule a training session or request additional information, please contact Ms. Veronica Hazen at Veronica.Hazen@va.gov. Please note that Ms. Hazen will send all FSS Customer Webinar Training registrants an e-mail the day before their scheduled training, which will contain the Web Conference login information.

FSS Personnel will be attending the following conference:

- Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA) Fall Conference – Schaumburg, IL (October 27 – 30, 2010)
- [Veteran Affairs Federal Supply Schedule Chicago National Forums](#) – Chicago, IL (October 20 – 21, 2010)

News You Can Use

Updated VA FSS Website

In our quest to continually improve in order to meet the needs and wants of every FSS stakeholder, the FSS Service website was recently updated to become more user friendly (www.fss.va.gov). Within the updated website, you can find a vast amount of information about our organization, helpful electronic tools, key regulatory guidance, etc. More specifically, we have tailored the website around our different target audiences (i.e. [Prospective FSS contractors](#), [Current FSS contractors](#), and [Federal FSS customers](#)) with the key goals of enhancing communication and promoting efficiency.

VA Earns an 'A' on the Annual Small Business Scorecard

The VA was recognized by the Small Business Administration (SBA) with a rating of an "A" on its [Small Business Scorecard](#) for its success in contracting with small businesses. According to the VA Secretary, Mr. Eric K. Shinseki, "the VA excels in its procurements with small business through hard work and commitment." Through a collaborative effort between the VA's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) and a combination of VA acquisition professionals, the VA led the federal Government in procurements with service-disabled Veteran-Owned small businesses (SDVO). While the Government-wide statutory goal for contract awards with SDVO small businesses was 3% of all agency procurements, the VA awarded nearly 17% of its acquisition dollars to SDVO small businesses.

Within the standards established by the SBA, each agency's small business procurement performance is assessed using a [Grade Calculation Methodology](#) based on three quantitative measures:

- 1) Prime contracting
- 2) Subcontracting
- 3) Progress achievement

- [Read the Complete News Release](#)
- [VA 2009 Government Wide Small Business Procurement Scorecard](#)

Open Opportunities with the FSS

Start an exciting career with the FSS Service in Hines, IL!!! In order to ensure we reach our goals and provide the level of service that is expected from the FSS, we are expanding our organization by hiring additional employees. Please view all of the rewarding positions with the Federal Supply Schedule Service below.

- [Contract Specialist](#)
 - Location: Hines, IL
 - Announcement # MPA 10-01-OCVA
 - Series & Grade: GS-1102-07/12
 - Close Date: October 30, 2010

Recently Awarded FSS Contracts (September 2010)

Pharmaceutical, Dental, Patient Mobility, & X-Ray:

- Sanofi Aventis U.S.: V797P-5182B (Large Pharmaceutical Business)
- BTA Pharmaceuticals, LLC.: V797P-5183B (Small Pharmaceutical Business)
- Novalar Pharmaceuticals, Inc.: V797P-5133B (Small Pharmaceutical Business)
- Prometheus Laboratories, Inc.: V797P-5177B (Small Pharmaceutical Business)
- Paladin Labs (USA), Inc.: V797P-5101B (Small Pharmaceutical Business)
- J&J Health Care Systems, Inc. on behalf of Scios, Inc. (Large Pharmaceutical Business)
- Dexis, LLC.: V797P-3211M (Large Dental Supply Business)
- PDG Product Design Group, Inc.: V797P-3213M (Small Patient Mobility Business)
- Diaco Dental, Inc.: V797P-3214M (Small Patient Mobility Business)
- Agfa Healthcare Corp.: V797P-3212M (Large X-Ray Equipment/Supplies Business)

Medical/Surgical Equipment:

- Ambu, Inc.: V797P-4327B (Small Med/Surg Business)
- Intubrite, LLC. V797P-4325B (Small Med/Surg Business)
- Linet Americas: V797P-4331B (Small Med/Surg Business)
- Vermed: V797P-4334B (Small Med/Surg Business)
- Adhezion Biomedical, LLC.: V797P-4330B (Small Med/Surg Business)
- Hartmann USA: V797P-4332B (Large Med/Surg Business)
- Medical Resource, Inc.: V797P-4326B (Small, Veteran Owned Med/Surg Business)
- Alpha Modalities, LLC.: V797P-4328B (Small Med/Surg Business)
- Scivolutions: V797P-4324B (Small Med/Surg Business)
- Vision-Sciences, Inc.: V797P-4335B (Small Med/Surg Business)
- Richard's Medical Equipment, Inc.: V797P-4339B (Small Med/Surg Business)
- Bellmore Medical Supply, Inc.: V797P-4329B (Small Med/Surg Business)

Medical Professional & Laboratory Testing Services & Cost-Per-Test:

- PPR Healthcare Staffing: V797P-7287A (Large Professional Medical Healthcare Services Business)
- Surgical Staff North, Inc.: V797P-7279A (Large Professional Medical Healthcare Services Business)
- Verus Government Solutions, Inc.: V797P-7283A (Small Disadvantaged, Disabled Veteran Owned Professional Medical Healthcare Services Business)
- Robison Nursing DBA Robison Medical: V797P-7285A (Small, Hub Zone, Woman Owned Professional Medical Healthcare Services Business)
- Apex Pharmacy Solutions, LLC.: V797P-7289A (Small, 8(A) Owned Professional Medical Healthcare Services Business)
- Discharge Resource Group DBA DRG Healthcare Staffing: V797P-7286A (Small, Woman Owned Professional Medical Healthcare Services Business)

In order to obtain pricing information for all of the companies referenced above or any other FSS contractor, please review the [NAC Contract Catalog Search Tool \(CCST\)](#) or [GSA E-Library](#). If you have any questions/concerns or would like to learn more about a specific topic and/or issue, please feel free to contact the FSS helpdesk by phone at (708)786-7737 and/or by e-mail at helpdesk.ammhinfss@va.gov.