

Procurement Reform Project Update

The 2012 Legislature passed [2SHB 2452](#) to consolidate procurement laws under Enterprise Services. The legislation was designed to make the procurement process more transparent, promote open competition, centralize oversight, encourage/facilitate participation by small business and increase accountability. The changes were codified in chapter 39.26 RCW and took effect Jan. 1, 2013. The Procurement Reform Project is tasked with implementing the processes, policy and technology to realize reform.

General Overview

- The procurement process for goods and services is combined in a single chapter of law. A common approach will be used for goods and services.
- Agency employees who develop, manage or execute contracts must receive training and/or certification to ensure consistent practices.
- Agencies are being assessed for appropriate authority to purchase goods and services.
- Agencies must submit sole-source contracts to Enterprise Services for review and approval, but will no longer submit personal-service contracts that are competitively solicited for review.
- Contracts may be awarded based on best value criteria that align with the strategic goals and values of the state.
- Agencies will notify bidders and identify awarded contractors in a central system.
- Agencies will submit data about awarded contracts to Enterprise Services to be maintained in a single searchable public site.
- Enterprise Services will establish rules and guidelines for procurement of goods and services.
- Enterprise Services will be able to debar contractors for cause.

Projects / Initiatives – In Progress/Future Projects

- Procurement Training and Credential Curriculum
- Policies, Best Practices and Models addressing Complaints & Protests, Bonding, Convenience Contracts and Ethics in Procurement, et al.
- Develop 2014 Model Plan
- eBid Project / eSignature Projects

Projects / Initiatives – Completed and Moved to Operations

- Initial Delegation of Authority and Risk Assessment Pilot
- Debarment Rules and Procedures
- Agency contract reporting (transparency) requirements under RCW 39.36.210
- Small Business Initiatives, including changes to WEBS
- 2013 Small Business Technical Assistance Report
- Sole Source, Direct Buys and Emergency Procurement
- The 2014 Risk Assessment of all state agencies.

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- DES has issued the following policies:
 - Delegation of Authority (# DES-090-00)
 - Sole Source Contracts (# DES-140-00)
 - Direct Buy (# DES-125-03)
 - Emergency Procurements/Purchases (# DES-130-00)
 - Complaints and Protests (# DES-170-00)
 - Agency Contract Reporting (# DES-210-01)
 - The Debarment rule (WAC 200-305) took effect May 20, 2013. Internal administrative procedure training has been completed.
 - The Agency Contract Reporting technology pilot and opt-in pilot periods.
 - Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) data and business process migration to WEBS was deployed August 2014 allowing DVA to use WEBS as a system of record and portal to kick off and manage Veteran-owned business certification.

Current Status

- 2014 Agency Contract Reporting - The first reporting period concluded Sept. 1, 2014 with 97.8 percent of 141 agencies reporting. Data for this reporting period included Jan. 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.
- Procurement Training (Foundation Phase) - The vision of this phase is to meet the legislative mandate set out in RCW 39.26.110, by enabling state agency employees who are responsible for developing, executing, or managing procurements or contracts, or both, to complete Department approved training by July 1, 2015. The project is well underway, and the first class Purchasing and Procurement 101 will roll out Fall, 2014.
- Models, Policies and Best Practices – A comprehensive policy regarding Competitive Procurement is currently out for review by the Procurement Customer Advisory group and will be available for full review Fall 2014.

Procurement Reform Questions:

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Procurement Reform Website:

<http://des.wa.gov/about/pi/ProcurementReform/Pages/default.aspx>

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