



Contracting with Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)

About FSIS

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), a food safety regulatory agency within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), is responsible for ensuring that domestic and imported meat, poultry, and egg products are safe, wholesome, and accurately labeled. FSIS employs approximately 9,000 workers who collectively conduct a broad range of food safety activities to achieve FSIS' overall vision - that everyone's food is safe. The Agency's employees comprise a frontline workforce assigned duties at Federally regulated establishments, FSIS laboratories, and in-commerce facilities nationwide as well as technical, administrative, and support staff.

What FSIS Buys

FSIS procures a wide variety of supplies, equipment, and services. Some examples include:

- Laboratory/scientific equipment and supplies
- Maintenance agreements on laboratory equipment
- Equipment and personal protection equipment used by inspection staff
- Information technology equipment and services
- Office machines and supplies
- Management and professional services
- Training (commercial-off-the-shelf and customized)

Common Ways that FSIS Buys What It Needs

- Requirements up to \$10,000 for supplies and \$2,500 for services, and \$2,000 may be filled directly by purchase card holders. These purchase requirements do not usually go through the contracting office.
- For requirements over \$10,000 and up to \$25,000, the program and contracting office will garner a minimum of three quotes to ensure reasonable competition.
- Proposed contract actions expected to exceed \$25,000 are synopsisized on the [SAM Contract Opportunities page](#) (unless an exception applies) or use established sources/ordering vehicles. Before proposed contract actions over \$25K are synopsisized, they are often forecasted on the [USDA Procurement Forecast](#) (up to three years in advance of the need).

Capability Statements

Firms or individuals wishing to do business with FSIS should provide a capability statement identifying their areas of expertise. Capability statements should be sent to the FSIS Small Business Representative at madonna.montgomery@usda.gov. Your firm should provide enough supplemental information to ensure that your firm's products and capabilities can be fully understood.

Subcontracting Opportunities

Recognizing that small firms often do not have the capability to perform as prime contractors on certain large contracts, FSIS promotes the involvement of small businesses at the subcontracting level. Special contract clauses may be included in a large prime contract that requires the prime contractor to maximize the participation of small businesses through subcontracting opportunities.



The Small Business Administration (SBA) provides helpful information, resources, and links for businesses interested in [prime and subcontracting](#).

Resources

For additional information of conducting business with the Federal Government please visit the following web sites:

- [USDA Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization \(OSDBU\)](#)
- [Contracting with USDA](#)
- System for Award Management - [Registering as a Government Contractor](#)
- General Services Administration - [Sell to the Government](#)
- SBA - [Become a Federal Contractor](#)
- [FSIS Procurement](#)

If you have any questions, please e-mail the FSIS Small Business Representative at Madonna.Montgomery@usda.gov.

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