

DOLLARS & SENSE A PROCUREMENT PERSPECTIVE

**FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA
JAN/MAR 01 BULLETIN NO. 01-02**

<http://www.bragg.army.mil/www-doc/Index.htm>

The new IBO-C web site is smartly designed to cut red tape. It is an indispensable resource for government users and contractors trying to navigate through muddy waters of the federal acquisition process. It's all here and easily found with the help of a search button or site tree that appears on every page. If you're a government employee needing IMPAC training, you can do it online. You can also find answers to a myriad of questions regarding the IMPAC card program, Acquiline, receiving reports or contracting in general. If you're a contractor, this is the spot garnering information on how to do business with Fort Bragg. You can get registered, view a list of active contracts, analyze recent simplified acquisitions, seek contracting opportunities, and print a list of purchase cardholders. This site also provides helpful links for further information. And if you have trouble finding answers, you can easily find a point of contact that will be glad to help you.

STREAMLINING CONTRACTING METHODS

Legislators have changed regulations making it easier for the IBO-C to meet its main objective of getting supplies and services as quickly as you need them. The following will provide some insight:

- Upon receiving a requirement for a specific service or supply, the Contract

Specialist performs market research to determine if the requirement is commercial in nature or if the service or supply requirement is something unique to the Government. If a commerciality determination is made, the Contracting Officer will utilize simplified procedures to the maximum extent practicable up to \$5,000,000 in order to process the acquisition as quickly as possible. You, as the technical experts, can help facilitate the process by letting us know if the items or services are customarily available in the commercial marketplace and include with your requirement any market survey information you have gathered.

HELP! DO I HAVE A CONSTRUCTION OR A SERVICE REQUIREMENT?

Sometimes our customers have difficulty determining whether they are purchasing a service requirement or a construction requirement. The Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) references different labor standards for each type of requirement, and there are also different IMPAC purchase limits for each one. The DoD FAR Supplement (DFARS) outlines specific guidance for contracting, and a brief explanation follows.

The law requires us to apply either the Davis Bacon Act (DBA) for construction above \$2,000, or the Service Contract Act (SCA) for services above \$2,500. The DBA applies to construction, alteration, renovation, painting and repairs such as roof shingling, building structural repair and paving repairs, while the SCA applies to services such as installation of carpet, equipment maintenance, installation of equipment and other post support requirements. There are often "gray areas" where the type of requirement is unclear. Some examples given in the DFARS include replacing broken windows, spot painting or

minor patching of a wall. In those cases, contracting applies the following guidance in deciding how to define the type of requirement:

- Individual service calls or orders which will require a total of 32 or more work hours to perform shall be considered a repair (construction) subject to the DBA. The IMPAC purchase limit is \$2,000.00.
- Individual service calls or orders, which will require less than 32 work hours to perform, shall be considered to be a maintenance (service) subject to the SCA. The IMPAC purchase limit is \$2,500.00.
- Painting work of 200 square feet or more to be performed under an individual service call or order shall be considered a construction subject to the DBA regardless of the total work hours required. This type of requirement must be submitted through the Public Works Business Center (PWBC) on DA Form 4283. Painting of internal or external areas less than 200 square feet may be done using the IMPAC provided that the \$2,000.00 limit is not exceeded, and that you adhere to the Fort Bragg color scheme policy. If you are not familiar with the policy, you may obtain a copy from PWBC before you proceed with the work.
- Per PWBC, carpet may be purchased and installed using the IMPAC without coordination with them. The IMPAC purchase limit for this is \$2,500.00.

If you need assistance in determining whether you have a construction or a service requirement, please contact Laverne Harrison of the PWBC Contracting Branch at 396-4479 or Cindy Soladay, IBO-C Purchasing at 396-4362, extension 282.

MOVING INTO THE MILLENNIUM

IMPAC training has just taken a giant leap forward with the implementation of computer based IMPAC training. Potential cardholders, approving officials, and alternate approving officials are now able to take IMPAC training at a time that works for their schedule, from home or office, even at night or on weekends just by visiting the Contracting Internet website at <http://www.bragg.army.mil/www-doc/Index.htm> Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on “NEW – IMPAC Training On-Line”. On the next screen click on “IMPAC Training On-Line.”

The training course offers visitors twelve modules of information, each module targeting a specific topic and providing end-of-module refresher questions. A variety of links and PowerPoint charts are interspersed throughout the modules in order to break up the narrative and provide other sites containing great IMPAC information. At the end of the modules, visitors will take an exam consisting of twenty true/false questions. Once taken, the computer will grade the exam and notify you of your score. If you pass the exam, you’ll be able to enter your name, which will then be printed, on a training certificate.

Upon successful completion of the IMPAC exam, a copy of the certificate and a completed set-up form for the position intended, e.g. cardholder, approving official or alternate approving official should be forwarded to the IMPAC team in the Installation Business Office-Contracting, Bldg. 1-1333, ATTN: AFZA-IBO-CS, Fort Bragg. A team member will process the set-up form and the new cardholder, approving official or alternate approving official will be notified.

Although this on-line training was created specifically for new cardholders, approving officials, and alternate approving officials it also provides great refresher training as well

as a reference aid for existing cardholders, approving officials, and alternate approving officials. It's also a great way for budget officials, commanders, or anyone else to learn more about the IMPAC program at Fort Bragg.

If you have any problems locating the IMPAC Training On-Line, you may need to "refresh" your computer screen. The last formal classroom IMPAC Training class will be conducted 22 Feb 01. For information in reference to the last formal training class, please call 396-4362, ext 270. If you have any questions or need further information please call your IMPAC Account Manager.

**THIS BULLETIN IS AUTHORIZED
BY:**

//SIGNED//

**WALTER H. WARFEL
Director of Contracting**