Chapter 200-300 WAC
OFFICE OF STATE PROCUREMENT

WAC
200-300-010 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to set forth rules and regulations applicable to the purchase or sale of goods and services by, through, or under authority delegated by, the office of state procurement.


200-300-015 Definitions. As used in this chapter the following terms shall have the following meanings; additional terms shall have meanings as outlined under WAC 236-49-010:

(a) Agency. Shall include state of Washington institutions, the offices of the elective state officers, the supreme court, the court of appeals, the administrative and other departments of state government, and the offices of all appointive officers of the state. "Agency" does not include the legislature but does include colleges, community colleges and universities who choose to participate in state contract(s).

(2) All or nothing award. A method of award resulting from a competitive solicitation by which the purchaser will award all items to a single bidder.

(3) Alternate. A substitute offer of goods and services which is not at least a functional equal in features, performance and use which materially deviates from one or more of the specifications in a competitive solicitation.

(4) Bid. A written offer to perform a contract to purchase or supply goods or services in response to an invitation for bid.

(5) Bidder. A supplier who submits a bid, quotation or proposal.

(6) Bidder's bond. As used in RCW 43.19.1915 shall mean either a bid guarantee or performance guarantee as addressed herein and as further outlined in WAC 236-48-035 through 236-48-036.

(7) Brand. A specification identifying a manufacturer of the goods described in a competitive solicitation to identify a standard of quality against which other products will be evaluated.

(8) Confidential information. Any information meeting the criteria in RCW 42.17.310 or any information designated as confidential pursuant to state law.

(9) Contractor. Individual, company, corporation, firm, or combination thereof with whom purchaser develops a contract for the procurement of goods and services.

(10) Delegated authority. Authority to purchase goods and/or services delegated to an agency by office of state procurement pursuant to RCW 43.19.190(4) and which is delegated in one of the following forms:

(a) General. Those purchases delegated by the office of state procurement which are common to multiple state agencies.

(b) Specific. Those purchases delegated to specific agencies for continuing individual commodity requirements.

(c) Limited. Those purchases delegated to a specific agency for one-time commodity requirements.

(11) Direct buy limit. Dollar amount pursuant to RCW 43.19.1906(2) below which competition is not required.

(12) Director. Except where otherwise specifically noted shall mean the state purchasing and material control director, who is the assistant director, office of state procurement.

(13) Emergency purchase. A purchase made pursuant to RCW 43.19.200 in which the normal competitive purchasing procedures have been waived by a declaration of emergency issued by the agency director as defined in RCW 43.19.200.

(14) Equal. An offer of goods and/or services which meets or exceeds the quality, performance and use of the specifications identified in a competitive solicitation.

(15) Fair market price. The price determined by the purchasing activity to be consistent with current market value
for the goods or services being purchased from community rehabilitation programs and eligible programs of the department of social and health services which has been determined pursuant to RCW 43.19.530.

(16) **Formal sealed bid procedure.** Procedure by which the purchasing activity solicits written competitive bids or proposals from a sufficient number of prospective bidders thought to be of advantage to the state to assure adequate price and product competition by means of a written invitation for bid (IFB) or request for proposal (RFP) or other solicitation method setting forth specifications and all material and objectively measurable criteria for the intended purchase. Unless exception(s) are authorized in the solicitation document for electronic bid procedures, all bids are to be submitted in sealed envelopes to the location indicated in the bid documents and must be received by the time indicated therein. No disclosure of bids or bid information is made prior to the public bid opening. After the bid opening, all bid information shall be referred to the purchasing activity and treated as confidential working papers until after award at which time all bids become public information. The award is to be made in accordance with RCW 43.19.1911.

(17) **Goods and/or services.** Material, supplies, services, and equipment offered for sale by a supplier(s) and required by an agency to accomplish continuing and necessary functions and not otherwise statutorily exempted from chapter 43.19 RCW.

(18) **Informality.** An immaterial variation from the exact requirements of the competitive solicitation, having no effect or merely a minor or negligible effect on quality, quantity, or delivery of the supplies or performance of the services being procured, and the correction or waiver of which would not affect the relative standing of, or be otherwise prejudicial to bidders.

(19) **Invitation for bid.** The form utilized to solicit bids in the formal, sealed bid procedure and any amendments thereto issued in writing by the purchasing activity. Factors impacting cost and conditions of responsiveness and responsibility are normally evaluated. Noncost factors may be evaluated and all factors may be weighted if considered appropriate.

(20) **Office of state procurement.** The division of purchasing of the department of general administration in RCW 43.19.180 et seq. Whenever a purchase or sale is made by the office of state procurement on behalf of another agency, the office of state procurement is acting in the capacity of agent for such agency.

(21) **Prompt payment discount.** A discount offered by the bidder to encourage timely payment by purchaser within the stated term identified by bidder.

(22) **Proposal.** An offer to perform a contract to supply goods or services in response to a request for proposal.

(23) **Public agency.** Shall include all agencies outlined under RCW 39.34.020.

(24) **Purchase.** Shall include purchase, lease, renting or lease-purchase of goods and services.

(25) **Purchasing activity.** The office of state procurement or an agency authorized by state statute to conduct acquisition of goods and services or delegated that authority by the office of state procurement.

(26) **Quotation.** An offer to perform a contract to supply goods and/or services in response to a request for quotation.

(27) **Recovered material.** Goods containing recovered materials as defined in RCW 43.19.537 et seq. and federal, regional, or state guidelines approved by the director.

(28) **Request for quotation.** The form used to solicit written quotations in accordance with RCW 43.19.1906(2). The request and the quote in response may be either written or oral as specified by the purchasing activity. Factors impacting cost and conditions of responsiveness and responsibility are normally evaluated. Noncost factors may be evaluated and all factors may be weighted if considered appropriate.

(29) **Request for proposal.** The form utilized to solicit written proposals from potential suppliers. Both cost and noncost factors are evaluated in addition to conditions of responsiveness and responsibility to achieve best value. A weighted point assignment method of evaluation may be used if considered appropriate.

(30) **Requisition.** A standard state form which serves as a procurement request and which requests the office of state procurement to purchase stated requirements.

(31) **Sealed bid limit.** That dollar amount established by RCW 43.19.1906(2) or subsequently amended by the office of financial management due to inflationary trends above which the formal sealed bid procedure will be used.

(32) **Single source purchase.** A purchase of goods or services which is clearly and legitimately limited to a single source of supply.

(33) **Solicitation.** The process of notifying prospective bidders or offerors that the purchasing activity desires to receive competitive bids, quotes or proposals for furnishing goods or services. Also includes reference to the actual document used in that process.

(34) **Specifications.** The explicit requirements furnished with a competitive solicitation upon which a purchase order or contract is to be based. Specifications set forth the characteristics of the goods and/or services to be purchased or sold so as to enable the bidder or supplier to determine and understand requirements of the purchaser. Specifications may be in the form of a description of the physical or performance characteristics, a reference brand or both. It may include a description of any requirement for inspecting, testing, or preparing a material, equipment, supplies, or service for delivery.

(35) **State contract.** Contracts for goods and/or services administered by the office of state procurement on behalf of agencies which normally include quantity and fixed term. The contract document will identify the conditions under which usage by agencies is required.

(36) **State procurement officer.** An employee of the office of state procurement designated as a state procurement officer, contract administrator, or similar designation by the director, including, where appropriate, the director and other management personnel.

(37) **Supplier.** A vendor of purchased goods and services.

(38) **Supplier list.** List of potential bidders maintained by the office of state procurement or purchasing activity from which names may be drawn for solicitation of bids, quotes or proposals.
WAC 200-300-020 Public notice. A listing or copy of all purchases being made through formal sealed bid by or through the office of state procurement shall be posted in the foyer of the office of state procurement and/or posted via internet web site or made available via other electronic means. Purchases made by agencies shall be posted or otherwise publicized by that purchasing activity in accordance with policy established by that agency.

WAC 200-300-025 Receipt of bids, quotes or proposals. The date and time selected for opening of bids, quotes or proposals shall be determined by the purchasing activity. Bidders shall be provided sufficient time to prepare and submit their bid, quote or proposal. The purchasing activity shall have the discretion to lengthen or shorten bid, quote or proposal dates, should special circumstances or needs dictate a shorter or longer time frame. When extending or shortening the time allowed to submit a bid, quote, or proposal, the purchasing activity shall issue an addendum notifying bidders of the revised opening/due date. If it is determined that this information will not reach bidders in time to respond, the purchasing activity shall attempt to notify each prospective bidder by telephone or other available means of communication. All bids must be received in the office of the purchasing activity by the date and time specified in the document or addenda. No deviations will be allowed. Late bids or proposals will be returned unopened unless retention is deemed by the purchasing activity to be in the best interests of the agency. Late bids or proposals may be opened only by authorized personnel for identification purposes. Quotations must be received by close of the normal business day on the date indicated. Late quotations will not be considered or returned to bidders. Time of receipt will be determined by the official time stamp located at the purchasing activity or in the case of electronic bids, time of receipt shall be as identified in the solicitation document issued by the purchasing activity.

WAC 200-300-030 Amendment of invitation for bid, request for quotation or request for proposal. An invitation for bid, request for quotation or request for proposal may be changed or amended by the purchasing activity, provided the change is issued prior to the opening date and time specified. Any material information provided a prospective bidder shall be furnished by the purchasing activity to all bidders receiving a copy of the original solicitation. Oral interpretations of contract terms and conditions shall not be binding.

WAC 200-300-035 Supplier lists. Supplier lists may be maintained by the office of state procurement. Opportunities for doing business with the office of state procurement include:

1. Register on supplier list; or
2. Review web site maintained by the office of state procurement; or
3. Contact office of state procurement staff for information about current opportunities.

WAC 200-300-040 Removal or suspension. The director, or designee, may remove or suspend a supplier from any supplier list(s) maintained by the office of state procurement for cause. Impacted state agencies will be notified of such action(s). Agencies may continue to do business with such supplier if they choose to do so or they may sever that relationship at their discretion. Examples of reasons for removal or suspension include but are not limited to the following:

1. Illegal act(s);
2. Repetitive failure to respond to invitations to bid;
3. Unreasonable number of "no bid" responses;
4. Any material failure to perform, e.g., delivery, quality;
5. Any significant detrimental change in supplier status, e.g., financial condition, lines carried, service ability;
6. Unauthorized product substitution, or representation of an alternate as an equal; or
7. Discriminatory practices.

Any supplier so removed or suspended shall be notified in writing of the reason(s) therefore, the conditions of any removal or suspension, and/or corrective action required for reinstatement.

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WAC 200-300-045 Appeal, reapplication or reinstatement. Any supplier removed from a supplier list maintained by the office of state procurement or who is not placed upon such list after request, may appeal the decision to the director or designee. If such an appeal is made, it must be submitted in writing within ten days of notification of the action taken.

If a supplier’s application to be placed on a supplier list has been refused, or if a supplier has been removed or suspended from such list, that supplier may reapply to be placed on such list, or apply for reinstatement when the conditions for reinstatement have been met.


WAC 200-300-050 Bid guarantee. When required in the competitive solicitation, all bidders shall provide with their bid a bid guarantee unilaterally payable to the purchasing activity. The amount of the bid guarantee shall be identified in the competitive solicitation document in dollars and shall be sufficient to cover damages to the purchasing activity in the event that bidder fails to accept a contract award with the purchasing activity. Failure of bidder to accept an award will result in forfeiture of the bid guarantee and such funds made payable to the Washington state treasury as liquidated damages.

Bid guarantees may be in the form of a certified check, cashier’s check, escrow agreement, or irrevocable letter of credit drawn on a separate account in a banking or savings and loan institution regulated by the state of Washington or federal government, cash or a surety bond with a surety company. Surety bonds or escrow agreements are not acceptable. Failure to submit a bid guarantee in the specified form will be a cause for rejection. Bid guarantees shall be returned to bidders after award of contract. Interest will not be paid on funds deposited directly with the state.


WAC 200-300-055 Performance guarantees. When required in the competitive solicitation, the successful bidder shall post a performance guarantee unilaterally payable to the purchasing activity. The amount of the performance guarantee shall be identified in the competitive solicitation in dollars and/or a percentage of contract worth sufficient to redress damages to the purchasing activity in the event of breach by the contractor(s). The required performance guarantee shall be in the form of a certified check, cashier’s check, escrow agreement, irrevocable letter of credit drawn on a separate account in a banking or savings and loan institution regulated by the state or federal government, cash, or surety bond with a surety company. Surety bonds or escrow agreements must be on a form approved by the purchasing activity. Personal or company checks are not acceptable. The performance guarantee shall be held by the purchasing activity or deposited to the purchasing activity’s account until contract terms have been fully executed to the satisfaction of the state. Interest will not be paid on funds deposited directly with the purchasing activity. Failure to submit a performance guarantee as required shall be grounds for contract termination.


WAC 200-300-060 Form of bid, quote or proposal. To receive consideration, bids, quotes, and proposals must be legible and shall be made on the form provided by the purchasing activity, or on a letter containing the information. If a letter is used it must meet the satisfaction of the purchasing activity, be properly headed and signed, properly marked on the outside of the envelope, received by the date and time specified, and accompanied by a signed and completed solicitation form provided by the purchasing activity. Unless otherwise authorized, bids, quotes and proposals must be filled out in ink or with electronic printer or other similar office equipment and properly signed by an authorized representative of the bidder. All changes and/or erasures shall be initialed in ink. Unsigned bids will be rejected on opening. However, the purchasing activity may accept such bids if it is determined that satisfactory evidence was submitted prior to opening date and time which clearly indicates the bidder’s desire to be bound by his/her bid such as a signed cover letter.

In lieu of the requirement for an original signature as outlined above, the purchasing activity may implement a policy which authorizes the use of digital signature(s) or electronic submission of bid, quote or proposals provided that such policy provides adequate safeguards to ensure the integrity of the sealed bid process.


WAC 200-300-065 Standard specifications. Specifications contained in the competitive solicitation will, to the maximum extent feasible, be nonrestrictive so as to provide an equal basis for competition and participation by an optimum number of qualified bidders. The purchasing activity may specify a brand name or equal provided that the intent in doing so is to establish a standard of quality against which other brands will be evaluated. When doing so, the purchasing activity should not substitute the word "equivalent" for "equal" in the competitive solicitation document. All bids, quotes or proposals which offer a different trade name, make, or catalog number must state whether the item offered is an equal or an alternate, and literature which describes the item offered must be provided. The final decision as to whether an item is an equal or an alternate shall rest with the purchasing

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activity. In the event of discrepancies in specifications, or doubts as to meaning, the bidder shall immediately request clarification from the purchasing activity. To facilitate consistent responses and to ensure all bidders receive the same information, all such questions shall be directed only to that person directly assigned by the purchasing activity or otherwise identified in the bid, quote or proposal document.


WAC 200-300-070 Acceptance of alternate bid, quote or proposal. The purchasing activity need not accept alternate bids, quotes or proposals but shall have the discretion to do so if it substantially conforms to the bid specifications. Unless their bid, quotation or proposal is clearly identified as an alternate, bidders warrant the goods and/or services offered to be at least equal to specifications indicated by purchaser and shall submit with their bid, quotation or proposal complete documentation to enable the purchasing activity to evaluate. Bids, quotations or proposals without sufficient documentation may be rejected. If a bidder misrepresents goods and/or services bid as being an equal when it is an alternate, their bid, quotation or proposal may be rejected and bidder will be liable for damages caused by the misrepresentation.

Where required by the purchasing activity, the bidder shall, at bidder’s expense, provide product samples and/or descriptive literature with returned bid, quote or proposal. If not received within the required time period or as otherwise required, the purchasing activity may reject the bid, quote or proposal as nonresponsive. If not destroyed in testing or if sample is not required by the purchasing activity to be retained for demonstration purposes, bidders may request return of samples at their expense. Samples not claimed not within ten days after notification may be disposed of and not be less than specified in the most current adopted issue of legislation will not be included on the list. The office of the purchasing activity shall have the discretion to award on an “all or nothing” basis as outlined in the competitive solicitation document or to accept any portion of the items bid, excluding others unless the bidder stipulates all or nothing in their bid.


WAC 200-300-080 Partial award. The purchasing activity shall have the discretion to award on an “all or nothing” basis as outlined in the competitive solicitation document or to accept any portion of the items bid, excluding others unless the bidder stipulates all or nothing in their bid.


WAC 200-300-085 Bid award preference. In conducting purchases of goods and/or services, preference shall be given to the extent allowed by statute:

(1) Under RCW 43.19.534, to those goods and services produced in whole or in part by Class II inmate programs operated by the department of corrections as described in WAC 236-49-055.

(2) To goods containing recovered material as outlined under RCW 43.19.538 provided that the purchasing activity sets forth in the competitive solicitation a minimum percent content of recovered material that must be certified by the producer of the goods to qualify for the preference. Bids for goods so certified shall be given a preference of ten percent of the amount of the bid in determining the lowest responsive bid for any item or grouping of items to be awarded to a single bidder. This preference shall be separate from and applied after any other preferences allowed by statute. The minimum content of recovered material shall be not less than fifteen percent provided that for those goods for which the Environmental Protection Agency has adopted procurement guidelines under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-580, 42 U.S.C. §6901 et seq.), as amended, the minimum content of recovered material shall not be less than specified in the most current adopted issue of those guidelines. The producer of the goods shall certify the post consumer and recovered or waste material content at the time of submitting bid. To qualify for the preference, the

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goods shall otherwise be at least functionally equal to all other specifications and use requirements. The preference shall be used for bid evaluation purposes only and the actual dollars bid shall be the contracted amount. In the event of a tie for lowest responsive bid between products otherwise meeting all bid specifications, the purchasing activity shall consider the larger post consumer material content as a factor in determining the award. Should the purchasing activity determine that the use of this preference does not encourage the use of more recovered material for reasons including inadequate competition, economics, environmental constraints, quality or availability, the purchasing activity shall issue, consider and award bids without the preference. For the purpose of meeting Resource Conservation and Recovery Act requirements for state agency purchase of goods complying with Environmental Protection Agency recovered or waste guidelines, the office of state procurement may adopt specifications requiring that only goods meeting these guidelines are responsive and may consider bids for such goods though the cost exceeds ten percent of goods not meeting such guidelines.


WAC 200-300-090 Rejection. No rejection notice will be sent to unsuccessful bidders whose net pricing (or scoring) after evaluation is higher than awarded. Bidders whose bids are nonresponsive will be rejected and will be notified of the reasons for such rejection.


WAC 200-300-095 Acceptance of terms. Acceptance of bids, quotes, or proposals shall be expressly limited to the terms and conditions of the solicitation document issued by the purchasing activity. All material alterations, additional or different terms proposed by the bidder shall be rejected unless otherwise provided for in the solicitation document issued by the purchasing activity.


WAC 200-300-100 Handling of bids and proposals if publicly opened. The purchasing activity's official bid super-

visor shall decide when the time set for bid opening has arrived and shall so declare to those present. The bid supervisor shall then personally and publicly open all bids and read pertinent information as determined by the purchasing activity for recording. The solicitation form may not be completed, signed, or amended by bidders after official opening time. The bid supervisor will, on request, read the documents in detail provided that sufficient time is available. All bids become the property of the purchasing activity when received and must remain under the control of the bid supervisor or staff.


WAC 200-300-105 Mistakes in bid(s) or proposals detected prior to opening. Mistakes in bids or proposals detected prior to opening may be corrected by the bidder by withdrawing the original bid or proposal and submitting a corrected bid or proposal to the purchasing activity before the time specified for opening. If there is not sufficient time prior to the time specified for opening to withdraw the original bid or proposal and submit a corrected bid or proposal, the bidder, or an authorized representative, may correct the mistake on the face of the original bid or proposal: Provided, That the corrected bid or proposal is time stamped by the purchasing activity upon resubmission prior to the time designated for opening.


WAC 200-300-110 Mistakes in bid(s) or proposals detected during or after bid opening. Bidder mistakes in a bid or proposal detected during or after bid opening may not be corrected. If the bidder submits evidence in writing satisfactory to the purchasing activity that a mistake has been made by the bidder in the calculation of its bid or proposal, the purchasing activity may allow the bid or proposal to be withdrawn: Provided, That the claim of mistake and the evidence in support thereof must be made and provided within three business days after the bid or proposal has been opened. Compliance with this section within the specified time limit, shall relieve the bidder of forfeiture of its bid guarantee. If the purchasing activity subsequently reissues the solicitation, the bidder having made the mistake may not participate in that bid or proposal.


WAC 200-300-115 Disclosure of information. After bids, quotes or proposals have been received, all such infor-
mation becomes the property of the purchasing activity and shall not be released or otherwise distributed until after the evaluation has been completed and final award(s) announced. Evaluation team members shall maintain confidentiality of information to ensure the integrity of the process. After award and distribution of award information or posting of such information electronically for public review, the bids, quotes, and proposals of all bidders shall be open to public inspection at the offices of the purchasing activity during normal office hours. Copies of documents subject to public disclosure will be made available upon request in accordance with purchasing activity policy. The purchasing activity assumes no responsibility for the confidentiality of bids, quotes or proposals after award.

Any document(s) or information which the bidder believes is exempt from public disclosure per RCW 42.17.-310 shall be clearly identified by bidder and placed in a separate envelope marked with bid number, bidder's name, and the words "proprietary data" along with a statement of the basis for such claim of exemption. The state's sole responsibility shall be limited to maintaining the above data in a secure area and to notify bidder of any request(s) for disclosure within a period of five years from date of award. Failure to so label such materials or failure to provide a timely response after notice of request for public disclosure has been given shall be deemed a waiver by the bidder of any claim that such materials are, in fact, so exempt.


**WAC 200-300-120 Informalities in bids, quotes, or proposals.** The purchasing activity reserves the right to waive informalities in bids, quotes or proposals.


**WAC 200-300-125 Notice of cancellation or rejection of bids.** In the event of a cancellation of a competitive solicitation or if all bids are rejected, all bidders will be notified by mail, facsimile or electronic means by the purchasing activity.


**WAC 200-300-130 Protests and appeals—Form and substance.** Purchasing activities shall make available to bidders upon request a copy of their policy which outlines how the protest review process will be administered within their agency. All protests and appeals must be in writing, signed by the protestant or appellant or an authorized agent and delivered within the time frame(s) outlined by the protest policy. Protests must be addressed to that individual within the purchasing activity assigned review responsibilities. Such writing must state all facts and arguments on which the protestant or appellant is relying as the basis for its action. Such protestant or appellant shall also attach, or supply on demand by the purchasing activity, any relevant exhibits related, or referred to in the protest. Copies of all protests, appeals, and exhibits shall be mailed, faxed or delivered by the protestant or appellant to the bidder or bidders against whom the protest is made at the same time such protest, appeal, and exhibits are submitted to the purchasing activity.


**WAC 200-300-135 Office of state procurement protest procedure prior to award.** Prior to award, a bidder desiring to protest the bid of another bidder, the specifications or the manner in which the solicitation process has been conducted must notify the state procurement officer in charge of the solicitation of his/her intent to file a protest as soon as possible after he/she becomes aware of the reason(s) for the protest. Such protest(s) must be received not later than five business days after notification has been given to the state procurement officer of bidder's intent to protest. Should the protest not be received within that time frame, the state procurement officer may proceed with the award.

The state procurement officer shall consider all of the facts available and issue a decision in writing within ten business days after receipt of the protest, unless more time is needed. The protestant and, where applicable, the bidder(s) against whom the protest is made will be notified if additional time is necessary. If the protesting bidder or the bidder against whom the protest is made is not satisfied with the decision of the state procurement officer, he/she shall have the right to appeal to the director, office of state procurement. Such appeal must be received by the director within five business days after notification of the state procurement officer's decision. The director shall consider all of the facts available and issue a decision in writing within ten business days after receipt of the appeal, unless more time is needed. The appealing bidder will be notified if additional time is necessary.

Unless an emergency exists as determined by the director, award of the contract, if one is to be made, will be postponed until after the director has issued a decision. Unless the director subsequently considers it necessary to pursue further clarification(s), the decision of the director on the protest is final.
WAC 200-300-140 Office of state procurement protest procedure after award. Protests after award will not be considered unless the protest concerns a matter which arises after the award or could not reasonably have been known or discovered prior to award. Such protests shall be received by the director, office of state procurement not later than five business days after distribution of the award information by the office of state procurement. If the protest is mailed the protestant shall immediately notify by telephone, or some other means of instant communication, the state procurement officer in charge of the bid and the bidder that has received the award that a protest is being made. The director shall consider all of the facts available and issue a decision on the protest within ten business days after receipt thereof, unless more time is needed. In such event, the protestant and the bidder that has received the award shall be notified of any delay. If the director upholds the award, the decision of the director is final, unless the director subsequently considers it necessary to pursue further clarifications.

If the director finds that the award should not have been made he/she shall notify the bidder which received the award of his/her intent to cancel the award and the reasons therefore. The bidder that has received the award shall then have five business days after receipt of notification in which to appeal the decision to cancel the award to the director of general administration. The director of general administration shall consider all of the facts available and issue a decision within ten business days after receipt of the appeal, unless more time is needed. If more time is needed, the appellant and the protestant shall be so notified.

If the director of general administration agrees that the award should be canceled he/she shall order the director of the office of state procurement to cancel the award. Unless the director of general administration subsequently considers it necessary to pursue further clarifications, the decision of the director of general administration shall be final.

If an award is cancelled, the director, office of state procurement, after consideration of all pertinent factors, may decide to reject all bids, quotes or proposals and solicit new bids, quotes or proposals. Barring such a decision, an award shall be made to the next lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

WAC 200-300-150 Delivery date. Whenever a specific delivery date has been stipulated by the purchasing activity in a solicitation document, that date shall be an essential condition of any contract subsequently entered into by the parties. If a contractor is unable to meet the delivery date, he/she shall notify the purchasing activity at the earliest possible time. The contractor shall include in such notification the proposed revised delivery date. The purchaser shall then have the option to accept such revised dates, or cancel and purchase elsewhere. The purchasing activity shall have the option of pursuing liquidated damage provisions or other legal remedies outlined in the solicitation document, statute or regulation.

WAC 200-300-155 Change in product offered. After award, a contractor shall not be allowed to substitute goods or services from that offered: Provided, however, If the goods or services offered are no longer available to the contractor for reasons beyond its control or if the short term needs of an agency are more fully met by the proposed substitute goods or services, the purchasing activity may consider a request by the bidder or contractor for substitution. All such requests must be in writing, must set forth the reasons the product or service is no longer available, and/or must be accompanied by samples, record of performance, certified copies of tests by impartial and recognized laboratories, or such additional data as the purchaser may request. Samples and data shall be furnished sufficiently in advance to allow for investigation before a decision is made. The bidder or contractor shall warrant that the substitute article is equal or better than the specified article. If the change results in any cost savings to the bidder or contractor, the cost savings shall be reflected in full in a reduction in price to the purchasing activity. State contracts may only be amended by the office of state procurement.

WAC 200-300-160 Contract extension. If contract provisions allow, a contractor and the purchasing activity may mutually agree to extend a contract for predetermined periods pursuant to the terms and conditions included in the original contract.

Justification for extension must be fully documented in the contract file. The decision to pursue a contract extension shall include a review of price competitiveness, changes in the marketplace for such commodity or service, and/or other relevant factors. The contractor shall be notified in writing of the purchasing activities desire to pursue a contract extension prior to the expiration date of the contract. Extensions, to be
effective, must be in writing and signed by authorized representatives of both the contractor and purchasing activity.


**WAC 200-300-165 Additions or deletions to contract or purchase order.** Where consistent with statutory and contract provisions, the office of state procurement may increase or decrease the items, quantities, delivery locations or agencies specified in a state contract or purchase order. Contract provisions shall specify the extent to which this option may be exercised. Where consistent with statute and contract provisions, purchasing activities may do likewise for purchases which they administer.


**WAC 200-300-170 Leases.** For goods to be leased with an option to purchase or lease-purchased, agencies are responsible for coordinating the finance agreement where applicable with the office of state treasurer prior to the purchasing activity conducting the purchase.


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