

6.304 Approval of the justification.

(a) Except for paragraph (b) of this section, the justification for other than *full and open competition* shall be approved *in writing*—

(1) For a proposed contract not exceeding \$900,000, the *contracting officer's* certification required by [6.303-2\(b\)\(12\)](#) will serve as approval unless a higher approving level is established in agency procedures.

(2) For a proposed contract over \$900,000 but not exceeding \$20 million, by the advocate for competition for the *procuring activity* designated pursuant to [6.501](#) or an official described in paragraph (a)(3) or (4) of this section. This authority is not delegable.

(3) For a proposed contract over \$20 million, but not exceeding \$90 million, or, for DoD, NASA, and the Coast Guard, not exceeding \$150 million, by the head of the *procuring activity*, or a designee who—

(i) If a member of the armed forces, is a general or flag officer; or

(ii) If a civilian, is serving in a position in a grade above GS-15 under the General Schedule (or in a comparable or higher position under another schedule).

(4) For a proposed contract over \$90 million or, for DoD, NASA, and the Coast Guard, over \$150 million, by the *senior procurement executive* of the agency designated pursuant to [41 U.S.C. 1702\(c\)](#) in accordance with agency procedures. This authority is not delegable except in the case of the Under Secretary of Defense for *Acquisition* and Sustainment, acting as the *senior procurement executive* for the Department of Defense.

(b) Any justification for a contract awarded under the authority of [6.302-7](#), regardless of dollar amount, *shall* be considered approved when the determination required by [6.302-7\(c\)\(1\)](#) is made.

(c) A class justification for other than *full and open competition* shall be approved *in writing* in accordance with agency procedures. The approval level *shall* be determined by the estimated total value of the class.

(d) The estimated dollar value of all *options* shall be included in determining the approval level of a justification.

Parent topic: [Subpart 6.3 - Other Than Full and Open Competition](#)