

## 15.506 Postaward debriefing of offerors.

- (a)
- (1) An *offeror*, upon its written request received by the agency within 3 days after the date on which that *offeror* has received notification of contract award in accordance with [15.503\(b\)](#), *shall* be debriefed and furnished the basis for the selection decision and contract award.
- (2) To the maximum extent practicable, the debriefing *should* occur within 5 days after receipt of the written request. *Offerors* that requested a postaward debriefing in lieu of a preaward debriefing, or whose debriefing was delayed for compelling reasons beyond contract award, also *should* be debriefed within this time period.
- (3) An *offeror* that was notified of exclusion from the competition (see [15.505\(a\)](#)), but failed to submit a timely request, is not entitled to a debriefing.
- (4)
- (i) Untimely debriefing requests *may* be accommodated.
- (ii) Government accommodation of a request for delayed debriefing pursuant to [15.505\(a\)\(2\)](#), or any untimely debriefing request, does not automatically extend the deadlines for filing protests. Debriefings delayed pursuant to [15.505\(a\)\(2\)](#) could affect the timeliness of any protest filed subsequent to the debriefing.
- (b) Debriefings of successful and unsuccessful *offerors* *may* be done orally, *in writing*, or by any other method acceptable to the *contracting officer*.
- (c) The *contracting officer* *should* normally chair any debriefing session held. Individuals who conducted the evaluations *shall* provide support.
- (d) At a minimum, the debriefing information *shall* include-
- (1) The Government's evaluation of the significant *weaknesses* or *deficiencies* in the *offeror's* proposal, if applicable;
- (2) The overall evaluated cost or price (including unit prices) and technical rating, if applicable, of the successful *offeror* and the debriefed *offeror*, and *past performance* information on the debriefed *offeror*;
- (3) The overall ranking of all *offerors*, when any ranking was developed by the agency during the source selection;
- (4) A summary of the rationale for award;
- (5) For *acquisitions of commercial products*, the make and model of the product to be delivered by the successful *offeror*; and
- (6) Reasonable responses to relevant questions about whether source selection procedures contained in the *solicitation*, applicable regulations, and other applicable authorities were followed.

(e) The debriefing *shall* not include point-by-point comparisons of the debriefed *offeror's* proposal with those of other *offerors*. Moreover, the debriefing *shall* not reveal any information prohibited from disclosure by 24.202 or exempt from release under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C.552) including-

(1) Trade secrets;

(2) Privileged or confidential manufacturing processes and techniques;

(3) Commercial and financial information that is privileged or confidential, including cost breakdowns, profit, *indirect cost rates*, and similar information; and

(4) The names of individuals providing reference information about an *offeror's past performance*.

(f) An official summary of the debriefing *shall* be included in the contract file.

**Parent topic:** Subpart 15.5 - Preaward, Award, and Postaward Notifications, Protests, and Mistakes