

## 38.101 General.

(a) The Federal Supply Schedule program, pursuant to [41 U.S.C. 152\(3\)](#), provides *Federal agencies* with a simplified process of acquiring commercial *supplies* and *commercial services* in varying quantities while obtaining volume discounts. Indefinite-delivery contracts are awarded using competitive procedures to firms. The firms provide *supplies* and services at stated prices for given periods of time, for delivery within a stated geographic area such as the 48 contiguous states, the District of Columbia, Alaska, Hawaii, and overseas. The schedule *contracting office* issues Federal Supply Schedule publications that contain a general overview of the Federal Supply Schedule (FSS) program and address pertinent topics.

(b) Each schedule identifies agencies that are required to use the contracts as primary sources of supply.

(c) *Federal agencies* not identified in the schedules as mandatory users *may* issue orders under the schedules. Contractors are encouraged to accept the orders.

(d) Although GSA awards most Federal Supply Schedule contracts, it *may* authorize other agencies to award schedule contracts and publish schedules. For example, the Department of Veterans Affairs awards schedule contracts for certain medical and nonperishable subsistence items.

(e) When establishing Federal Supply Schedules, GSA, or an agency delegated that authority, is responsible for complying with all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements (*e.g.*, [parts 5](#), [6](#), and [19](#)). The requirements of [parts 5](#), [6](#), and [19](#) apply at the *acquisition planning* stage prior to issuing the schedule *solicitation* and, generally, do not apply to orders and BPAs placed under resulting schedule contracts (except see [8.404](#) and [8.405-5](#)).

**Parent topic:** [Subpart 38.1 - Federal Supply Schedule Program](#)