# IAC MAC Pool 2 Post-Award Orientation Q&A
## 08 Mar 2019

**Q) Do you plan to release an updated Preferred Use Memos on an annual basis? This will assist primes in marketing. Do you plan to receive an updated memo in 2019?**

A: The preferred use memo is distributed by The Office of the Secretary of Defense on a non-scheduled basis. You can pull a copy of the memo from the DODIAC website. If we receive an updated memo, we will send it out to you all and upload to our website. At this time, it is not our intent to seek a new one annually. No, we don't plan to update it in 2019.

**Q) To facilitate opportunities for teaming on Pool 1 TATs, recommend adding Pool 2 small businesses to the distro for Pool 1 APM**

A: We consciously made a decision to segregate pools but we'll take this under advisement.

**Q) Is the 1% fee assessed against task order ceiling value or funded amount?**

A: The 1% is assessed on each incremental funding that comes in. For example, let's say we have a $30M Task Order; if the Requesting Authority sends in $1M of incremental funding, the 1% would be applied to the $1M.

**Q) Can pool 2 awardees bid on pool 1 task orders?**

A: No. The RFP specifically spelled out the distinguishing dollar amount set-aside and your contract spells out that you will have a fair opportunity on all Task Orders estimated to be at or below $15M for the areas you received an award in.

**Q) Generally, what level of authority within the Requiring Activity (RA) is required to sign off to authorize/initiate an IAC FOPR?**

A: The release of the FOPR is when both AFICA/KD and the Requiring Activity have OK'd the PWS and have concurred on the SASS (for TOs at or below $25M) or Acquisition Strategy Plan (ASP) for TOs above $25M timeline. The primary driver for the release of the FOPR is the IAA (interagency agreement) between agencies. Just like we have a contract with you, we must have a contract in place with the Requiring Activity. The IAA basically states there is a commitment of funding and by regulation we have to have funding or a commitment that there is going to be funding before the FOPR can be released. The IAA (a DD1144 or 7600A) must be signed by the RA, RA's comptroller, DTIC comptroller and DOD IAC Deputy Director or Director. The signature process can be a sticking point in the process because the RA who has the authority to initiate the work has to sign. Depending on the RA, this could be a SES or Star level individual. Each RA has their own internal approval path for executing signatures of IAA's.

**Q) Is there a process to add new subcontractors to our team?**

A: Teaming is unrestricted. You can team with anybody that is on the System of Award Management Registration website. Please refer to the Subcontract Consent on the slides we presented and on the IAC website concerning the process. Additionally please read clause 52.244-2 in your contract.

**Q) Can additional funding be added to a Task Order after award?**

A:  Yes.  If you mean can we incrementally fund, then yes.  All of our task orders are incrementally funded.

**Q)  Is the cost model spreadsheet available today?**

A:  Yes.  Stan will send an empty template to the Pool.  The cost model spreadsheet we have is one that has been generated for AFICA purposes, however, it has been structured with the intent to capture most organizations cost models.  It can be changed, if you have different indirect rates.  It is our cost model and it has been effective.

**Q)  Is the press release requirements applicable at the IDIQ level or just at TO level?**

A:  The answer is both.  We implemented the template because there was confusion about what the IAC's are.  Often times, press releases would have no information about the IAC's indicated.  The press release requirements were created to provide a consistent framework for press releases while also having a section about the IAC's themselves.  Since you are working as an agent of the government, we have the control in this area.  The Press Release has to be reviewed by multiple government POC's and the DODIAC's PMO office.

**Q)  Do you anticipate meeting the 7.38 months (requirement to award) median timeline initially? Is there a backlog of requirements to work off that may add delays?**

A:  Yes, we expect to meet that median timeline.  There is not a back log of requirements in this pool.   You can reference the APM for the real requirements that are being worked.   Now, we do have other requirements that are not solid enough to be on the APM and that fall off for one reason or another.  They are not part of this 7.38 median timeline.   We have some task orders we have started and awarded in as short as four months.   We have had some task orders that have taken 14 months or longer.  We follow our 8 step process every time and because we do, we are able to meet this 7.38 median timeline.

**Q)  Is there a certain minimum funding amount required to constitute a RA commitment?**

A:   The RA commitment really comes from the execution of the IAA (DD1144 or 7600) previously mentioned.  This is the funding commitment.  Now, for us to actually make an award, we need actual money transferred.  We generally like to see 10% of total ceiling value at award.  We have accepted less and issued the award but we have also pushed off the award for less.  It's case by case depending on the circumstances of the task order and what is being funded initially.

**Q)  Are multiple tiers of subs permitted?**

A:  Yes, but usually we only have first tier subcontractors.   Additionally, if you are using subcontractors for similarly situated subcontractors to meet the 50% of the cost of personnel expenses they must be first tier subcontractors.

**Q)  Will the slides be available?**

A:  Yes. We will have them on the website later today. The URL is:  https://dodiac.dtic.mil/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/DoD-IAC-Post-Award-Orientation_POOL-2_20190308.pdf

**Q)  Can you reiterate if the predecessor vehicles are now limited to current work or are those vehicles still accepting new TATs this FY?**

A: We are still issuing awards on those contracts but we are no longer developing new requirements. All awards with pending predecessor contracts were started before the IAC MAC was awarded.

**Q) As contract values inflate with world cost, will there be opportunity for the $15M ceiling to increase?**

A: No and the reason for that has to do with the contractual administrative work that we would have to do. It took us a lot of effort to simply move it up to $15M. If we made even one change, say to increase the dollar amount or to extended the length of the contract, we would have to basically have to reissue the entire Pool 2 IDIQ contract. This is something we will assess again at the next IAC MAC iteration to see if the $15M ceiling is working or not. Now, on that related note, if you are wondering if you can move into another Pool because, you grow out of your small business status; the answer to that is No. You will simply stay in Pool 2. We no longer get credit for you as a small business but you will stay in the Pool 2.

**Q) Can task orders be at SCI level?**

A: Yes. The actual task order work can be performed at the SCI level. However, DTIC does not have the capabilities to store SCI metadata. We can only store sanitized, unclassified metadata and technical documents up to Secret. The Requiring Activity would retain the TS/SCI data at their JWICS and the metadata (containing sanitized abstract, title, author, sponsoring agency, etc.) would be sanitized for the DTIC library.

**Q) If your KO is under Army, does that restrict access to other markets?**

A: No not at all. You will have a Fair Opportunity on all acquisitions in your pool regardless of the customer. The briefing slide was simply to point out that each KO will work requirements based on the customer, not based on the mission focus area. The CORs were listed to certain companies for administrative activities like the CPARs etc…

**Q) What can be done to expedite award faster than current cycle time?**

A: Our average cycle time from FOPR release to award is one of the fastest if not the fastest in DoD. For us to expedite an award faster, it really comes down to a discussion between us and the customer.
If a customer has a real world need that is urgent, a conversation needs to take place to determine urgency of the request, how it falls into the general workload, and it falls in the queue with other Task Orders AFICA is working.

**Q) Participant in the room: Can a Three-Star General talk to you about expediting a TO?**

A: Yes, they absolutely can. Tom is happy to talk to any command.

**Q) Is there a source for POC information for the various Pool 1, 2, and 3 providers?**

A: Yes, Candice will provide this.

**Q) If small business prime cannot be recertified at year 5, what happens then?**

A: All Pool 2 awardees will recertify at year 5. Now recertifying as a small business is another questions. As previously mentioned, if you go over the averages and are now certified a large business, then you will recertify as a large business. However, you will remain in Pool 2. AFICA simply will not receive the Small Business credit anymore. You can't graduate out of Pool 2 into Pool 1.

**Q) Will Pool 2 primes have access to the advance planning listings for the Pool 1 and 3 primes?**

A: This is being considered.

**Q) Who does the cost estimate to determine if a requirement is released under pool 2 vice pool 1 -- is it estimated by the requiring customer?**

A: Yes, it is the government requiring activity and the IGCE that drives it.

**Q) Can a Small Business that outgrows their NAICS code automatically on-ramp to IAC MAC Large Business?**

A: As previously mentioned, no.

**Q) For marketing purposes and managing expectations of our customers, is 3 months from DTIC receipt of draft SOW and IGCE to award achievable for Pool 2 this FY?**

A: No, it would be a unique requirement. It can be done, but it would not be the average.

**Q) After a TAT is added to APM, is there a plan/timeline to release a draft FOPR?**

A: The projected quarter for releasing the final FOPR is put on the APM. Releasing a draft FOPR varies from TAT to TAT. There is no general requirement to release a draft FOPR.

**Q) Can the government explain the rationale for posting redacted contract and Task Order awards?**

A: It has to do with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).When a FOIA request is issued, that formal process takes time and involves a number of people. We came up with this process to get ahead of the curve and to hopefully keep it where we don't have to go through the formal process if the need arises. That's why we ask you to submit to us. You redact the items important to you as an organization, and then we take it from there.

**Q) Would the government consider removing this CDRL requirement similarly to the NAVSEA SeaPort-NxG IDIQ removing this requirement to post redacted awards?**

A: No

**Q) Are additional copies of the "State of the Information Analysis Centers 2018" available for distribution to potential clients? If so, how do we request them?**

A: Yes. We will send you all 20 copies, at our cost, which you may use at your discretion. You may also download the soft version from our website.

**Q) To best facilitate Pool 2 to be a success, will the Government give preference to moving and awarding Pool 2 TATs over larger Pool 1 and Pool 3 TATs?**

A: We facilitate task orders in the receipt they come in. First come, first served. All are treated equally and are addressed as they fall into the queue.

**Q) How do you handle classified proposals?**

A: We don't submit or release anything in a classified state. All of our proposals are released at the unclassified level. The actual work associated with the task order can be classified up to the TS/SCI level but for purposes of the PWS, it must be sanitized to the unclassified designation.

**Q) Is AMRDEC SAFE an approved mechanism for transmitting proposals?**

A: No, whether AMRDEC is up or down, you must send your proposal to the email address we state in the FOPR to send it to.

**Q) Can you provide what the program considers STI?**

A: I can tell you that Monthly Status Report, Program Management Plans, Cost Tracking reports; are not STI. STI must provide a technical value to solve problem, to show results of some kind of analyses. You can see millions of examples from the DTIC Library.

**Q) In the Advanced Planning Matrix, is the incumbent listed only for IAC MAC or predecessor vehicles (DS, CS, HD TAT) or can the incumbent work be on other vehicles?**

A: Yes, if work comes from another vehicle, then we will list it.

**Q) Can a pool 2 prime choose to sub to another pool 2 prime for a pool 2 task order opportunity?**

A: Teaming is unrestricted.

**Q) Redacted Task Orders: Should redacted information include section B, price information? We have seen it done both ways on other MACs.**

A: You can redact what's proprietary to your company.

**Q) Are there mechanisms for submitting highly classified (SCI/SAP) STI?**

A: Yes. You will need to submit the STI to the requiring activity. A Form SF298 will need to be generated and then a sanitized overview of the STI will need to be submitted to DTIC but the requiring activity on your behalf. You do not submit through DTIC portal.

**Q) Can a SCIF or SAPF be sponsored thru this contract?**

A: Yes, you will need to work with the requesting authority to facilitate this action.

**Q) Can ceiling be adjusted post award?**

A: Yes it can but it depends on the situation.

**Q) Any restrictions on the type of funding that can be applied on a TAT?**

A: We accept multiple types of funding but the program likes R&D funds for initial funding. When we receive, say, O&M funds to start the program, we start to dive into the reason further. We want to the research work to start, not the operations and maintenance.

**Q) Who is on the source selection board for award of a Task Order? What role does the customer have in source selection?**

A: The source selection board is a mix of the requiring activities technical evaluation team and AFICA. The requiring activity is responsible for pulling together the technical evaluation team from within their organization. AFICA evaluates the remainder of the proposal. The Source Selection Authority is designated by the value of the task order.

**Q) Can Unacknowledged SAPs be added to the DD-254?**

A: Yes, though how this is to be done is not immediately clear. If reference to an unacknowledged SAP is required, we will work with the customer to do this.

**Q) Is the press release requirement applicable to internal communications (e. g. Email to staff)?**

A: No, not applicable to internal communications.

**Q) How is limitation on subcontracting measured, i.e. per Task Order, annually, other?**

A: The limitation is per task order, annually

**Q) What did the bartender say to the horse?**

A: Why the long face?

**Q) What classification levels and/or networks can be used in the TAT/FOPR process to handle classified PWS/requirements?**

A: None, since we do not release classified PWS/requirements. The PWS must be at the unclassified level.

**Q) Will we get a DD254 at the IDIQ level?**

A: No, the DD254 is done at the Task Order level.

**Q) Any specifics on how and who your staff requires to work with on steps 1 and 2 when working with foreign customer? For foreign TO opportunity and is not an ITAR program, but a Department of Commerce EAR approved program, will your staff work directly with foreign customer/embassy?**

A: The answer is yes. We will work with anyone but it must be a U.S. Government customer. The work may be associated with a foreign customer but the primary customer of the work needs to be a U.S. Government customer.

**Q) Will the Pool 1 APM be updated to include a projected FOPR date?**

A: We will look at including this and take into consideration.