

the Administrator develop a plan for measuring and publicly reporting data on PALT for Federal Government contracts and orders above the SAT.

OFPP is proposing to define PALT as “the time between the date on which an initial solicitation for a contract or order is issued by a Federal department or agency and the date of the award of the contract or order.” Section 878 includes this language as a suggested definition. Furthermore, this definition was adopted by the Department of Defense (DoD) pursuant section 886 of the NDAA for FY 18 and DoD implementing instructions. See “Reporting ‘Solicitation Date’ in the Federal Procurement Data System” June 14, 2018, available at <https://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/policy/policyvault/USA001458-18-DPAP.pdf>.

In instances where draft solicitations are issued generally for the purpose of seeking input from interested parties to assist the Government in finalizing its solicitation, the issuance date for the “initial solicitation” for purposes of the PALT would be the date on which the final solicitation seeking offers, bids, or proposals is issued by the Government. In cases where no solicitation is required, ‘the date on which an initial solicitation is issued’ would be guided by the following instructions, which promote consistent implementation across both civilian and DoD agencies:

- For awards resulting from unsolicited proposals, ‘the date on which an initial solicitation is issued’ is the date on which the Government notifies the offeror of proposal acceptance.
- For orders placed against indefinite-delivery contracts where pricing is based on pre-priced line items included in the indefinite-delivery contract and no elements of the order’s delivery or performance require negotiation, ‘the date on which an initial solicitation is issued’ is the date of the award of the order.
- For the award of a contract under a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA), ‘the date on which an initial solicitation is issued’ is the date when a final combined synopsis/solicitation is issued except:
  - For two-step BAAs, including white paper submissions for review, selection, and subsequent request for full proposals, ‘the date on which an initial solicitation is issued’ is the date when the Government signs the proposal request.
  - Under BAAs with calls, ‘the date on which an initial solicitation is issued’ is the date when the individual call is issued.

- For open BAAs, when white papers and/or proposals are accepted for review over an extended period (typically open for a year or longer), the ‘the date on which an initial solicitation is issued’ is either the date when the Government signs a proposal request (white papers) or the date on which the proposal is submitted, whichever is earlier.

To support measuring and public reporting of PALT, OFPP proposes leveraging publicly available data in the Federal Procurement Data System—Next Generation (FPDS-NG), *i.e.*, the authoritative source for Federal Government procurement award data. The General Services Administration’s Integrated Acquisition Environment has included in its June 2019 enhancement of FPDS-NG a change to add the “solicitation date” data field as a mandatory reporting requirement for all contracts or orders valued above the SAT. Now that data are centrally collected in FPDS-NG, agencies and the public will be able to use these data to obtain PALT information for any contract or order issued by the Federal Government that is valued above the SAT. In addition, FPDS-NG data can be used to evaluate PALT for specific types of acquisitions and to determine how timelines are impacted by the use of specific authorities, such as FAR Subpart 6.302-2, Unusual and Compelling Urgency, as well as other authorities that permit limited competition or noncompetitive awards. The public is invited to submit comments on both the proposed definition and plan for measuring PALT.

Establishing a common definition of PALT and a plan for measuring and publicly reporting PALT data are important steps in helping the Federal Government to understand and better address causes of procurement delays. PALT can help to drive continual process improvement and the pursuit of more innovative procurement practices, especially when the data are used in combination with other inputs for evaluating the overall effectiveness of the acquisition process in delivering value to the taxpayer, such as cost and the quality of the contractor’s performance. PALT can also create incentives to drive greater efficiencies in the requirements development process, which has long been recognized as one of the most significant sources of delay in the acquisition lifecycle. For example, increased emphasis on PALT should encourage agencies to take greater advantage of facilitated requirements development workshops, where a trained facilitator leads a multi-

functional integrated project team in the development of a mission critical acquisition requirement in days. Use of this practice has largely been limited to DoD but its promise makes it worthy of broader consideration across the Federal Government.

It is expected that as technology improves and the ability to capture better and more comprehensive procurement and requirements data becomes easier, there will be opportunity to collect and track additional data points and timeframes beyond those covered by the proposed definition. For example, the ability to capture data routinely on various aspects of requirements development could significantly enhance the insight derived from measuring PALT. Agencies that may already collect and track additional data points and timeframes outside of the proposed definition, such as from the time a complete requisition package is received by the procurement office, will be encouraged to maintain their broader efforts, as they are able, to assist in the management, support, and evaluation of agency procurement operations.

**Michael E. Wooten,**  
*Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy.*

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## NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

[FDMS Docket No. NARA-20-0001; Agency No. NARA-2020-015]

### Records Schedules; Availability and Request for Comments

**AGENCY:** National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of proposed records schedules; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) publishes notice of certain Federal agency requests for records disposition authority (records schedules). We publish notice in the **Federal Register** and on [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) for records schedules in which agencies propose to dispose of records they no longer need to conduct agency business. We invite public comments on such records schedules.

**DATES:** NARA must receive comments by March 6, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by either of the following methods. You

must cite the control number, which appears on the records schedule in parentheses after the name of the agency that submitted the schedule.

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal*: <http://www.regulations.gov>.

- *Mail*: Records Appraisal and Agency Assistance (ACR); National Archives and Records Administration; 8601 Adelphi Road; College Park, MD 20740-6001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Records Management Operations by email at [request.schedule@nara.gov](mailto:request.schedule@nara.gov), by mail at the address above, or by phone at 301-837-1799.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Public Comment Procedures**

We are publishing notice of records schedules in which agencies propose to dispose of records they no longer need to conduct agency business. We invite public comments on these records schedules, as required by 44 U.S.C. 3303a(a), and list the schedules at the end of this notice by agency and subdivision requesting disposition authority.

In addition, this notice lists the organizational unit(s) accumulating the records or states that the schedule has agency-wide applicability. It also provides the control number assigned to each schedule, which you will need if you submit comments on that schedule. We have uploaded the records schedules and accompanying appraisal memoranda to the *regulations.gov* docket for this notice as “other” documents. Each records schedule contains a full description of the records at the file unit level as well as their proposed disposition. The appraisal memorandum for the schedule includes information about the records.

We will post comments, including any personal information and attachments, to the public docket unchanged. Because comments are public, you are responsible for ensuring that you do not include any confidential or other information that you or a third party may not wish to be publicly posted. If you want to submit a comment with confidential information or cannot otherwise use the *regulations.gov* portal, you may contact [request.schedule@nara.gov](mailto:request.schedule@nara.gov) for instructions on submitting your comment.

We will consider all comments submitted by the posted deadline and consult as needed with the Federal agency seeking the disposition authority. After considering comments, we will post on *regulations.gov* a “Consolidated Reply” summarizing the

comments, responding to them, and noting any changes we have made to the proposed records schedule. We will then send the schedule for final approval by the Archivist of the United States. You may elect at *regulations.gov* to receive updates on the docket, including an alert when we post the Consolidated Reply, whether or not you submit a comment. If you have a question, you can submit it as a comment, and can also submit any concerns or comments you would have to a possible response to the question. We will address these items in consolidated replies along with any other comments submitted on that schedule.

We will post schedules on our website in the Records Control Schedule (RCS) Repository, at <https://www.archives.gov/records-mgmt/rcs>, after the Archivist approves them. The RCS contains all schedules approved since 1973.

**Background**

Each year, Federal agencies create billions of records. To control this accumulation, agency records managers prepare schedules proposing retention periods for records and submit these schedules for NARA’s approval. Once approved by NARA, records schedules provide mandatory instructions on what happens to records when no longer needed for current Government business. The records schedules authorize agencies to preserve records of continuing value in the National Archives or to destroy, after a specified period, records lacking continuing administrative, legal, research, or other value. Some schedules are comprehensive and cover all the records of an agency or one of its major subdivisions. Most schedules, however, cover records of only one office or program or a few series of records. Many of these update previously approved schedules, and some include records proposed as permanent.

Agencies may not destroy Federal records without the approval of the Archivist of the United States. The Archivist grants this approval only after thorough consideration of the records’ administrative use by the agency of origin, the rights of the Government and of private people directly affected by the Government’s activities, and whether or not the records have historical or other value. Public review and comment on these records schedules is part of the Archivist’s consideration process.

**Schedules Pending**

1. Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement,

Congressional Records (DAA-0567-2015-0011).

2. Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Office of Professional Responsibility Records (DAA-0567-2015-0012).

3. Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Intelligence Records (DAA-0567-2016-0003).

4. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Records of the General Counsel (DAA-0571-2018-0006).

5. Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service, Public Inspection Files of Offers in Compromise (DAA-0058-2019-0004).

6. Central Intelligence Agency, Directorate of Digital Innovation, Records of the Publications Review Board (DAA-0263-2016-0003).

7. Federal Maritime Commission, Office of the Secretary, Commission Records (DAA-0358-2017-0007).

8. National Archives and Records Administration, Agency-wide, Research Room Reference Service Files (DAA-0064-2019-0009).

9. Peace Corps, Agency-wide, Unclaimed Volunteer Vital Records for Peace Corps Passport Applications (DAA-0490-2020-0001).

10. Securities and Exchange Commission, Division of Economic and Risk Analysis, Division of Economic and Risk Analysis Records (DAA-0266-2018-0008).

11. Surface Transportation Board, Agency-wide, Card File Dockets (DAA-0134-2016-0001).

**Laurence Brewer,**

*Chief Records Officer for the U.S. Government.*

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**NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION**

**Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** National Credit Union Administration (NCUA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

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**SUMMARY:** The National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) will submit the following information collection requests to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice.