The DOD Mentor Protégé Program

- The Mentor-Protégé Pilot Program was established November 5, 1990 (Public Law 101-510) in an effort to respond to concerns, raised by DoD prime contractors, that many SDBs did not possess the technical capabilities to perform DoD subcontract requirements, making it difficult for these prime contractors to achieve their SDB subcontracting goals.

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Introduction

• The MDA Mentor-Protégé Program seeks to encourage major DoD prime contractors (Mentors) to develop the technical and business capabilities of eligible Protégés. The MDA Mentor-Protégé Program executes its program in accordance with the Department of Defense (DoD) Mentor-Protégé (MP) Program. Details of the DoD MP Program can be found in DFARS Appendix I. This document is available at this link: http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/dfars/html/current/appendix_i.htm.

• The primary thrust of the MDA Mentor-Protégé Program is the transfer of state-of-the-art technology to the Protégé. This will allow the Protégé firm either to create or expand a market niche and become a preferred supplier to the mentor and other leaders within the Protégé’s industry segment.
Current Status of the Program

• New Mentor-Protégé agreements accepted through September 30, 2015 *
• Direct reimbursement of costs and credit towards subcontracting goals maybe incurred through September 30, 2018
• * IAW Public Law 112-81, Section 867.
How is Program Success Measured?

DOD OSBP MPP Metrics:

• An increase in the dollar value of contract and subcontract awards, and revenue to protégé firms (under DoD contracts, contracts awarded by other Federal/Non-Federal agencies and commercial contracts) from the date of DOD Mentor-Protégé Agreement (MPA) execution until 2-years after conclusion of the MPA

• An increase in the number and dollar value of sub-contracts awarded to Protégé firms (and former Protégé firms) by the Mentor firm; and

• An increase in the employment levels of Protégé firms from the date of MPA execution until 2-years after MPA completion

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A Qualifying Mentor must be one of the following:

- An entity other than a small business, unless a waiver to the small business exception has been obtained from the DoD Associate Director, Mentor-Protégé Program, that is a prime contractor to DoD with an active subcontracting plan; or
- A graduated 8(a) firm that thoroughly demonstrates its ability to serve as a mentor; and
- Be eligible for award of Federal contracts
MPP Protégé Eligibility

A Qualifying Protégé must be one of the following:

- A Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB) certified by SBA
- A qualified organization employing the severely disabled
- A Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB)
- A Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB)
- A qualified HUBZone small business concern certified by SBA
- A small business according to the Small Business Administration (SBA) size standard for the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code that represents the contemplated supplies of services to be provided by the protégé firm to the mentor firm if the company is representing itself as an SDB or Women-Owned Business
- Be eligible for award of Federal contracts
Steps to MPP Participation

• Identify a Mentor / Protégé counterpart
• Identify Agreement type
  • Contact MDA for reimbursable agreements
  • Contact DCMA for credit and hybrid agreements or additional requirements
• Conduct needs assessment (recommended)
• Develop MP agreement
  • A template of the Mentor application is available at: http://www.acq.osd.mil/osbp/sb/programs/mpp
• Submit MP agreement for approval
• Agreement start
• Comply with all reporting and review requirements

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MPP Agreements

• Agreements shall clearly outline the technical assistance or technology transfer that contributes to the MDA mission, industrial base priorities, and value to the warfighter

• A protégé firm may have only one active reimbursable DoD MPP agreement at a time

• Mentors cannot incur cost for credit until the agreement is approved, or for reimbursement until funding is obligated to the contract

• May not exceed 3 years. Must have milestones and metrics

• Should show value to DoD and MDA

• Detailed cost breakdown
  - The total amount reimbursed to a mentor for costs of assistance furnished to a protégé in a fiscal year may not exceed $1M
  - The average cost of a 3-year direct reimbursed agreement is $500,000-$750,000 (for all three years)
MPP Reporting and Review Requirements

• Deliveries - MDA
  • Mentor-Protégé Monthly Report - Due before the 10th of the month
  • Project Management Review - One month after period ending March 31st and September 30th

• Deliveries - DCMA
  • Annual Report (Consists of 3 files) - Due one month after end of year of POP
    • Protégé Questionnaire; Annual Review Form; Mentor Reimbursable Questionnaire
  • Semiannual Report - One month after period ending March 31st and September 30th
Mentor-Protégé Team Members

• MDA
  - Ruth Dailey – MP manager – 256-450-5281; ruth.dailey@mda.mil
  - Contract Specialist
  - Procurement Contract Officer

• DCMA
  - Lisa M. Hostetler – MP manager - Lisa.Hostetler@dcma.mil
  - Shelly Thomas - DCMA Mentor Protégé Division Chief; shelly.Thomas@dcma.mil

• OSD OSBP
  - Kasey Diaz – Associate Director, Business & Financial Management Office of the Secretary of Defense, AT&L Office of Small Business Programs - Kasey.b.diaz.civ@mail.mil
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