

Award Condition: Unreasonable restrictions on competition under the award; association with federal government

SCOPE: This condition applies with respect to any procurement of property or services that is funded (in whole or in part) by this award, whether by the recipient or by any subrecipient at any tier, and regardless of the dollar amount of the purchase or acquisition, the method of procurement, or the nature of any legal instrument used. The provisions of this condition must be among those included in any subaward (at any tier).

1. No discrimination, in procurement transactions, against associates of the federal government

Consistent with the (DOJ) Part 200 Uniform Requirements -- including as set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.300 (requiring awards to be "manage[d] and administer[ed] in a manner so as to ensure that Federal funding is expended and associated programs are implemented in full accordance with U.S. statutory and public policy requirements") and 200.319(a) (generally requiring "[a]II procurement transactions [to] be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition" and forbidding practices "restrictive of competition," such as "[p]lacing unreasonable requirements on firms in order for them to qualify to do business" and taking "[a]ny arbitrary action in the procurement process") -- no recipient (or subrecipient, at any tier) may (in any procurement transaction) discriminate against any person or entity on the basis of such person or entity's status as an "associate of the federal government" (or on the basis of such person or entity's status as a parent, affiliate, or subsidiary of such an associate), except as expressly set out in 2 C.F.R. 200.319(a) or as specifically authorized by USDOJ.

2. Monitoring

The recipient's monitoring responsibilities include monitoring of subrecipient compliance with this condition.

3. Allowable costs

To the extent that such costs are not reimbursed under any other federal program, award funds may be obligated for the reasonable, necessary, and allocable costs (if any) of actions designed to ensure compliance with this condition.

4. Rules of construction

A. The term "associate of the federal government" means any person or entity engaged or employed (in the past or at present) by or on behalf of the federal government -- as an employee, contractor or subcontractor (at any tier), grant recipient or -subrecipient (at any tier), agent, or otherwise -- in undertaking any work, project, or activity for or on behalf of (or in providing goods or services to or on behalf of) the federal government, and includes any applicant for such employment or engagement, and any person or entity committed by legal instrument to undertake any such work, project, or activity (or to provide such goods or services) in future.

B. Nothing in this condition shall be understood to authorize or require any recipient, any subrecipient at any tier, or any person or other entity, to violate any federal law, including any applicable civil rights or nondiscrimination law.