

# Fiscal Year 2015: DHS Standard Terms and Conditions

The FY 2015 DHS Standard Terms and Conditions apply to all new Federal financial assistance awards funded after December 26, 2014. When continuation awards are funded with FY2015 funds, the terms and conditions under which the original award was administered will continue to apply.

## I. **Assurances, Administrative Requirements and Cost Principles**

Recipients of DHS federal financial assistance must complete OMB Standard Form [424B Assurances – Non-Construction Programs](#). Certain assurances in this document may not be applicable to your program, and the awarding agency may require applicants to certify additional assurances. Please contact the program awarding office if you have any questions.

The administrative, cost principles, and audit requirements that apply to DHS award recipients originate from [2 C.F.R. Part 200](#), *Uniform Administrative Requirement, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, as adopted by DHS at 2 C.F.R. Part 3002.

## II. **Acknowledgement of Federal Funding from DHS**

All recipients must acknowledge their use of federal funding when issuing statements, press releases, requests for proposals, bid invitations, and other documents describing projects or programs funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

## III. **Activities Conducted Abroad**

All recipients must ensure that project activities carried on outside the United States are coordinated as necessary with appropriate government authorities and that appropriate licenses, permits, or approvals are obtained.

## IV. **Age Discrimination Act of 1975**

All recipients must comply with the requirements of the *Age Discrimination Act of 1975* ([42 U.S.C. § 6101 et seq.](#)), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age in any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

## V. **Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990**

All recipients must comply with the requirements of Titles I, II, and III of the *Americans with Disabilities Act*, which prohibits recipients from discriminating on the basis of disability in the operation of public entities, public and private transportation systems, places of public accommodation, and certain testing entities ([42 U.S.C. §§ 12101–12213](#)).

## VI. **Best Practices for Collection and Use of Personally Identifiable Information (PII)**

All recipients who collect PII are required to have a publically-available privacy policy that describes what PII they collect, how they use the PII, whether they

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share PII with third parties, and how individuals may have their PII corrected where appropriate.

Award recipients may also find as a useful resource the DHS Privacy Impact Assessments: [Privacy Guidance](#) and [Privacy template](#) respectively.

### VII. **Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964**

All recipients must comply with the requirements of Title VI of the *Civil Rights Act of 1964* ([42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq.](#)), which provides that no person in the United States will, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. Implementing regulations for the Act are found at [6 C.F.R. Part 21](#) and [44 C.F.R. Part 7](#).

### VIII. **Civil Rights Act of 1968**

All recipients must comply with [Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968](#), which prohibits recipients from discriminating in the sale, rental, financing, and advertising of dwellings, or in the provision of services in connection therewith, on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, familial status, and sex ([42 U.S.C. § 3601 et seq.](#)), as implemented by the Department of Housing and Urban Development at [24 C.F.R. Part 100](#). The prohibition on disability discrimination includes the requirement that new multifamily housing with four or more dwelling units—i.e., the public and common use areas and individual apartment units (all units in buildings with elevators and ground-floor units in buildings without elevators)—be designed and constructed with certain accessible features (see [24 C.F.R. § 100.201](#)).

### IX. **Copyright**

All recipients must affix the applicable copyright notices of [17 U.S.C. §§ 401 or 402](#) and an acknowledgement of Government sponsorship (including award number) to any work first produced under Federal financial assistance awards, unless the work includes any information that is otherwise controlled by the Government (e.g., classified information or other information subject to national security or export control laws or regulations).

### X. **Debarment and Suspension**

All recipients must comply with Executive Orders [12549](#) and [12689](#), which provide protection against waste, fraud and abuse by debarment or suspending those persons deemed irresponsible in their dealings with the Federal government.

### XI. **Drug-Free Workplace Regulations**

All recipients must comply with the *Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988* ([41 U.S.C. § 701 et seq.](#)) which is adopted at [2 C.F.R Part 3001](#), which requires that all organizations receiving grants from any Federal agency agree to maintain a drug-free workplace. DHS has adopted the Act's implementing regulations at [2 C.F.R Part 3001](#).

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### XII. **Duplication of Benefits**

Any cost allocable to a particular Federal award provided for in [2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart E](#) may not be charged to other Federal awards to overcome fund deficiencies, to avoid restrictions imposed by Federal statutes, regulations, or terms and conditions of the Federal awards, or for other reasons. However, this prohibition would not preclude the non-Federal entity from shifting costs that are allowable under two or more Federal awards in accordance with existing Federal statutes, regulations, or the terms and conditions of the Federal awards.

### XIII. **Energy Policy and Conservation Act**

All recipients must comply with the requirements of [42 U.S.C. § 6201](#) which contain policies relating to energy efficiency that are defined in the state energy conservation plan issues in compliance with this Act.

### XIV. **Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation**

All recipients must report each action that obligates \$25,000 or more in Federal funds that does not include Recovery funds (as defined in section 1512(a)(2) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Pub. L. 111-5) for a subaward to an entity, unless provided in paragraph D as required by [2 CFR Part 170](#), "Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation Information" and the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act 2006 (FFATA). Recipients must register at [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov) and report the information about each obligating action in accordance with the submission instructions posted at [www.fsr.gov](http://www.fsr.gov).

### XV. **False Claims Act and Program Fraud Civil Remedies**

All recipients must comply with the requirements of [31 U.S.C. § 3729](#) which set forth that no recipient of federal payments shall submit a false claim for payment. See also [38 U.S.C. § 3801-3812](#) which details the administrative remedies for false claims and statements made.

### XVI. **Federal Debt Status**

All recipients are required to be non-delinquent in their repayment of any Federal debt. Examples of relevant debt include delinquent payroll and other taxes, audit disallowances, and benefit overpayments. See [OMB Circular A-129](#) and form SF-424B, item number 17 for additional information and guidance.

### XVII. **Fly America Act of 1974**

All recipients must comply with Preference for U.S. Flag Air Carriers: (air carriers holding certificates under [49 U.S.C. § 41102](#)) for international air transportation of people and property to the extent that such service is available, in accordance with the *International Air Transportation Fair Competitive Practices Act of 1974* ([49 U.S.C. § 40118](#)) and the interpretative guidelines issued by the Comptroller General of the United States in the March 31, 1981, [amendment](#) to Comptroller General Decision B-138942.

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### XVIII. **Hotel and Motel Fire Safety Act of 1990**

In accordance with Section 6 of the *Hotel and Motel Fire Safety Act of 1990*, [15 U.S.C. §2225a](#), all recipients must ensure that all conference, meeting, convention, or training space funded in whole or in part with Federal funds complies with the fire prevention and control guidelines of the *Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974*, as amended, [15 U.S.C. §2225](#).

### XIX. **Limited English Proficiency (Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VI)**

All recipients must comply with the *Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964* (Title VI) prohibition against discrimination on the basis of national origin, which requires that recipients of federal financial assistance take reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to persons with limited English proficiency (LEP) to their programs and services. Providing meaningful access for persons with LEP may entail providing language assistance services, including oral interpretation and written translation. In order to facilitate compliance with Title VI, recipients are encouraged to consider the need for language services for LEP persons served or encountered in developing program budgets. Executive Order 13166, *Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency* (August 11, 2000), requires federal agencies to issue guidance to recipients, assisting such organizations and entities in understanding their language access obligations. DHS published the required recipient guidance in April 2011, *DHS Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons*, 76 Fed. Reg. 21755-21768, (April 18, 2011). The Guidance provides helpful information such as how a recipient can determine the extent of its obligation to provide language services; selecting language services; and elements of an effective plan on language assistance for LEP persons. For additional assistance and information regarding language access obligations, please refer to the DHS Recipient Guidance <https://www.dhs.gov/guidance-published-help-department-supported-organizations-provide-meaningful-access-people-limited> and additional resources on <http://www.lep.gov>.

### XX. **Lobbying Prohibitions**

All recipients must comply with [31 U.S.C. §1352](#), which provides that none of the funds provided under an award may be expended by the recipient to pay any person to influence, or attempt to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with any Federal action concerning the award or renewal.

### XXI. **Non-supplanting Requirement**

All recipients who receive awards made under programs that prohibit supplanting by law must ensure that Federal funds do not replace (supplant) funds that have been budgeted for the same purpose through non-Federal sources. Where federal statutes for a particular program prohibits supplanting, applicants or recipients may be required to

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demonstrate and document that a reduction in non-Federal resources occurred for reasons other than the receipt of expected receipt of Federal funds.

### XXII. **Patents and Intellectual Property Rights**

Unless otherwise provided by law, recipients are subject to the [Bayh-Dole Act, Pub. L. No. 96-517](#), as amended, and codified in [35 U.S.C. § 200](#) et seq. All recipients are subject to the specific requirements governing the development, reporting, and disposition of rights to inventions and patents resulting from financial assistance awards are in [37 C.F.R. Part 401](#) and the standard patent rights clause in 37 C.F.R. § 401.14.

### XXIII. **Procurement of Recovered Materials**

All recipients must comply with section 6002 of the [Solid Waste Disposal Act](#), as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The requirements of Section 6002 include procuring only items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at [40 C.F.R. Part 247](#) that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired by the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000; procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.

### XXIV. **Contract Provisions for Non-federal Entity Contracts under Federal Awards**

#### a. **Contracts for more than the simplified acquisition threshold set at \$150,000.**

All recipients who have contracts exceeding the acquisition threshold currently set at \$150,000, which is the inflation adjusted amount determined by Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulation Council as authorized by [41 U.S.C. §1908](#), must address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instance where contractors violate or breach contract terms and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate.

#### b. **Contracts in excess of \$10,000.**

All recipients that have contracts exceeding \$10,000 must address termination for cause and for convenience by the non-Federal entity including the manner by which it will be effected and the basis for settlement.

### XXV. **SAFECOM**

All recipients who receive awards made under programs that provide emergency communication equipment and its related activities must comply with the [SAFECOM](#) Guidance for Emergency Communication Grants,

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including provisions on technical standards that ensure and enhance interoperable communications.

### XXVI. **Terrorist Financing E.O. 13224**

All recipients must comply with [U.S. Executive Order 13224](#) and U.S. law that prohibit transactions with, and the provisions of resources and support to, individuals and organizations associated with terrorism. It is the legal responsibility of recipients to ensure compliance with the E.O. and laws.

### XXVII. **Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Equal Opportunity in Education Act)**

All recipients must comply with the requirements of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 ([20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.](#)), which provides that no person in the United States will, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. Implementing regulations are codified at [6 C.F.R. Part 17](#) and [44 C.F.R. Part 19](#)

### XXVIII. **Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000**

All recipients must comply with the requirements of the government-wide award term which implements Section 106(g) of the *Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000*, as amended ([22 U.S.C. § 7104](#)). This is implemented in accordance with OMB Interim Final Guidance, *Federal Register*, Volume 72, No. 218, November 13, 2007. Full text of the award term is located at [2 CFR § 175.15](#).

### XXIX. **Rehabilitation Act of 1973**

All recipients must comply with the requirements of Section 504 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973*, [29 U.S.C. § 794](#), as amended, which provides that no otherwise qualified handicapped individual in the United States will, solely by reason of the handicap, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. These requirements pertain to the provision of benefits or services as well as to employment.

### XXX. **Universal Identifier and System of Award Management**

All recipients must maintain the currency of the information in the SAM until submission of the final financial report required under the award or receive final payment, whichever is later, as required by [2 C.F.R. Part 25](#).

### XXXI. **USA Patriot Act of 2001**

All recipients must comply with requirements of the *Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act* (USA PATRIOT Act), which amends [18 U.S.C. §§ 175–175c](#). Among other things, the USA PATRIOT Act prescribes criminal penalties for possession of any biological agent, toxin, or delivery system of a type or in a

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quantity that is not reasonably justified by a prophylactic, protective, bona fide research, or other peaceful purpose.

### XXXII. Use of DHS Seal, Logo and Flags

All recipients must obtain DHS's approval prior to using the DHS seal(s), logos, crests or reproductions of flags or likenesses of DHS agency officials, including use of the United States Coast Guard seal, logo, crests or reproductions of flags or likenesses of Coast Guard officials.

### XXXIII. Whistleblower Protection Act

All recipients must comply with the statutory requirements for whistleblower protections (if applicable) at [10 U.S.C § 2409](#), [41 U.S.C. 4712](#), and [10 U.S.C. § 2324](#), [41 U.S.C. §§ 4304](#) and [4310](#).

### XXXIV. DHS Specific Acknowledgements and Assurances

All recipients must acknowledge and agree—and require any sub-recipients, contractors, successors, transferees, and assignees acknowledge and agree—to comply with applicable provisions governing DHS access to records, accounts, documents, information, facilities, and staff.

1. Recipients must cooperate with any compliance review or complaint investigation conducted by DHS.
2. Recipients must give DHS access to and the right to examine and copy records, accounts, and other documents and sources of information related to the grant and permit access to facilities, personnel, and other individuals and information as may be necessary, as required by DHS regulations *and* other applicable laws or program guidance.
3. Recipients must submit timely, complete, and accurate reports to the appropriate DHS officials and maintain appropriate backup documentation to support the reports.
4. Recipients must comply with all other special reporting, data collection, and evaluation requirements, as prescribed by law or detailed in program guidance.
5. If, during the past three years, the recipient has been accused of discrimination on the grounds of race, color, national origin (including limited English proficiency), sex, age, disability, religion, or familial status, the recipient must provide a list of all such proceedings, pending or completed, including outcome and copies of settlement agreements to the DHS awarding office and the DHS Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties.
6. In the event any court or administrative agency makes a finding of discrimination on grounds of race, color, national origin (including limited English

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proficiency), sex, age, disability, religion, or familial status against the recipient, or the recipient settles a case or matter alleging such discrimination, recipients must forward a copy of the complaint and findings to the DHS Component and/or awarding office.

The United States has the right to seek judicial enforcement of these obligations.