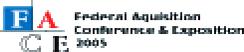




A Framework for Assessing Federal Agencies' Acquisition Functions



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Overview

- Why?
- What?
- How?

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Why We Developed the Framework

- Over **\$300 billion annually** is awarded by the federal government via contracts.
- Acquiring these goods and services in an efficient and accountable manner is therefore **essential**.
- Systemic weaknesses - which often manifest themselves in problems on individual procurement actions - continue to be identified.
- Need for high-level assessment of agencies' acquisition function.



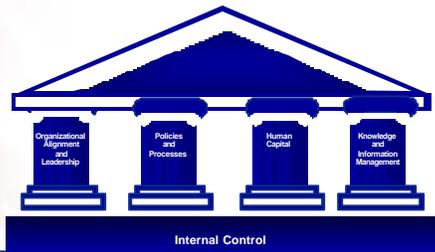
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What is the Acquisition Framework?

<i>The Framework Is:</i>	<i>The Framework Is Not:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⌘ General guidance to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate an agency's acquisition function • Identify areas for improvement ⌘ An integration of existing guidance and standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⌘ A tool to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate specific acquisition actions, contracts, or compliance • Conduct detailed assessments ⌘ A substitute for existing standards

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What is the Acquisition Framework?



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Organizational Alignment and Leadership

- Effective organizational alignment enables a coordinated and strategically oriented approach to acquisition activities.
- Executive leadership:
 - ⌘ determines the relationship between the various functional departments,
 - ⌘ is key to strengthening the interaction between the agency's executive management and employees, and
 - ⌘ sets the direction, culture, and perception of the agency.

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Policies and Processes

- Implementing strategic decisions to achieve desired agency-wide outcomes and behaviors requires clear and transparent policies and processes that are implemented consistently.
- Effective policies and processes govern the planning, award, administration, and oversight of acquisition efforts, with a focus on:
 - attention to internal and external relationships, and
 - assuring that agency dollars achieve intended results.

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Human Capital

- The value of an organization and its ability to satisfy customers depends on its most valuable asset—its people.
- Successfully acquiring goods and services and executing and monitoring contracts to help the agency meet its missions requires valuing and investing in the acquisition workforce.
- Agencies must think strategically about recruiting, developing and retaining talent within the acquisition workforce.

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Knowledge and Information Management

- Effective knowledge and information management provides credible, reliable, and timely data to make strategic acquisition decisions.
- All stakeholders in the acquisition process--from program managers to the finance department-- need meaningful data to perform their respective roles and responsibilities.

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