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State of the PTAC - April 2020
By James Gerraughty, PTAC Program Manager

I am writing this in my basement, not my office. Teleworking for the PTAC has been in effect in Pennsylvania for about 4 days at the time of this writing. While our office is closed, PTACs are still servicing our clients and the communities that we serve (albeit at a safe distance...).

Please review our training opportunities that are coming up in April and beyond. Due to the ongoing COVID 19 matter, all of these will be in an online webinar format. For an up-to-date list at any time, please visit our event page and you can search by date and location between our 3 centers. If training opportunities are available from our PREP partners, I will list them as well.

There are some articles regarding the COVID-19 virus and government contracting. However, if I put everything in
the newsletter regarding this topic since mid-March, the newsletter would be 20 pages long. Please take a look at the enclosed articles, but also take a look at our Twitter feed or PTAC@SAP&DC for up-to-date news about government contracting and related articles. PTACs (not just us) are keeping on top of this issue for our clients and other stakeholders.

One final note as we go into April: Your PTAC is open and ready to answer any questions you might have about government contracting. We would love to see you, but will have to use phone calls, emails, and online meeting/webinars to assist you!

If you have ideas for topics, or would like to learn more about something, please drop us a line at (814) 949-6500 or Email us.

Upcoming Training Events
with the PTAC and other PA PREP Partners

All events are free, unless otherwise noted. Events do require registration, so please visit the associated link for more information.

PTAC Events:

CMMC Training Webcast
Tuesday, April 28, 2020, 2:00 PM EDT
A free webinar to give an overall of the CMMC Version 1.0. Registration is required, click here

Please note: Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, webinars on various topics will be coming up with short notice. The PTAC will endeavor to get the information out to clients via email. For an up-to-date listing of PTAC events, please visit often!

Real ID Deadline Postponed Due to Coronavirus
by Andrea Noble, Staff Correspondent, Route Fifty

Americans will have more time to obtain driver's licenses that comply with stricter standards outlined in the federal government's Real ID law.

President Trump announced Monday that he is pushing back the Oct. 1 deadline that would have required Americans to have either a Real ID compliant license or
passport in order to board a domestic flight.

The decision comes as state governments are preoccupied with the coronavirus outbreak and many motor vehicle departments have closed. Americans also have been warned to avoid crowds to prevent the spread of the virus.

"We are postponing the deadline for compliance with Real ID requirements at a time when we are asking Americans to maintain social distancing," Trump said at Monday's White House press conference.

No new deadline for compliance has been set, though Trump said a new date would be announced soon.

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GSA Grants 60-Day Extension of Expiring Entity Registrations in SAM.gov by the U.S General Services Administration (GSA) (received as an email on 03/24/2020; will be happy to share)

In support of the U.S. government's response to the COVID-19 national emergency, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) requested certain administrative relief for entities doing business with the government. As part of that effort, GSA has initiated 60-day extensions to SAM.gov registrations that have expiration dates ranging between March 19, 2020 and May 17, 2020. It will take GSA until March 28, 2020 to complete all extensions. This effort is intended as relief for those otherwise required to re-register during that time frame.

There is no action required on the part of registrants; this notice is for awareness only.

As an example, an entity that is set to expire on April 1, 2020 will be automatically granted an extension to May 31, 2020.

There are a total of 61,298 registrations that will be impacted by this extension. We will process the extensions in a deliberate, incremental manner throughout the course of a week to lessen the impact on our interfacing systems.

As part of this effort, entity administrators impacted by this change will receive an email with the subject line
"60-Day SAM.gov Extension Granted for [Entity Name/DUNS/CAGE]."

The new expiration dates will be included in the SAM entity management extracts and available through web services after the records are extended. Interfacing systems need only consume the data as normal.

As always, if you need assistance with any of the IAE systems, including SAM.gov, please contact the Federal Service Desk at click here

To learn more about the IAE and our systems, please visit

PA PRiSM and Contracting in the Commonwealth of PA
by James Gerraughty

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of General Services release the new Small Business (SB), Small Diverse Business (SDB), and Veteran Business Enterprise (VBE) management software, PRiSM, on September 3, 2019. The software can be accessed at please visit

PRiSM supports the mission of the Department's Bureau of Diversity, Inclusion & Small Business Opportunities (BDISBO) to assist small, diverse, and veteran businesses in competing for Commonwealth contracting opportunities. The Software allows:

- Prime vendors to report payments to their SDB and VBE vendors
- SDB and VBE vendors to acknowledge receipt of Prime payments
- BDISBO to track payment compliance

The PRiSM is meant to replace the PA SBPI certification, and be used as a portal to identify your firm as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (Woman-, Minority-, and/or Veteran-owned; DBE). You will still need to register your company to do business with the Commonwealth in the PA Supplier Portal.

Please reach out to your local PA PTAC for assistance with PRiSM.

About Us
The PTAC at SAP&DC is an economic development entity that bridges the gap between supplier and buyer in the government marketplace. The PTAC stands ready to support businesses in the central PA Alleghenies region in the pursuit to secure contracts with local, state and/or federal government agencies nationwide.

Due to the generous support of our Commonwealth and Federal funding partners, services provided by the PTAC are free of charge.

Whether you are an experienced contractor or new to the government marketplace, the PTAC will provide one-on-one counseling utilizing all of the program resources necessary to increase your share of contract awards.

Contact us today at The PTAC at SAP&DC to get started!
Email:  ptac@sapdc.org
Phone:  (814) 949-6500
Web:  PTAC @ SAP&DC

SAP&DC | 814-949-6528 | jgerraughty@sapdc.org | http://www.sapdc.org
3 Sheraton Drive
Altoona, PA 16601