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T3.8.1 Agreements, Cooperative Agreements, Gifts & Bequests Revised 10/2007

A. Agreements, Cooperative Agreements, Gifts and Bequests

1 Agreements Revised 9/2021

a. *Applicability.* This section applies to interagency agreements, intra-agency agreements, other transactions, cooperative agreements, and international agreements for services, supplies (including construction) and real property to the extent authorized by law. This section **does not** apply to Airport Improvement Program grants and cooperative research and development agreements, which are governed by other directives, as follows:

(1) Airport Improvement (AIP) Grants authorized under 49 U.S.C. 47101 et seq. are covered in FAA Order 5100.38A, AIP Handbook, October 24, 1989.

(2) Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRDA) authorized under 15 U.S.C. 3710a et seq. are covered under FAA Order 9550.6A "Technology Transfer Program."

b. *Types of Agreements.*

(1) *General.*

(a) As discussed above, FAA has broad general authority to use various agreements, other than procurement contracts, to obtain or provide services and supplies when necessary to accomplish the mission of FAA. For additional information in determining which agreement type is the most suitable to accomplish the FAA's mission, please refer to the Agreement Type Guidelines document in FAA FAST References. (b) Agreements may be made on such terms and conditions as the Administrator may consider appropriate

(i) With or without reimbursement; *and*

(ii) With another Federal agency or instrumentality of the Federal government, a modal administration within the Department of Transportation, a state, local government, municipality, or other public entity, foreign governments, and private entities.

(c) Agreements are classified into six general categories as follows:

(i) Interagency Agreements;

(ii) Intra-agency Agreements;

(iii) Other Transactions;

(iv) Cooperative Agreements;

(v) International Agreements; and

(vi) Reimbursable Agreements and Other Transaction Reimbursable Agreements.

(2) *Interagency Agreements.* An interagency agreement is a written agreement between FAA and another Federal agency (as defined in Section 551(a) of Title 5 of the United States Code) where FAA agrees to receive from, or exchange supplies or services with, the other agency, and FAA funds are obligated. The requesting agency is the agency that needs the services, supplies or facilities; the servicing agency provides the services, supplies or facilities to the requesting agency. Interagency agreements under which FAA purchases services, supplies, or facilities through another Federal agency's contract is an interagency procurement, and AMS Guidance T3.8.1.A.4 "Interagency Procurement" must also be followed when placing this type of agreement.

(a) *OMB Circular A-76.* Where FAA requires the servicing agency to perform a commercial activity, the CO should conduct a cost comparison under OMB Circular A-76.

(b) *Joint Activities with Department of Defense (DOD).*

(i) DOD has the same exemptions from acquisition laws as are waived by the Administrator in the AMS when:

(A) The FAA and DOD are engaged in joint actions;

(B) DOD's contribution to the total cost of the activity is significant (more than ten (10) percent; and

(C) The purpose of the acquisition is to improve or replenish the national air traffic system. Joint actions include situations where both agencies share the same mission need and engage in joint activities to plan and implement the solution.

(ii) Where these three criteria are met, either FAA or DOD may conduct the acquisition using the policies of the AMS.

(3) *Intra-agency Agreements.* An Intra-agency agreement is a written agreement between FAA and the Office of the Secretary of Transportation (OST) or another DOT operating administration. The FAA may use an Intra-agency agreement to provide services or supplies to, or receive services or supplies from or through OST or another DOT operating administration.

Based on DOT Order 1200.9 DOT Inter and Intra Agency Agreements Order, for all DOT Intra-agency agreements, advance payments are mandatory unless prohibited by law. Initial advance payments must be collected when the agreement is first signed, and are to be collected based on the negotiated agreement or under continuing resolution rules, whichever applies. For intra-agency agreements with a period of performance starting at the beginning of a fiscal year, the sellers will draw advance payments as soon as Delphi opens for processing current year transactions.

All Intra-agency agreements with OST must use FS Form 7600A and FS Form 7600B located in Procurement Templates. For Intra-Agency Agreements with the John A. Volpe Transportation Systems Center (Volpe Center), see the FAA Acquisition Executive (FAE) Memorandum "Intra-Agency Agreements (IAAs) with Volpe" dated December 8, 2017 located in Procurement Tools and Resources and the FAA Acquisition Strategy for Proposed IAA with Volpe in Procurement

Templates for further guidance. Volpe Center Intra-agency agreements are otherwise processed in PRISM in accordance with detailed business process instructions (FAA only).

(4) Other Transactions.

(a) An Other Transaction (OT) is typically an agreement between FAA and a non-Federal entity (either foreign or domestic) where FAA's purpose is to obtain a direct benefit that advances the agency's mission while also providing assistance to the general public. In some cases, including multi-party transactions, an OT provides the flexibility to develop partnering relationships with industry in meeting agency objectives. For example, FAA may enter into an OT agreement with another party to jointly develop a system, which FAA may eventually purchase through a procurement contract, but the system might also be purchased by airport authorities and foreign air traffic organizations. Another instance might be the construction of a fence, or the laying of cable that would benefit the airport authority (or the general public) and the FAA facility at the airport.

(b) In addition to joint funding agreements, in-kind contributions are allowed. The FAA is specifically authorized to use or accept the services, equipment, personnel, and facilities of non-Federal entities and to cooperate with them in the use of FAA's services, equipment, personnel, and facilities.

(c) OT agreements should be carefully drafted to avoid the inadvertent creation of a joint venture, which is separate legal entity formed to accomplish a discreet purpose. As a general rule, all parties to a joint venture agreement have joint and several liabilities for all claims arising under the agreement. In addition to other legal consequences, such agreements violate the Anti-deficiency Act and are prohibited.

(d) The Federal Funding Accountability Transparency Act requires FAA to make procurement award data publicly available. Financial Assistance Other Transaction Agreements (OTAs) over \$10K are required to be entered into the Financial Assistance Broker system. The CO must report all OT Agreements funded by the Department of Defense (DoD) and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to USASpending.gov via FPDS.

(5) Section 106 Cooperative Agreements Distinguished. FAA also has broad authority under 49 U.S.C 106 to enter into cooperative agreements with any Federal and non-Federal entity on such terms and conditions as the Administrator may deem appropriate. These agreements are used to provide assistance to a recipient and are more fully covered in Section 2 below.

(6) International Agreements.

(a) Agreements with foreign governments or quasi-governmental entities are most commonly used to establish a technical assistance or research and development relationship between FAA and the foreign entity. In such instances, FAA's interest is in encouraging aviation safety outside the United States pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 40113(e).

(b) When a foreign government is a party to the transaction, the agreement is a government-to-government agreement governed by international law. The FAA must obtain Department of State (DOS) clearance on the negotiation and final terms of such agreements.

(c) In negotiating agreements with foreign private civil aviation authorities and other quasi-governmental entities, FAA consults with DOS on foreign policy issues that might arise under such agreements.

(d) The program office lead or CO should coordinate with the Office of International Aviation (API), which has organizational responsibility for coordinating the agreement with the DOS and the responsible U.S. embassy, and for transmitting the agreement to the foreign entity for signature.

(e) Department of State clearance is not required for agreements with private contractors; however, the program office lead may consult with API in appropriate circumstances.

(f) *Approval of Administrator.* The FAA Administrator or designee must approve equipment purchases by a foreign government or quasi-governmental entity under any FAA prime contract.

(7) *Reimbursable Agreements and Other Transaction Reimbursable Agreements.* Agreements under which FAA provides services, supplies, or facilities to another Federal agency or non-Federal entity is a reimbursable agreement, and AMS Guidance T3.8.1A.5 must be followed. See also the FAA Financial Manual, Vol 4 Ch 6, and Reimbursable Agreement Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)"Creating, Executing, and Implementing Reimbursable Agreements" (FAA only) for reimbursable agreements and approved templates.

c. Requirements.

(1) All agreements must be in writing and should contain a clear statement of requirements, applicable terms and conditions, the legal authority for the agreement, termination and dispute resolution provisions, and where appropriate, a fund citation and payment provision.

(2) There is no requirement for competition or public announcement.

(3) *Justification.* Each agreement must be supported by a written statement describing the technical, program, or business reasons justifying the agreement. If the agreement is an OT, the justification must also include a rationale for using an OT over other types of agreements, i.e. procurement contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, interagency agreements, and intra-agency agreements. The procurement or real property contracting officer (CO), acting within the warrant authority commensurate with the total estimated dollar value of the requirement, approves the written rationale. Agreements valued at \$10 million or more are also subject to Chief Financial Officer (CFO) approval as required by AMS Guidance T3.2.1.4, and the justification must be included in the business case submitted as part of the CFO review package.

(4) Agreements with private entities and public authorities, other than Federal agencies, may take the form of a memorandum of understanding or memorandum of agreement. A memorandum of understanding is not legally binding on the Government, while a memorandum of agreement creates a legally binding commitment.

(5) *Content.* All agreements must be in writing and at a minimum contain:

(a) A clear statement of requirements;

- (b) The term of the agreement;
 - (c) Procedure for modifications;
 - (d) The legal authority for the agreement;
 - (e) Termination and dispute resolution provisions;
 - (f) A fund citation and payment provision, if appropriate, or description of in-kind contribution of both parties; and
 - (g) Other terms and conditions, as appropriate, addressing such matters as intellectual property and indemnification provisions, and restoration and disposition of Government property.
- (6) *Requirements for Agreements with Federal organizations.* All FAA agreements (including interagency and intra-agency agreements (except as noted below)) with Federal departments, agencies, or entities must include:
- (a) The common agreement number and the funding source;
 - (b) The Treasury Account Symbol (TAS), or appropriation code, for both parties;
 - (c) The Business Event Type Code (BETC) for both parties;
 - (d) The effective date and duration of the agreement, to include the expiration of the funding source;
 - (e) The amount and method of payment;
 - (f) The Business Partner Network (BPN) number for both parties (which is equivalent to the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number for civilian agencies and the Department of Defense Activity Addressing Code (DoDAAC) for Defense agencies);
 - (g) The method and frequency of performance (revenue and expenses) reporting;
 - (h) If applicable, provisions for advance payments and method of liquidating such advance;
 - (i) The parties' right to modify, cancel, or terminate the agreement;
 - (j) A dispute resolution provision specifying that disputes must be resolved in accordance with instructions provided in the Treasury Financial Manual (TFM) Volume I, Part 2, Chapter 4700, Appendix 5 (Overall Intra-governmental Transactions (IGT) Processes and General Information);
 - (k) A cancellation provision specifying that if a buyer, or requesting agency, cancels the order, the seller, or providing agency, is authorized to collect costs incurred before cancellation of the order plus any termination costs; and
 - (l) Point of contact information for CO, Contracting Officer's Representative (COR), and accounting office.

All FAA Intra-agency agreements with the OST must use FS Form 7600A and FS Form 7600B in accordance with (b)(3) above.

d. *Authority.*

(1) *General Authority.* 49 U.S.C. 106(l) (6) and/or 106(m) should be cited as general authority for all agreements, except where DOD exception applies, or where the agreement is with a foreign government to provide technical assistance. In Sections 49 U.S.C. 106(l) (6) and 106(m), Congress provided FAA with specific authority to "enter into and perform such contracts, leases, cooperative agreements or other transactions as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the Administrator and the Administration" with any Federal or non-Federal entity "on such terms and conditions as the Administrator may consider appropriate."

Section 106(m) also clarifies that FAA may use or accept the services, equipment, personnel, and facilities of another Federal agency, as well as a private or public entity and may do so with or without reimbursement. That section also provides specific authority to the head of another Federal agency to make the services, equipment, personnel, and facilities of the Federal agency available to the Administrator. Additionally, the head of another Federal agency is authorized, notwithstanding any other provision of law, to transfer to, or receive from the FAA non-administrative supplies or equipment without reimbursement.

(2) *Joint Activities with DOD.* For joint activities between DOD and FAA described in subparagraph b.(2)(b) above, the legal authority in 49 U.S.C. 40121(c)(2) may also be used.

(3) *Technical Assistance Agreements with Foreign Governments.* For technical assistance agreements with foreign governments described in Section b.(6) above, the legal authority is 49 U.S.C. 40113(e).

(4) *Parallel Authorities.* The Federal Aviation Act contains other specific program authorities applicable to certain types of agreements, which may be cited as parallel authority where appropriate. Legal counsel should be consulted for additional guidance in selecting any of the listed authorities. (See Appendix Attachment 1, *Parallel Authorities.*)

e. *Format.*

(1) *Other Transaction - Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).* Where the FAA intends to create a legally binding commitment with a state, municipality or private entity through an "Other Transaction," a Memorandum of Agreement should be executed by the parties. When executing an MOA, the Other Transaction - MOA with State, Municipality or Private Entity Template located in Procurement Templates must be used.

(2) *Other Transaction - Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).* A Memorandum of Understanding is an agreement to agree and is not legally binding on either party. MOUs are appropriate where the parties seek only to memorialize policies and procedures of mutual concern, or describe other relationships *that are not intended to create legally binding obligations*. When executing an MOU, the Sample Other Transaction - Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) template located in Procurement Templates must be used.

(3) *Interagency Agreement, Intra-agency Agreement, and Cooperative Agreement.* When these types of agreements are executed, the applicable template (Inter-agency Agreement Template, Intra-agency Agreement Form 7600A, Intra-agency Agreement Form 7600B, Intellectual Property - Section 106 Cooperative Agreements, or Section 106 Cooperative Agreement Template) located in Procurement Templates must be used.

(4) *Reimbursable Agreements (where FAA is the servicing agency)* AMS Guidance T3.8.1A.5 must be followed. See also the FAA Financial Manual and Reimbursable Agreement SOP for reimbursable agreements and approved templates (FAA only).

f. *Funding.*

(1) *General.* Funds must be obligated to an agreement within the period of their availability consistent with the purposes of the appropriation. Additionally, when FAA funds are obligated under an agreement with a servicing agency, the obligation maintains the same impact and restrictions when it is transferred to the servicing agency. For example, funds from the FAA's Operations, RE&D and F&E accounts may be used only for the purposes of the appropriation and do not lose their character once transferred to the servicing agency. Likewise, when FAA is the servicing agency, an obligation against an appropriation of a requesting agency maintains the same impact and restrictions as the appropriation of origin.

(2) *Economy Act.* Where the Economy Act is cited, funds must be obligated by the servicing agency **prior to expiration**, i.e. if the servicing agency is to perform the work itself, performance of the work must begin prior to that date. If the agency is to acquire the product or service through contract, the contract must have been executed and funds obligated to the contract prior to their expiration date. Any funds not properly obligated by the servicing agency must be returned to the requesting agency prior to their expiration date.

(3) *Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request (MIPR).* The DOD uses MIPRs as the primary document to order goods or services from the FAA. The MIPR includes a description of the work or services DOD is requesting from the FAA, the unit price, the total price, and a fund cite. The FAA CO or other FAA official designated by their Directorate may accept the MIPR on behalf of the FAA. The person authorized to accept the MIPR should ensure the MIPR contains a clear statement of requirements before accepting the MIPR on behalf of the FAA. The DOD may use MIPR (DD Form 448) and Acceptance of MIPR (DD 448-2) to order goods from FAA. The Acceptance of MIPR Form specifies whether the identified work will be provided through reimbursement (Economy Act) or by the direct citation of funds (based on other authority) or a combination of both. Where FAA agrees to an MIPR based on reimbursement pursuant to the Economy Act, then the rules in subparagraph f.(2) above apply. If FAA accepts the funds on a direct cite basis, DOD will not record the funds as obligated until FAA provides DOD with a contract or other obligating document that cites the funds.

(4) *Other Situations.* Where the Economy Act is not cited as authority for FAA, funds are obligated at the time FAA signs the agreement and places funds on the agreement.

(5) *Disposition of Funds Received.* Funds received under an Agreement shall be credited to the appropriation from which the expenses were incurred, unless otherwise required by one of the specific program authorities cited in Paragraph D, Appendix Attachment 1, *Parallel Authorities*, or current and prior appropriation acts.

g. Approval and Execution.

(1) *Review and Approval.* The Administrator has delegated authority to award contracts, cooperative agreements and other transactions to the FAA Acquisition Executive (FAE); provided that the Administrator is given an opportunity to review any grant or cooperative agreement (other than those awarded under the preexisting authority contained in 49 U.S.C. 44912, 44505, and 47101, et seq.), or other transaction with a total cumulative value equal to, or greater than \$10 million, or which is of significant congressional interest.

The FAE subsequently redelegated this authority to the Chief of Contracting Office (COCO) for headquarters, service areas, and centers. The COCO may redelegate the authority to other qualified individuals, such as regional administrators, center directors, and purchase card program manager. Except for the purchase card program manager, the individuals receiving delegated authority from the COCO may not redelegate their authority.

The following factors, which are not all inclusive, typically indicate that the Administrator's review is required:

- (a) The total cumulative value equals or exceeds \$10 million; or
 - (b) The total cumulative value is less than \$10 million, but the following conditions are present:
 - (i) The transaction is the subject of one or more congressional inquiries; or
 - (ii) The transaction is described in a statute, committee report, or agency budget; and
 - (iii) Either the schedule, performance, or estimated cost baseline will be significantly breached by 20% or more.
- (2) *Execution of the Agreement.* The CO, or other employee who has been delegated such authority, executes the agreement on behalf of the FAA, provided that the estimated dollar value of the agreement does not exceed that individual's delegated authority.

h. Legal Review. All agreements require legal review prior to execution. Ideally, legal counsel should be involved at the early stages of the award process to assist with selection of the appropriate legal instrument, drafting appropriate terms and conditions, and other legal issues. AGC-7 in consultation with AGC-500 is responsible for providing legal review of all international government to government agreements and agreements with international quasi-governmental entities. In the Europe, Africa and Middle East (EAME) Region, AEU-7 provides legal review for agreements with foreign governments and quasi-governmental entities. AGC-500 and regional counsel are responsible for providing legal review on all other agreements and will consult with AGC-7 on any agreements that may have foreign policy implications.

i. Chief Financial Officer Approval. Agreements valued at \$10 Million or more must be approved by the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) as required by AMS Guidance T3.2.1.4. The package submitted for CFO approval must include a justification as described in paragraph (c)(3) above as part of the business case. The justification must include a market analysis and supporting documentation for all alternatives considered.

j. *Disputes.* For agreements with non-federal entities, and not covered above in (A)(1)(c)(6)(j), where possible, disputes will be resolved by informal discussion between the parties. In the event the parties are unable to resolve any disagreement through good faith negotiations, the dispute may be resolved by the FAA Administrator, or designee whose decision is not subject to further administrative review and, to the extent permitted by law, is final and binding (see e.g. 49 U.S.C. 46110).

2 Section 106 Cooperative Agreements Revised 4/2017

a. Applicability.

(1) This section applies to cooperative agreements for services, supplies and real property issued under the authority of 49 U.S.C. 106 (l) and (m).

(2) FAA Order 9550.7A implements the Research Grants Program authorized by Public Law 101-508, Sections 9205, 9208, codified at 49 U.S.C. 44511, 44512 and Public Law 101-604, Section 107, codified at 49 U.S.C. 44912. Except for Chapter 8, Sections 1-4, 6-8, the provisions of FAA Order 9550.7A **do not** apply to cooperative agreements issued under the authority of 49 U.S.C. 106 (l) and (m).

b. Authority.

(1) *General.* In Public Law 104-264, Congress provided the FAA with specific authority to "enter into and perform ...cooperative agreements...as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the Administrator and the Administration" with any Federal or non-Federal entity "on such terms and conditions as the Administrator may consider appropriate" (see 49 U.S.C. 106(l)(6) and 106(m)). By its express terms, the statute applies to all activities of the agency and is not limited to research activities, or to non-profit entities (see for example, 49 U.S.C 44512).

(2) *Grants.* Public Law 104-264 does not provide new or additional authority to award grants, which continue to require specific program authority either in an appropriation or authorization statute.

c. Definitions.

(1) *Cooperative Agreement.* A cooperative agreement is a legal instrument used when the principal purpose of the relationship is to transfer a thing of value to a recipient, either public or private, to carry out a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by law instead of acquiring (by purchase, lease or barter) property or services for the direct use or benefit of the agency and there is substantial Federal involvement in the activity. For example, the FAA might enter into a cooperative agreement with a university to provide funding to support research on fire resistant fabrics for use in aircraft that do not produce poisonous fumes. The agency's principal purpose is to stimulate the development of fire resistant fabrics to benefit the general public. The benefit to the FAA is indirect - improved safety for aircraft passengers, which also supports the mission of the FAA.

(2) *Grant.* A grant is similar to a cooperative agreement except that a grant does not require substantial involvement by the FAA in the performance of the effort. Substantial FAA

involvement may be necessary when an activity is technically or managerially complex, or requires extensive close coordination with other federally supported work or multiple recipients.

d. *Appropriations.*

(1) *General Principles.*

(a) The core principles governing the obligation of Federal funds apply to cooperative agreements: appropriations may be used only for the purpose(s) for which they were made; funds must be obligated within the period of their availability and may not exceed the available appropriation. The bona fide need rule also applies; however, the prohibition against augmentation of obligations does not apply to transactions authorized by 49 U.S.C 106 and the credit back provisions of current and former FAA appropriations statutes.

(b) As a general rule, funds awarded under a cooperative agreement lose their character as Federal funds after award and are not subject to the same restrictions as when the Federal government itself spends appropriated funds. There are exceptions to this rule, including situations where a statute, program legislation, agency regulations or the grant agreement provides otherwise. For example, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. 2000d prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. Similarly, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, prohibits discrimination against handicapped individuals in any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance.

(c) The statutory prohibition against advance payments does not apply, as the policy underlying the prohibition (payment for supplies and services upon receipt) is not relevant to an assistance relationship.

(d) F&E funds may be used for cooperative agreements only where the following three criteria are met: (a) the primary purpose is to benefit the public rather than FAA, (b) there is substantial FAA involvement, and (c) funds will be used to acquire, improve or establish air navigation facilities.

(2) *Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidance.* Several OMB Circulars imposed restrictions on projects funded with Federal funds. These Circulars A-21, A-87, A-102, A-110, and A-122 have been superseded by OMB Guidance “Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards” at <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2013/12/26/2013-30465/uniform-administrative-requirements-cost-principles-and-audit-requirements-for-federal-awards> (“OMB Uniform Guidance”).

In construing FAA's authority under 49 U.S.C. 106, the FAA's policy is to follow this OMB Uniform Guidance to the extent this OMB Uniform Guidance is consistent with the FAA's Acquisition Management System and the Administrator's authority to implement "such terms or conditions as the Administrator may deem appropriate."

e. *Content.* All cooperative agreements shall be in writing and should contain the following provisions:

- (1) A clear statement of purpose,
- (2) The legal authority for the agreement,
- (3) A description of the intended beneficiary,
- (4) A description of the level of FAA involvement,
- (5) The term of the agreement,
- (6) Authority and procedure for modifications,
- (7) Level of funding commitment and any limitations or conditions, e.g. milestone payments where the Government's share is distributed at the same ratio as the recipient's share,
- (8) Recipient standards - cost accounting; financial management systems; procurement, technical capability, property management and management organization, technical capability,
- (9) A fund citation and payment provision, if appropriate, or description of in-kind contribution of each party,
- (10) Allowable Costs. Describe any unallowable costs, e.g. profit and fee,
- (11) FAA's right to audit for a stated period of time,
- (12) Mandatory clauses if Federal funds are obligated, e.g. anti-lobbying, compliance with civil rights laws (see subparagraph 2.d., *Appropriations*, above.)
- (13) Small business opportunities,
- (14) Suspension/termination (a cooperative agreement may not be transferred to another recipient without the express, written consent of the FAA prior to the transfer),
- (15) Dispute resolution,
- (16) Debarment/suspension. (Cooperative agreements funded with Federal funds should not be awarded to suspended or debarred entities (at any tier). Appropriate flow through provisions should be included in the Agreement to prohibit sub-awards to suspended or debarred parties.)
- (17) Other terms and conditions, as appropriate, such as indemnification and intellectual property.

f. *Evaluation/Selection of Recipients.* Cooperative agreements may be awarded at the discretion of the FAA on a non-competitive basis; however competition is encouraged whenever practicable. The following factors and any others appropriate for the particular proposal should be considered:

- (1) Technical merit and program value,

- (2) Cost/contribution of the parties,
- (3) Capability of the recipient to accomplish the objectives of the cooperative agreement.

g. *Justification.* Each cooperative agreement should be supported by a written justification describing the following:

- (1) The purpose of the cooperative agreement,
- (2) The expected benefit to the recipient and the general public,
- (3) FAA's substantial involvement in performance of the activity, and
- (4) The method for selection of the recipient(s).

h. *Administration.* Cooperative agreements awarded under this authority will be administered by the awarding activity subject to the continuing oversight of the FAA Acquisition Executive (ACQ-1), who is authorized to redelegate this authority, as appropriate.

3 Gifts and Bequests Revised 4/2020

Under 49 U.S.C. 326, the Administrator has the authority to accept any conditional or unconditional gift or donation of money or property, real or personal, or of services for the FAA. Property accepted under this authority and proceeds from the sale of that property must be used, as nearly as possible, under the terms of the gift. Typically, a gift is characterized by the following criteria: (1) a unilateral transfer to the Government, with or without conditions; (2) the FAA is not obligated to provide anything in return; and (3) there is no continuing relationship with the donor. For example, an airport offers to purchase and provide the FAA with a system such as a MALSR, provided that the FAA places it at that airport, and the FAA is not required to provide anything in return, but is required to maintain the equipment. In that situation, the airport is making a gift and the organizational unit must process the transaction based on the above criteria as well as Chapter 6.19 of the FAA Financial Manual at <https://my.faa.gov/org/staffoffices/afn/finance/policy/financialmanual.html>. If the airport also requires FAA to service its MALSR's in return, a procurement contract should be used as the FAA would be procuring a system by providing services as consideration. If the airport retains title to the MALSR, but the FAA would be responsible for its maintenance, the agreement should be an "other transaction."

4 Interagency Procurement Revised 9/2021

a. *Applicability.* This section applies to interagency procurement of services, supplies and real property. An interagency procurement is a type of interagency transaction in which one Federal agency (requesting agency) uses the contract vehicles and/or contracting services of another Federal agency (servicing agency) or agencies in order to obtain supplies, services, or real property. This section does not apply to orders placed under the General Service Administration's Federal Supply Schedules contracts, which are covered by AMS Policy 3.8.3 and AMS Guidance T3.8.3 "Federal Supply Schedules."

b. Requirements.

(1) Procurement Laws and Directives. Where FAA procures services, supplies or real property through another Federal agency contract or uses its contracting services, FAA is subject to the procurement laws applicable to that agency. In a similar vein, unless authorized by statute or regulation, other Federal agencies may not conduct acquisitions using the FAA's exemptions from acquisition laws. Joint activities with DOD as defined in AMS Guidance T3.8.1.A.1(b)(2) may be conducted using FAA AMS policy and procedures.

(2) Best Interest Determination. Each interagency procurement in which FAA is the requesting agency must be supported by a written best interest determination. The procurement or real property contracting officer (CO), acting within the warrant authority commensurate with the total estimated dollar value of the requirement, approves the determination. If the procurement is valued at \$10 million or more and requires CFO review and approval under AMS Guidance T3.2.1.4, the best interest determination must be done as part of the business case included in the CFO review package. The best interest determination must address the following elements:

(a) Suitability. Explain how use of the servicing agency's contract vehicle likely to result in a quality outcome that meets FAA's requirements and schedule, taking into account planning considerations described in AMS Policy 3.2.1 "Procurement Planning." For procurements valued at \$10 million or more, the determination must include information on the market analysis conducted.

(b) Value. Explain how use of another Federal agency's contract vehicle the most efficient and cost-effective means of procuring the services, supplies, or real property, as opposed to using a current FAA contract vehicle or placing a new contract directly with a vendor. Any servicing agency fees should be taken into account in assessing value.

(c) Expertise. Explain how the procurement team, including both contracting and program personnel, have the appropriate time, training, and expertise to effectively place and administer the contract work. The procurement team would consist of FAA personnel for a direct procurement - those in which FAA places an order directly with the contractor on another Federal agency's contract. The procurement team would consist of servicing agency personnel, possibly working in conjunction with FAA personnel, for an assisted procurement – those in which the servicing agency provides contracting support (such as conducting a task order competition) in addition to agreeing to allow FAA to use its contract(s).

(3) Templates. When FAA is the servicing agency in an assisted procurement the Interagency Agreement Template located in Procurement Templates, must be used. If the FAA is the requesting agency, a template or form required by the servicing agency may be used. Regardless of the template format, the CO must ensure the roles and responsibilities of the respective parties are described clearly in the agreement, including specifics on tasks such as performance monitoring, inspection and acceptance, approval of invoice payments, and restoration and disposition of property. For direct procurements, no interagency agreement document is required, but COs and program office personnel must use any templates required by the servicing agency in placing the order.

(4) Unsolicited Proposals. An interagency procurement may be used for acceptance of an

unsolicited proposal, in addition to use of a single source contract action as described in AMS Guidance T3.2.2.6.A.5. Unsolicited proposals must be considered and processed in accordance with AMS Policy 3.2.2.6 and AMS Guidance T3.2.2.6 “Unsolicited Proposals,” but if an interagency procurement is used instead of a single source action, the interagency procurement best interest determination would replace the single source justification required under T3.2.2.6.A.5(b)(2).

(5) Review and Approval. Review and approval requirements for interagency procurements are the same as those for other FAA procurements.

(6) Administration. The CO administering an agreement for an assisted interagency procurement must ensure that the terms and conditions agreed to by the parties are reviewed at least annually for agreements that exceed one year. The FAA review should involve the CO, program office, and other technical and legal experts as necessary. The review should consist of a reexamination of the agreement, as supported by the best interest determination, in order to assess whether the agreement is meeting the needs of FAA. If the agreement is not meeting FAA’s needs, the review team should discuss these issues with the other party and amend or terminate the agreement as appropriate and allowed by the terms of the agreement. The annual assessment must be signed by the FAA CO and the reviewing official of the other party and documented in the agreement file.

(7) Documentation. COs entering into an agreement for an assisted interagency procurement must use the Interagency Agreement File Checklist in the FAST Procurement Checklists when documenting the agreement file.

c. Authority.

(1) 49 U.S.C. 106(l) (6) should be cited as general authority for all assisted interagency procurement agreements.

(2) Where the FAA seeks to obtain supplies or services through another agency’s prime contract and to make advance payments, the Economy Act, 31 U.S.C 1535 should be cited as additional authority for FAA. In most cases, the Economy Act also provides authority for the other Federal agency.

5 Reimbursable Agreements and Other Transaction Reimbursable Agreements

Revised 7/2014

a. *Applicability.* This section applies to reimbursable agreements for services, supplies and facilities where FAA is the servicing agency and another Federal agency or non-Federal entity is the requesting agency or the sponsor. There is no obligation of FAA funds associated with reimbursable agreements. This process does not apply to Small Scale Reimbursable Agreements (SSRAs), which are defined as reimbursable agreements with a total estimated value of less than \$30,000.

b. *Requirements.*

(1) When FAA provides services, supplies, or facilities to another Federal agency or

non-Federal entity, FAA is essentially a contractor and subject to the terms and conditions of the requesting agency. When possible, FAA should use FAA-approved templates. If not possible, FAA should ensure that the other (sponsor) Federal agency's or the non-Federal entity agreement addresses the content required by T3.8.1A1.c(5). In addition to the requirements of AMS for reimbursable agreement, each CO must be familiar with and adhere to the requirements of FAA Order 2500.35D, the FAA's Financial Manual, and the FAA Reimbursable Agreement SOP referenced in T3.8.1A1.b(7).

(2) *Business Case Determination.* Each reimbursable agreement in which FAA is the servicing agency must be supported by a written business case determination that it is in the best interest of the agency to provide the service, supply or facility. The business case must also identify the benefits derived by FAA. This determination must be signed by the director of the program office, or their designated representative, and address the policy contained in Section 9 of FAA Order 2500.35D. The CO must ensure that one has been completed but determination as to whether or not the rational basis is appropriate and sufficient and whether to proceed with the reimbursable agreement lies with ABU. The CO will contact ABU with any concerns, and ABU will address them as needed with the program office.

c. Reimbursable Agreement Process.

(1) The program office will input a zero-dollar purchase request (PR) into the PRISM system to initiate a CO's involvement. See No Cost Requisitions and Awards (FAA only).

(2) The CO coordinates with the program official based on their PR and business case to evaluate the requirement that is needed by the requesting agency and the reimbursable agreement template chosen by the agreement coordinator.

(a) If using a modifiable agreement template, the CO will work with the agreement coordinator to determine any unique terms and conditions.

(b) If the project sponsor/requesting agency requires that FAA use their reimbursable agreement template, then the CO will ensure compliance with T3.8.1A1.c(5) and that the FAA as the servicing agency has the ability to comply with the requesting agency's requirements.

(3) If there are any assets to be acquired as part of the reimbursable agreement that must be capitalized, the program office/agreement coordinator is responsible for identifying these assets in Section 4 of the reimbursable agreement. If Section 4 identifies assets, the CO must ensure that a copy of the agreement is provided to the Regional Capitalization Team and comply with FAA standardized asset capitalization procedures.

(a) Actual asset value may not be cited in the reimbursable agreement at time of execution; however, document must at least identify the asset.

(b) Software is an asset that must be capitalized.

(4) The program office is responsible for all aspects of pricing their services, supplies or facilities to ensure full reimbursement. Any negotiations between the requesting agency and the servicing agency will be conducted by program officials, and not the CO. The CO will need to check the Reimbursable Datasheet specifically Section 3, and ensure that the agreement amount and overhead percentage amount match the pricing on the reimbursable agreement. If the data sheet states that the overhead has been waived, the CO should access the reimbursable tool to validate that a properly executed “Reimbursable Agreement Waiver Request Form” has been uploaded. Since there is no obligation of dollars by the FAA, the role of the CO is to document the agreement made between the requesting and servicing agencies.

(5) As the servicing agency, the CO will sign the reimbursable agreement first and then forward to the requesting agency for final signature. The CO must have specific reimbursable agreement warrant authority for the total estimated potential value of the reimbursable agreement to sign the agreement even though the CO is not obligating dollars. Upon receipt of a fully executed reimbursable agreement from the requesting agency the CO will “award” the document in PRISM and annotate in the “notes” section the corresponding reimbursable agreement number assigned by the reimbursable tool and distribute the document to all applicable parties.

(6) *Reimbursable Agreement Administration.*

(a) *Invoicing and Payment.* The Accounting Office prepares the invoice and sends to the requesting agency for payment according to the terms and conditions in the reimbursable agreement. If the requesting agency's payment is more than 30 days past due, the program official notifies the CO and the CO contacts the requesting agency for payment. If no payment is received in the next 30 days, the issue is raised to successive levels of management within the contracting office for resolution.

(b) *Funding Log.* The CO is responsible for maintaining, as part of the contract file, a funding log to track all funds received from sponsor, either lump sum or incremental funding distribution. Acceptance of these funds will be executed by the CO. *The Program office is also responsible for tracking the funds.*

(c) *Performance.* The program office is responsible for monitoring performance. If the FAA is unable to fulfill the terms of the reimbursable agreement, the program office must notify the CO to initiate discussions with the requesting agency and possible termination of the agreement.

(d) *Modifications.* For reimbursable agreements the FAA as a servicing agency is acting in the capacity of a contractor. If a modification is required to the reimbursable agreement the requesting agency will initiate the modification. However, if the requesting agency asks the CO of the servicing agency to write the modification the CO will sign it, and forward to the requesting agency for CO signature. In no event will the FAA CO obligate or

deobligate requesting agency funds.

(e) *Incremental Funding, Overruns, and Other Funding Notifications.* The program office is responsible for tracking all expenditures and requesting additional funds as required. As expenditures near 75% of available sponsor funding, the program office will notify the sponsor agency to ensure timely receipt of funding to prevent overruns.

(f) *Termination.* The servicing agency CO will be notified in the event any contract terms have been breached which may result in termination.

(g) *Closeout.* No charges may be incurred after the period of performance has expired. When performance is complete the CO will receive notice by email through the reimbursable tool. Included in the tool will be a closeout form that has already been validated by all responsible parties in the process. The CO will contact the requesting agency/sponsor by email to see if they have received all services, supplies or facilities as stated in the reimbursable agreement. When the CO receives an email response, then they can concur in the reimbursable tool. AMZ will send out an email notice through the reimbursable tool when the reimbursable agreement has been closed out. At this point the CO will go into PRISM and close the corresponding PRISM document.

(h) There is no file records retention requirement with reimbursable agreements as the reimbursable tool is the system of record and must contain all official documents.

B Clauses

[view contract clauses](#)

C Procurement Forms Revised 9/2021

Document Name

D Procurement Samples Revised 9/2021

Document Name

E Procurement Templates Added 9/2021

Document Name
FAA Acquisition Strategy for Proposed IAA with Volpe
Intellectual Property - Section 106 Cooperative Agreement
Interagency Agreement Template
Intra-agency Agreement Form 7600a
Intra-agency Agreement Form 7600b
Other Transaction - Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
Other Transaction - MOA with State, Municipality or Private Entity Template
Section 106 Cooperative Agreement Template

F Procurement Tools and Resources Added 9/2021

Document Name
FAC Memo Intra-Agency Agreements (IAAs) with Volpe

G Appendix Revised 9/2021

1 Attachment 1 - Parallel Authorities

49 U.S.C. 40108 - authorizes the FAA to establish training schools for FAA officers and employees. Authorizes attendance of officers and employees of other Federal entities, governments of foreign countries, and individuals from the aeronautics industry. Authorizes the Administrator to "*require payment or transfer of amounts or other consideration to offset the additional cost*" of any of "*those officers, employees, or individuals.*" **Amounts received may be credited to the appropriation current when the expenditures are or were paid, the appropriation current when the amount is received, or both.**

49 U.S.C. 40113(e) - authorizes the Administrator to provide safety-related training and operational services to foreign aviation authorities with or without reimbursement. **Funds received shall be credited to the appropriation from which the expenses were incurred.**

49 U.S.C. 44502 (a)(2) - authorizes the Administrator to make an agreement with an airport owner or sponsor (includes a private owner of a public use airport) so that the owner or sponsor will provide site preparation work associated with acquiring, establishing, or improving an air navigation facility and be paid or reimbursed from the appropriated amounts

(under section 48101(a)).

49 U.S.C. 44502(d) - authorizes the FAA to provide, by regulation, assistance, and sale of fuel, oil, equipment and supplies to an aircraft in an emergency. **The cost of the assistance may be credited to the appropriation from which the cost was paid.**

49 U.S.C. 47301 - 47305 - provides authority to acquire, establish and construct airport property and airway property (except meteorological facilities) in foreign territory, authority to transfer property, train foreign citizens, accept payment from a government of a foreign country or international organization for facilities or services provided the government or organization, and **authority to credit funds so received to current appropriations.**

49 U.S.C. 44903(c) - provides authority to the Administrator to authorize an airport operator to use on a reimbursable basis, personnel employed by the Administrator, or by another department, agency, or instrumentality of the Government with the consent of the head of the department, agency, or instrumentality, to supplement State, local, and private law enforcement personnel.

49 U.S.C. 44505(d) - authorizes cooperative agreements on a cost-shared basis for research, engineering and development with Federal and non-Federal entities.

49 U.S.C. 44912 - authorizes grants and cooperative agreements for research technologies to counter terrorist acts against civil aviation.

49 U.S.C. 44913 - authorizes grants under the Explosive Detection K-9 Team Training Program.

49 U.S.C. 44935(c)(2) - authorizes reimbursement for travel, transportation, and subsistence expenses for security training of non-United States Government domestic and foreign individuals whose services will contribute significantly to carrying out civil aviation security programs.

49 U.S.C. 47104 - authorizes project grants for airport development from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund.

49 U.S.C. 47151 - authorizes the Administrator to give an interest in surplus airport property to a State, political subdivision of a State, or tax supported organization. Such surplus property may be used by the U.S. Government without charge if the President declares a national emergency.