

## 13.104 Promoting competition.

The *contracting officer* must promote competition to the maximum extent practicable to obtain *supplies* and services from the source whose *offer* is the most advantageous to the Government, considering the administrative cost of the purchase.

(a) The *contracting officer* must not-

(1) Solicit quotations based on personal preference; or

(2) Restrict *solicitation* to suppliers of well-known and widely distributed makes or brands.

(b) If using *simplified acquisition procedures* and not providing access to the notice of proposed contract action and *solicitation* information through the *Governmentwide point of entry (GPE)*, maximum practicable competition ordinarily can be obtained by soliciting quotations or *offers* from sources within the local trade area. Unless the contract action requires synopsis pursuant to [5.101](#) and an exception under [5.202](#) is not applicable, consider *solicitation* of at least three sources to promote competition to the maximum extent practicable. Whenever practicable, request quotations or *offers* from two sources not included in the previous *solicitation*.

(c) When conducting a *reverse auction*, see [subpart 17.8](#).

**Parent topic:** [Subpart 13.1 - Procedures](#)