

COFPAES

The Council on Federal Procurement of Architectural and Engineering Services

The Council on Federal Procurement of Architectural and Engineering Services (COFPAES) is a coalition of the nation's leading design community professional societies. Member organizations are comprised of architects, engineers, surveyors and mapping professionals from government service and private practice, numbering more than 200,000 individuals.

Since 1966, COFPAES has provided the design community with a common voice and an important focus on federal procurement law and regulations. Then, as now, the major organizations representing design professionals realized that a common effort was needed to educate Congress and the public on the design professions and the need to place the emphasis on quality and competence by procuring professional services through a qualifications-based selection (QBS) process.

COFPAES serves the American public as a well-known and respected forum for the consideration of policy changes in the selection procedures of design professionals. Because of its emphasis on professionalism in the procurement process, COFPAES assists the federal government in assuring that the design of projects to satisfy the building, infrastructure, environmental and resource needs of our nation is conducted in an efficient and quality manner.

COFPAES is a strong proponent of the "Brooks Act" qualifications based selection (QBS) process in 40 USC 541 and FAR Part 36 and long endorsed in the American Bar Association Model Procurement Code for State and Local Government.

This process, enacted 30 years ago in Public Law 92-582, provides for the selection of firms for architecture, engineering, surveying and mapping services based on demonstrated competence and qualifications, experience, and past performance. The vast majority of states have also adopted this process in their codes.

The enactment and defense of the QBS law is not the only reason for the continued existence of COFPAES. The goal of the coalition always has been the promotion of sound A/E procurement practices. Through the years, COFPAES has provided the stimulus for advancements such as the development of the original SF254 and 255 questionnaires and the

replacement SF330 and has served as an informal sounding board for new developments in federal procurement procedures, policies and regulations.

In addition, COFPAES has organized courses for private sector design professionals and federal, state and municipal procurement personnel, sponsored conferences on federal programs and procedures, and published guides to contracting with the federal government. COFPAES also convenes a forum where design professionals and agency officials can meet and share information on their common needs and issues, and federal officials can exchange ideas and concerns with their peers in government service.

Priority Legislative and Regulatory Issues:

- Definition of A/E Services
- Federal Procurement of A/E Services
- Set-Aside Policy
- Model Procurement Code
- Office of Federal Procurement Policy
- Design-Build Process
- State and Local A/E Procurement
- Contract Bundling

Become a Sustaining Member of COFPAES

Qualifications of Membership:

Any firm with a principal who is a member of one of the COFPAES member organizations and embraces the principle of qualifications based selection for professional A/E services can become a sustaining member of COFPAES.

Member Benefits:

Sustaining members have the following benefits of membership in COFPAES:

- Invitation to attend Washington, DC forums (held two times a year). This meeting provides A/E firms with the opportunity to interact with key procurement officials from Federal Agencies, and get the latest information on federal procurement.
- The COFPAES E-Newsletter is your gateway to the latest information on federal and state policy regarding the procurement of A/E services.
- Member Firms will have a link on the COFPAES website.
- COFPAES member organizations will provide advocacy opportunities at the fall and spring meetings for all sustaining member attendees.
- Sustaining member firms will have observer status at the COFPAES delegate meetings.
- Sustaining members will receive invitations to all COFPAES events such as the Brooks Medal Presentation and Reception.

Dues:

\$250 per calendar year.

For further information:

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E john@cofpaes.org
WWW.COFPAES.ORG

YES my firm supports the QBS process which provides excellence in design and construction of public projects. Enclosed is a check for COFPAES dues.

Principal's Name: _____

Company Name: _____

Corporate Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Website: _____

Email*: _____

Headquarters Office

Branch Office

Specialty (check all that apply):

Architectural

Water

Structural

Environmental

Transportation

Surveying

Energy

Geotechnical

Number of Employees (company wide):

1-30

76-150

251-500

31-75

151-250

501 plus

Please enclose \$250 check for dues payable to COFPAES, or call us at 703-787-4748 to pay by credit card.

Dues are billed on a calendar year basis. Mail to: COFPAES, 1856 Old Reston Avenue, Suite 205, Reston, VA 20190

*Most COFPAES communications are distributed via email.

Your e-mail address will be used for COFPAES communications only.