



STATE OF ILLINOIS
COMPTROLLER
JUDY BAAR TOPINKA

ACCOUNTING BULLETIN

TO: Fiscal Officers of All State Agencies

FROM: Steven L. Valasek, Assistant Comptroller - Operations

DATE: October 21, 2011

SUBJECT: Minority Contractor Opportunity Initiative - Public Act 97-0590

NUMBER: 174

Public Act 97-0590 added 15 ILCS 405/23.9 to the State Comptroller Act (15 ILCS 405). This amendment created the State Comptroller Minority Contractor Opportunity Initiative to provide greater opportunities for minority-owned businesses, female-owned businesses, businesses owned by persons with disabilities, and small businesses with 20 or fewer employees in this State to participate in the State procurement process.

This amendment also introduced a funding mechanism for this initiative program. "On or after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly, any bidder or offeror awarded a contract of \$1,000 or more under Section 20-10, 20-15, 20-25, or 20-30 of the Illinois Procurement Code is required to pay a fee of \$15 to cover expenses related to the administration of this Section. The Comptroller shall deduct the fee from the first check issued to the vendor under the contract and deposit the fee into the Comptroller's Administrative Fund." The effective date of this amendatory Act was August 26, 2011.

The Illinois Office of the Comptroller (IOC) has implemented phase one of the required modifications to SAMS. Phase one identifies any contract filed with our office of \$1000 or more, with a beginning service date on or after August 26, 2011, and with SAMS Award Code of A, B, D, or E. Contracts that meet these criteria will be subject to the \$15 administrative fee. In the case of a "master" contract, SAMS will only identify the first order against a master contract that meets the above criteria. All subsequent orders against the same master contract will not be subject to the \$15 administrative fee.

Phase two of the project will deduct the \$15 fee from the vendor's first payment that is \$25 or more. The IOC will mail a letter, under separate cover, to affected vendors indicating the statutory mandate to deduct this fee. When the administrative fee is deducted from a hard copy warrant, the remittance advice will also note the deduction of the \$15 from the voucher amount. Once the administrative fee is deducted, agencies will be able to view a field on SAMS OPVH screen that identifies the Contract Fee.

Phase two of this project will be implemented within the next two weeks.

If you have any technical questions concerning this bulletin, please contact Marvin Becker, Director of State Accounting at (217) 782-7078. If you have any questions about the State Comptroller Minority Contractor Opportunity Initiative, please contact Phillip Rodriguez, Director of Minority and Small Business Development at (312) 814-5920. Agencies may access this and other Accounting, Payroll and SAMS Bulletins on the Comptroller's website at www.ioc.state.il.us under Resource Library.