# PART 5306 - Competition Requirements

*Revised: June 2023*

Table of Contents

[PART 5306 - Competition Requirements 1](#_Toc100667909)

[SUBPART 5306.2 — FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION AFTER EXCLUSION OF SOURCES 1](#_Toc100667910)

[5306.202 Establishing or Maintaining Alternative Sources 2](#_Toc100667911)

[SUBPART 5306.3 — OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION 2](#_Toc100667912)

[5306.302-1 Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements 2](#_Toc100667913)

[5306.302-2 Unusual and Compelling Urgency 2](#_Toc100667914)

[5306.302-4 International Agreement 2](#_Toc100667915)

[5306.303-1 Requirements 2](#_Toc100667916)

[5306.303-1-90 Bridge Actions for Service Contracts Only (See DoDI 5000.74) 2](#_Toc100667917)

[5306.303-2 Content 3](#_Toc100667918)

[5306.304 Approval of the Justification 3](#_Toc100667919)

[SUBPART 5306.5 — COMPETITION ADVOCATES 4](#_Toc100667920)

[5306.501 Requirement 4](#_Toc100667921)

[5306.502 Duties and Responsibilities 5](#_Toc100667922)

## SUBPART 5306.2 — FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION AFTER EXCLUSION OF SOURCES

### 5306.202 Establishing or Maintaining Alternative Sources

(b)(1) The Life Cycle Sustainment Plan (LCSP)/Acquisition Strategy approval authority is authorized to sign and approve the Determination and Findings (D&F) required by [FAR 6.202(b)(1)](https://www.acquisition.gov/far/part-6#FAR_6_202).

## SUBPART 5306.3 — OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION

### 5306.302-1 Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements

(a)(2)(i)*(1)* See [MP5301.601(a)(i)](https://www.acquisition.gov/affars/mp5301-federal-acquisition-regulations-system#AFFARS_MP5301_601).

(d) See [MP5301.601(a)(i)](https://www.acquisition.gov/affars/mp5301-federal-acquisition-regulations-system#AFFARS_MP5301_601).

### 5306.302-2 Unusual and Compelling Urgency

(c)(1) Contracting officers must notify their SCO and cognizant HCA as soon as practicable when contemplating the use of this authority for a J&A requiring SAF/AQ or SAF/SQ approval.

(d)(1)(ii) The authority to make this determination for the DAF is the SCO or the J&A approval authority, whichever is higher. This authority may not be further delegated.

### 5306.302-4 International Agreement

(c) *Limitations*. An [*International Agreement Competitive Restriction* (IACR)](https://usaf.dps.mil/sites/AFCC/AQCP/KnowledgeCenter/SitePages/DAFFARS-Templates.aspx) must be used when the terms of the document referred to in [DFARS 206.302-4(c)](https://www.acquisition.gov/dfars/part-206-competition-requirements#DFARS-206.302-4) have the effect of requiring the use of other than competitive procedures, even if the agreement, treaty, or written direction does not specifically name a particular source or sources. The contracting officer is authorized to prepare the IACR (see [MP5301.601(a)(i)](https://www.acquisition.gov/affars/mp5301-federal-acquisition-regulations-system#AFFARS_MP5301_601)). The contracting officer must include the IACR and a copy of the associated *Letter of Offer and Acceptance*, once completed, in the contract file.

### 5306.303-1 Requirements

(a) Solicitations for other than full and open competition may be released prior to justification approval, except as set forth in [FAR 6.305(c)](https://www.acquisition.gov/far/part-6#FAR_6_305) and the asterisked paragraph below the table at [5306.304(a)](http://5306.docx#p5306_304).

### 5306.303-1-90 Bridge Actions for Service Contracts Only

(a) All service contract actions that meet the definition of a bridge action at [DAFFARS 5302.101](https://www.acquisition.gov/affars/part-5302-definitions-words-and-terms) require a written, approved justification document in accordance with DAFFARS 5306.304 Approval of the Justification. All bridge action J&As shall be identified as a “bridge action J&A” as indicated in the respective justification templates. Upon award of any bridge action, Contracting Officers shall enter the action into the DAF [Bridge Action Reporting Tool](https://usaf.dps.mil/sites/AFCC/AQCP/KnowledgeCenter/SitePages/Bridge-Action-Reporting.aspx) (BART). Competition Advocates for each procuring activity shall ensure all bridge actions are included in the tool on a quarterly basis.

(b) Notifications required by [DoDI 5000.74](https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/500074p.pdf), *Defense Acquisition of Services*.

(1) Upon the first use of a bridge contract to provide for continuation of a service to be performed through a services contract, due to inadequate planning as determined by the S-CAT decision authority, the requirements owner, along with the contracting officer or a designee of the contracting officer for the contract, will:

(i) For a services contract in an amount less than $10 million, provide an update on the status of the bridge contract (including the rationale for using the bridge contract) to the requiring activity’s PEO, Flag Officer, or civilian equivalent, as applicable; or

(ii) For a services contract in an amount equal to or greater than $10 million, provide an update on the status of the bridge contract (including the rationale for using the bridge contract) to the cognizant Service Acquisition Executive (SAE).

(2) Upon the second use of a bridge contract to provide for continuation of a service to be performed through a services contract in an amount less than $10 million, due to inadequate planning as determined by the S-CAT decision authority, the commander or senior civilian official referred to in Paragraph (b)(1)(i) will provide notification of such use to the Vice Chief of Staff of the DAF and the cognizant SAE.

(c) Contracting officers shall forward a copy of the signed J&A and transmittal document or email required by (b) or (c) above to the competition advocate.

### 5306.303-2 Content

(a) Contracting officers may use the [Justification and Approval](https://usaf.dps.mil/sites/AFCC/AQCP/KnowledgeCenter/SitePages/DAFFARS-Templates.aspx) template.

### 5306.304 Approval of the Justification

(a)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Justification Value** | **Approval Authority** | **Delegability** |
| < $750K | Chief of the Contracting Office | Delegable to contracting officer, consistent with warrant level |
| > $750K < $15M | Procuring Activity [Competition and Commercial Advocate](https://usaf.dps.mil/sites/AFCC/Lists/POCs/Competition%20Commercial%20Advocates.aspx) | Not further delegable |
| > $15M < $100M | PEO (General Officer or civilian SES) / Head of Procuring Activity\* | Delegable to General Officer or civilian SES |
| > $100M | SAF/AQ or SAF/SQ | Not further delegable |

\* The Commander or Director for the locations listed in 5306.501(a)(1) and (2) serves as the Head of Procuring Activity and is the J&A approval authority for programs that are not part of a PEO portfolio. AFPEO/CM is the J&A approval authority for services that are not part of a Systems PEO portfolio.

(4) J&As for actions exceeding $100M must be coordinated with the PEO/Head of Procuring Activity and the [cognizant HCA](https://www.acquisition.gov/affars/part-5302-definitions-words-and-terms) prior to SAF/AQ or SAF/SQ approval (See [MP5301.601(a)(i)](https://www.acquisition.gov/affars/mp5301-federal-acquisition-regulations-system#AFFARS_MP5301_601) for staffing and coordination instructions). Changes recommended during the staffing process for SPE approval must be adjudicated by the contracting officer in coordination with the [cognizant HCA](https://www.acquisition.gov/affars/part-5302-definitions-words-and-terms) prior to submitting the J&A to the SPE for approval.

(e) Changes After J&A Approval: Regardless of dollar value, if a proposed change is for a new work outside the scope of the original J&A, submit a new J&A to the appropriate approving official based on the value of the new work. New work should not commence until the J&A is approved unless authorized in accordance with [FAR 6.302-2](https://www.acquisition.gov/far/part-6#FAR_6_302_2), Unusual and Compelling Urgency.

(1) Before contract award, if the dollar value is expected to exceed the authority of the original J&A approving official, submit an amended J&A to the appropriate approving official. Clearly identify the dollar increase from the approved J&A.

(2) After contract award, if the dollar value of an in-scope change exceeds the authority of the original J&A approving official, submit an amended J&A to the appropriate approving official. Clearly identify the dollar increase from the approved J&A.

(3) A new or amended J&A is not require for an increase in the estimated dollar value of in-scope work that does not exceed the authority of the original J&A approving official.

**SUBPART 5306.5 — COMPETITION ADVOCATES**

### 5306.501 Requirement

(a) The DAS(C) is the designated the DAF Competition Advocate General (CAG).

(1) The following organizations are designated as Air Force procuring activities for purposes of competition:

Air Combat Command (ACC)

Air Education and Training Command (AETC)

Air Force District of Washington (AFDW)

Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC)

Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC)

Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center (AFOTEC) - AFTC is the competition advocate for AFOTEC

Air Force Rapid Capabilities Office (AFRCO)

Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC)

Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC)

Air Mobility Command (AMC)

Pacific Air Forces (PACAF)

United States Air Force Academy (USAFA)

United States Air Forces in Europe (USAFE)

USAF Academy (USAFA)

(2) The following organizations are designated as Space Force procuring activities.

Space Development Agency

Space Rapid Capabilities Office (SpRCO)

Space Systems Command (SSC)

(b) The procuring activities listed above are authorized to further designate subordinate organizations as procuring activities subject to the requirements of [FAR 6.501](https://www.acquisition.gov/far/part-6#FAR_6_501) and [MP5306.502](https://www.acquisition.gov/affars/mp5306-competition-requirements#AFFARS_MP5306_502), *Air Force Competition and Commercial Advocacy Program*.

### 5306.502 Duties and Responsibilities

See [MP5306.502](https://www.acquisition.gov/affars/mp5306-competition-requirements#AFFARS_MP5306_502), *Air Force Competition and Commercial Advocacy Program*.