

22.00 Vendors Rights: Vendors (in this document identified as Agency) providing goods and services to the Department should be aware of the following time frames. Upon receipt, the Department has five (5) working days to inspect and approve the goods and services unless the bid specifications, purchase order or contract specifies otherwise. The Department has 20 days to deliver a request for payment (voucher) to the Department of Financial Services. The 20 days are measured from the latter of the date the invoice is received or the goods or services are received, inspected and approved.

If a payment is not available within 40 days after receipt of the invoice and receipt, inspection and approval of goods and services, a separate interest penalty in accordance with Section 215.422(3)(b), F.S. will be due and payable, in addition to the invoice amount to the Agency. The interest penalty provision applies after a 35 day time period to health care providers, as defined by rule. Interest penalties of less than one (1) dollar will not be enforced unless the Agency requests payment. Invoices which have to be returned to an Agency because of vendor preparation errors will result in a delay in the payment. The invoice payment requirements do not start until a properly completed invoice is provided to the Department.

A Vendor Ombudsman has been established within the Department of Financial Services. The duties of this individual include acting as an advocate for Agencies who may be experiencing problems in obtaining timely payment(s) from the Department. The Vendor Ombudsman may be contacted at (850) 413-5516.

23.00 Public Entity Crime: A person or affiliate who has been placed on the convicted vendor list following a conviction for a public entity crime may not submit a bid on a contract to provide any goods or services to a public entity, may not submit a bid on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work, may not submit bids on leases of real property to a public entity, may not be awarded or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a contract with any public entity, and may not transact business with any public entity in excess of the threshold amount provided in s. 287.017, F.S. for CATEGORY TWO for a period of 36 months from the date of being placed on the convicted vendor list.

24.00 Discrimination: An entity or affiliate who has been placed on the discriminatory vendor list may not submit a bid on a contract to provide any goods or services to a public entity, may not submit a bid on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work, may not submit bids on leases of real property to a public entity, may not be awarded or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a contract with any public entity, and may not transact business with any public entity.

25.00 E-Verify

Vendors/Contractors:

1. shall utilize the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system to verify the employment eligibility of all new employees hired by the Vendor/Contractor during the term of the contract; and
2. shall expressly require any subcontractors performing work or providing services pursuant to the state contract to likewise utilize the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system to verify the employment eligibility of all new employees hired by the subcontractor during the contract term.