

## 541.204 GSA areawide contracts.

(a) The existence of a GSA areawide contract for the required service and location does not necessarily mean that the subject utility provider is the only source capable of meeting the requirement (see [FAR 41.202\(a\)](#) and [41.204\(c\)\(1\)](#)). When market research and acquisition planning support ordering the entire requirement under an area-wide contract, the contracting officer may do so, but shall utilize the annual reviews required by [FAR 41.401](#) to determine the feasibility of later entering into a competitive contract for a portion of the requirement.

(b) *FAR Deviation.*

(1) Except as may be otherwise required by the terms of the areawide contract, and notwithstanding the requirement at [FAR 41.204\(c\)\(1\)](#), a bilateral written order is not required to establish new accounts or to pay for services rendered under an areawide contract.

(2) Notwithstanding the requirement at [FAR 41.204\(c\)\(3\)](#), the contracting officer does not have to use the Standard Form 26.

(3) Instead, GSA will follow the Regulated Utility Service Procedures set forth at <https://insite.gsa.gov/utilityacquisition>.

**Parent topic:** [Subpart 541.2 - Acquiring Utility Services](#)