

The Directors Corner

A Sad Farewell

We are sad to announce that **Ginger Hardee** is leaving DPS to join the procurement team at USC. Ginger has been a valuable member of our team since November 2023, and while we are sad to see her go, We wish her the best of luck in her new position.



Introducing our Summer Intern!

Hi everyone!

My name is Fatimah Rivers, and I am currently pursuing a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of South Carolina. I earned bachelor's degrees in political science and Sociology, with minors in Spanish Studies and Psychology, from Clemson University.

My favorite food is lemon pepper wings.

During this internship I want to gain a deeper understanding of the procurement process and specifically how public procurement supports accountability and efficiency in governmental settings.

What excites me the most about public procurement is learning how decisions made behind the scenes help shape the programs and services the general public are able to use.



Apply now!

We're Hiring

DPS Procurement Manager II Positions Available

The State Procurement Office has two Procurement Manager II positions immediately available. One for the Supplies & Services Statewide team, and one for the Higher Education and Law Enforcement Agency team. Both positions are currently advertised, and we would encourage anyone who wants a new challenge and an outstanding work culture to submit their application

ASAP. Just imagine not having to worry about fiscal year-end close out....wouldn't that be an amazing benefit?? 😊



Notice: Electronic Equipment Recycling

The Procurement Review Panel has issued their decision on the subject contract and did not overturn the CPO's decision.

Therefore, contract 4400025425 with Life Cycle Solutions, that was extended, has been terminated as of May 27, 2026, and the new contract with Powerhouse Recycling, Inc. (4400038764) is effective as of the same date.

Any work started under a PO issued to Lifecycle Solutions prior to May 27, 2026, may be completed under the contract. All new POs should be issued to Powerhouse.



Update: E-Rate Update & Effect on Contracts

We have been made aware of a ruling by the State's E-Rate coordinator called the Queen of Peace Law. This law requires that all solicitations including the option for E-Rate funding include language allowing for Brand Name or Equal in the solicitation.

We are in the process of figuring out the next steps on how we will solicit to ensure that ERATE eligible contracts are covered with the appropriate verbiage.

The contracts on our website have been updated to notify our users with the information that the current contracts are not eligible until we put a new one in place with the appropriate language.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Randy Barr, Sr. at rbarr@mmo.sc.gov.

DPS Finance Update

As the fiscal year ends, all agencies and entities have been invoiced for services rendered through the Division of Procurement Services for the period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

This includes trainings, **procurement directors conference** and procurement code books.

! Please note that if payment is not received within 45 days of the invoice date, SCOPES access will be suspended until payment is received.

If you have not received an invoice for any of these services, please contact us at dps-receivables@mmo.sc.gov.



The Monthly Statewide Term Contract Town Hall

The next Town Hall will be **June 16, 2026, at 11:00am.**

YOU can help set the agenda by sending any questions ahead of time to one of the email addresses below:



Supplies & Services and General Questions:
Michael Speakmon. mspeakmon@mmo.sc.gov

IT Questions:
Randy Barr at rbarr@mmo.sc.gov



DPS Training 2026

Update: We are finalizing the courses for the summer/fall training session with classes set to resume in mid-July after the opening of the new FY.

Did you know that SCOPES can alert you to new course sessions?



State Term Contracts Updates- May 2026



May 2026 STC Updates

CONGRATULATIONS 2026 Graduates.

College Graduates:

Deja Nichole Barnes. - Traci Collins
(DPS)

Cheyenne Edwards. -Portia Davis (DPS)

High School Graduates:

Braeden Latimer. -Ariana Latimer (DPS)

Mallory Baysden. -Jonathon Baysden (DPS)

Chirstina Jones. -Keva Jones (DPS)

Mia Martinez. -Laurie Martinez (Fort Mill Schools)



Gaby McGee. -Tracey McGee (DPS)

Elementary, Kindergarten, and Pre-school Graduates:

Zahir Middleton. -Kayla Middleton (DPS)

Zion Middleton. -Kayla Middleton (DPS)

Emmy. -Brittany Greenway (DPS)

Vivienne Bradshaw. -Tara Bradshaw (DPS)

Sign up for Dispatches

Questions, Comments, Concerns: Please Reach out to our communications manager Tara Bradshaw. Trbradshaw@mmo.sc.gov

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State Term Contract Updates- May 2026

E-Rate Update & Effect on Contracts – We have been made aware of a ruling by the State's E-Rate coordinator called the Queen of Peace Law. This law requires that all solicitations including the option for E-Rate funding include language allowing for Brand Name or Equal in the solicitation. We are in the process of terminating any contracts associated with ERATE that are not up for re-solicitation this year and will be resoliciting them with the appropriate language so that it will be ERATE eligible for next year. The contracts on our website have been updated to notify our users with the information that the current contracts are not eligible until we put a new one in place with the appropriate language. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Randy Barr, Sr. at rbarr@mmo.sc.gov.

Tasers (X-2/-26 and Taser 10)

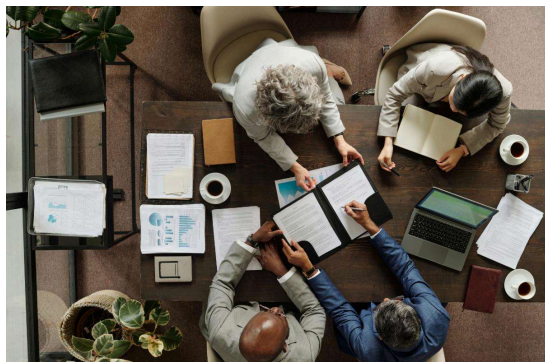
Axon X-26 Taser and Taser 10 have been added to the IT contract for the X-7. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Randy Barr, Sr. (rbarr@mmo.sc.gov).

Market Research and Agency Input Requests for NEW State Term Contracts (STC):

 **The Office of State Procurement (OSP) is seeking input on the following recommendations for new State Term Contracts (STC).**

If you have any information you can share, please contact the appropriate procurement manager.

Our goal is to put contracts in place that will meet your needs, but we need your input to ensure success.



HPE Networks (Expires 06/30/2027) Keva Jones

(kjones@mmo.sc.gov) is resoliciting this scope of work ahead of schedule to align with Erate funding eligibility requirements. The anticipated date to publish has been pushed to July 2026 to align with USAC's application period.

Cisco Servers, Security, Network Hardware & Software - Products & Services (Expires 10/19/2026) – We anticipate

publishing this solicitation in late June with an anticipated award date of August/September. If you are currently utilizing this contract, we invite you to share your experiences and highlight what aspects have been successful. For those who have not used the contract due to unmet needs, we welcome your feedback on how we can enhance the new solicitation to better suit your requirements. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lillanea Bouknight, at lbouknight@mmo.sc.gov.

Network Hardware and Firewall (Barracuda) (Expires

10/24/2026) – We anticipate publishing this solicitation in late June with an anticipated award date of August/September. If you are currently utilizing this contract, we invite you to share your experiences and highlight what aspects have been successful. For those who have not used the contract due to unmet needs, we welcome your feedback on how we can enhance the new

LIDAR/RADAR – Portia Davis (pdavis@mmo.sc.gov) is beginning her research into the next iteration of this contract. The law enforcement entities have a lot of say in what is included in this contract but there may be other entities that have some requirements we need to know about so please be sure to reach out to Portia with any information you may have.

Ruckus Networks (Expires 09/01/2026) – Keva Jones (kjones@mmo.sc.gov) is currently drafting this solicitation. Any information you have concerning the contract would be very helpful. Any concerns? Successes? We want to know.

Juniper Networks (Expires 05/31/2027) – Keva Jones (kjones@mmo.sc.gov) is resoliciting this scope of work ahead of schedule to align with Erate funding eligibility requirements. The anticipated date to publish has been pushed to July 2026 to align with USAC's application period.

solicitation to better suit your requirements. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lillanea Bouknight, at lbouknight@mmo.sc.gov.

Check Point Products and Services - (Expires 9/13/2026) – We are working to re-solicit Check Point Products and Services contract. We anticipate publishing the solicitation in June of 2026. However, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact Yolanda Cohen at ycohen@mmo.sc.gov. If you're a potential user of Check Point Products and Services, we would love to hear from you to ensure the new state term contract will effectively meet your needs

STC's that will NOT be Renewed Newly Awarded STC's



State Term Contracts that will NOT be renewed or resolicited:

Citrix Netscaler (Expires 07/13/2026) – Citrix Netscaler will be sunset as the updated SKUs are available through the Citrix Products & Services contract. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lillanea Bouknight, at lbouknight@mmo.sc.gov.



Newly Awarded State Term Contracts (STC):

Appliances & Kitchen Equipment (5400029211) – Marie Jackson (omjackson@mmo.sc.gov) received a protest on Lot 1 Appliances and suspended that lot. Lot 2 (Smallwares) did not receive a protest so that contract is effective and active. The old appliances contract was extended for 60 days to permit the protest process to play itself out.

HDPE Pipe (5400029501) – Marie Jackson (omjackson@mmo.sc.gov) published the Intent to Award for this contract on May 15, 2026. No protest was received so the contract went effective on May 27, 2026.

Airport Vegetation Management (5400029216) – Ginger Hardee (gghardee@mmo.sc.gov) posted the Intent to Award on April 16, 2026. No protest was received so the contract was effective April 28, 2026.

Small Software Applications Development (Expires 05/15/2026) – The new contract commenced on May 16, 2026. If

you have any questions or concerns, please contact Yolanda Cohen at ycohen@mmo.sc.gov.

Trellix Security Products & Services (Formerly FireEye – Expires 06/02/2026) – Trellix was awarded on May 5, 2026, and will commence on June 3, 2026. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Yolanda Cohen at ycohen@mmo.sc.gov.

CrowdStrike (5400028144) – Lillanea Bouknight (lbouknight@mmo.sc.gov) published the Intent to Award on May 04, 2026. The contract was effective May 15, 2026. The contract start date is May 15, 2026.

Current Published Solicitations:

Large Tractors & Mowers (5400029454) – Ginger Hardee (gghardee@mmo.sc.gov) is evaluating offers received and the Intent to Award will be published as scheduled on June 11, 2026.

Concrete Culvert Pipes (5400029570) – Michael Speakmon (mspeakmon@mmo.sc.gov) is evaluating offers received and the Intent to Award will be published as scheduled on June 8, 2026.

Used Oil Filter Collection & Recycle (5400029664) – Marie Jackson (omjacksonQ@mmo.sc.gov) is evaluating offers received and the Intent to Award will be published as scheduled on June 8, 2026.

Boats (5400029647) – Michael Speakmon (mspeakon@mmo.sc.gov) published Amendment 2 on May 12, 2026, with a new bid opening date of May 28, 2026. Barring any issues the Intent to Award will be posted on June 18, 2026.

Microscopes (5400029701) – Portia Davis (pdavis@mmo.sc.gov) published this solicitation on May 26, 2026. The pre-bid is scheduled for June 9, 2026, with an expected award date of July 31, 2026.

Education Consulting (5400029723) – Marie Jackson (omjackson@mmo.sc.gov) conducted the pre-bid meeting on May 19, 2026, and is drafting responses to questions received.

Furniture (5400029741) – Michael Speakmon (mspeakmon@mmo.sc.gov) published this solicitation on May 19, 2026. The pre-bid was conducted on May 28, 2026, and he is drafting responses to questions received.

Online Reverse Auction Service (5400029390) – This solicitation opened on April 6, 2026, and is currently under evaluation. We have an anticipated award date of June 2, 2026. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Clifton Sanders at cdsanders@mmo.sc.gov.

IT Professional Services (ITPS) – The solicitation was published on May 13th and will open on July 15th with an anticipated award date of September 2026. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Stacy Adams at sadams@mmo.sc.gov

IT Security Assessments and Incident Response Services (updated from Incident Response and Penetration) Testing

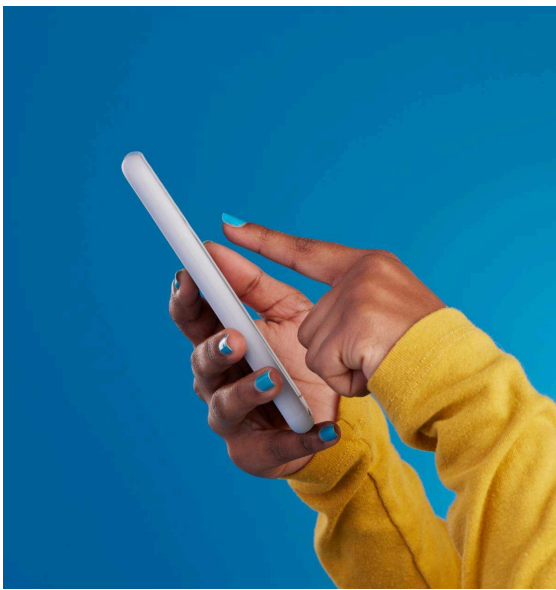
– The solicitation was published on May 20th and will open on July 21st with an anticipated awarded date of November 2026. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Yolanda Cohen at ycohen@mmo.sc.gov.

Cohesity – The Cohesity offers are under evaluation, with an anticipated award date of May 27, 2026. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact Keva Jones (kjones@mmo.sc.gov).

Microsoft Support Services (New STC) – The Microsoft offers are under evaluation, with an anticipated award date of June 12, 2026. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact Keva Jones (kjones@mmo.sc.gov).

Managed Cloud Services (5400028075) – The Intent to Award (ITA) posted on May 18, 2026 and pending no protest will be effective May 29, 2026. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Randy Barr, Sr. at rbarr@mmo.sc.gov

Biometric Timekeeping (5400029046) – This solicitation opened on March 4th and is still under evaluation. We have an anticipated award date of mid-June. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Randy Barr, Sr. at rbarr@mmo.sc.gov.



Cooperative Contracts Updates:



NASPO Electronic Monitoring – The lead state of Nevada released this solicitation on January 15, 2026. The RFP number is 99SWC-S3474. The scope includes comprehensive electronic monitoring solutions and related services for individuals under supervision. The deadline for vendor proposals was February 26, 2026. Offers are currently under review with an intent to award date of June 1, 2026. An intent to participate has been posted on SCBO. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Keva Jones at kjones@mmo.sc.gov.

Business Consulting Services – On April 16, 2026, NASPO, via the Lead State of New York, published an RFP for Business Consulting Services and we have advertised this portfolio opportunity.

- The intent is to award multiple contracts providing services in the following potential areas:
- Management & Operational Consulting
- Human Resources & Workforce Development Consulting
- Public Safety
- Legal & Compliance
- Environmental Sustainability

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The Division of Procurement Services will be offering the following classes in the spring of 2026. Registration is open for all classes and will close one week before the event. All information will be kept current in SCOPES.

SCOPES



Specifications and Scopes of Work

Specifications and scopes of work are vital to any solicitation because they will form the basis of the eventual contract. This course defines the procurement officer's role in developing and writing specifications and scopes of work and tips and tricks for ensuring success.

Date: Wednesday, April 8

Time: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Location: Division of Procurement Services Training Room 1333 Main Street Ste. 700, Columbia, SC 29201

Dates: Tuesday, May 5 and Wednesday May 6

Time: 9 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: online

Instructors: Ellicia Howard and Nakendra Perry

Cost: \$100



Procurement Ethics

This course is designed to be a comprehensive overview of how Ethics apply to the procurement function.

Date: Tuesday, April 14

Time: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

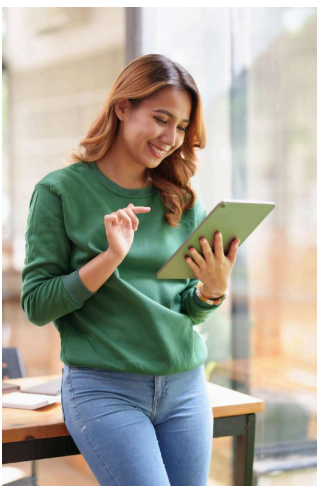
Location: Division of Procurement Services Training Room 1333 Main Street Ste. 700, Columbia, SC 29201

Instructor: Kristi Sligh

Cost: \$100

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Competitive sealed bidding, also known as invitation for bids, is the preferred acquisition method per the South Carolina Procurement Code. This course is designed to



help participants gain a better understanding of the IFB process from development through award.

Date: Tuesday, April 21

Time: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Location: Division of Procurement Services Training Room 1333 Main Street Ste. 700, Columbia, SC 29201

Instructor: Michael Speakmon

Cost: \$100

Contract Administration

This 2-day course provides guidelines for a standardized approach to establish and administer a contract administration program for South Carolina governmental entities. While this course was developed for state agency Procurement Officers, the course materials can be applied by anyone in governmental procurement.

Note: Participants must attend both days of training as they are scheduled to receive credit for the course.

Date: Wednesday, April 22 and Thursday, April 23

Time: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Location: Division of Procurement Services Training Room 1333 Main Street Ste. 700, Columbia, SC 29201

Instructor: Sheila Willis

Cost: \$200



Intro to Procurement Code

This Full-day course focuses on demystifying the code and identifying the requirements most Procurement Officers need to know. Attendance will serve as a foundation for other courses offered and will benefit Procurement Officers and other agency officials who authorize, process, or review procurements. While this course is designed for state agencies, any public procurement official would benefit from hearing information necessary to properly document procurement files.

Date: Wednesday, May 6

Time: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Location: Division of Procurement Services Training
Room 1333 Main Street Ste. 700, Columbia, SC 29201

Instructor: Michael Speakmon

Cost: \$100



Acquisition Planning and Market Research

Acquisition Planning & Market Research are vital steps in the procurement process that are all too often overlooked. These steps in the acquisition cycle help agencies ensure they adopt strategies appropriate to the market for the specific supplies or services they are purchasing.

This course is designed to give a comprehensive overview of the acquisition planning and market research process as required by the SC Procurement Code and Regulations.

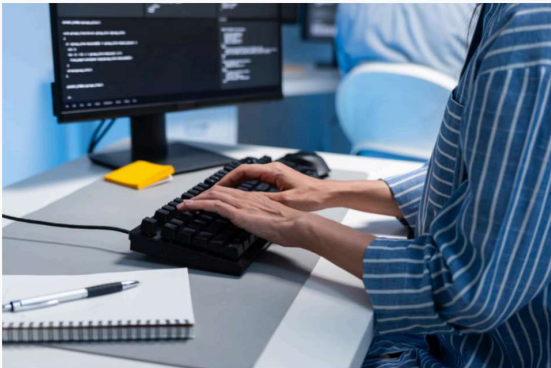
Date: Friday, May 8

Time: 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Location: Online

Instructors: Portia Davis

Cost: \$75



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