



**FAR FACTS
SEASON 2023, EPISODE NINE
FAR PART 15**

1. A contract awarded using other than sealed bidding procedures is a “negotiated contract.” **FAR 15.000.**
2. Exchanges of information between the Government and industry are permitted and encouraged during the pre- solicitation stage. **FAR 15.201(a).**
3. The Government may request oral presentations in FAR Part 15 procurements. **FAR 15.102.**
4. Contracting officers are required to take detailed notes during oral presentations to document what the Government relied upon for purposes of source selection. **FAR 15.102(d)-(e).** A best practice is for the contracting officer to tape record the oral presentation.
5. The Government is required to evaluate price or cost in all FAR Part 15 acquisitions. **FAR 15.304(c)(1).**
6. Requests for Proposals (RFPs) that include **FAR 52.215-1(f)(4)** permit the Government to award a FAR Part 15-based contract upon receipt of initial proposals.
7. Proprietary information included in a contractor’s proposal will be protected from third party disclosure if it is properly marked in accordance with **FAR 52.215-1(e).**
8. To be considered for award, contractors must submit their proposals in strict compliance with instructions set forth in Section L of the solicitation. If no time for submission is referenced in the solicitation, the time for receipt is 4:30 pm, local time, for the designated office on the date that proposals are due. **FAR 15.208(a).**
9. At the conclusion of discussions, each offeror still in the competitive range shall be given an opportunity to submit a final proposal revision. **FAR 15.307(b).**
10. The term “best and final offer” has now been changed to “final proposal revision.” **FAR 15.307(b).**
11. Disappointed offerors are entitled to a debriefing only if they request one in writing within three (3) days of receiving notice that the contract has been awarded to another contractor. **FAR 15.506(a)(1).**

12. The Government is not required to hold in-person debriefings. **FAR 15.505(c).**
13. During a debriefing, a disappointed offeror is entitled to obtain the following information about the winning contractor: (i) the overall evaluated cost or price (including unit prices) and (ii) the technical ranking of the winning contractor relative to the technical ranking of the debriefed offerors. **FAR 15.506(d).**
14. Unsolicited proposals should only be used for the sale and purchase of “innovative and unique ideas or approaches that have been developed outside the Government.” **FAR 15.603.**