

Chapter 3.30 Federal Award Standards Policy

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ARTICLE 1 – Code of Conduct

3.30.010 Purpose

The public must have confidence in the integrity of its government. This section outlines expectations and responsibilities of County staff and elected officials engaged in the selection, award, and administration of contracts, including those that are, or may be, funded in whole or in part using federal financial assistance.

The purpose of the Code of Conduct is to ensure the efficient, fair and professional administration of federal grant funds in compliance with 2 CFR §200.112, 2 CFR §200.318 and other applicable federal and state standards, regulations, and laws.

3.30.020 Application

This Code of Conduct applies to all elected officials, employees or agents of Lincoln County engaged in the award or administration of contracts supported by federal grant funds.

3.30.030 Requirements

No elected official, employee or agent of Lincoln County shall participate in the selection, award or administration of a contract supported by federal grant funds if a conflict of interest, real or apparent, would be involved. Such a conflict would arise when any of the following has a financial or other interest in the firm selected for award:

The County employee, elected official, or agent; or

Any member of their immediate family; or

Their partner; or

An organization which employs, or is about to employ any of the above.

Lincoln County's elected officials, employees or agents shall neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors, potential contractors or subcontractors.

3.30.040 Remedies

To the extent permitted by federal, state or local laws or regulations, violation of these standards may cause penalties, sanctions or other disciplinary actions to be taken against Lincoln County's elected officials, employees or agents, or the contractors, potential contractors, subcontractors or their agents. Any potential conflict of interest will be disclosed in writing to the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity in accordance with applicable Federal awarding agency policy.

3.30.050 Suspension and Debarment

The County will require all contractors to fill out a Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility or Voluntary Exclusion Certification Form. The County will not award, subaward, or contract with any supplier that is debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in Federal assistance programs or activities for those. [2 C.F.R. § 200.213]

Article II – Procurement Practices

3.30.060 Small and Minority Owned Business Enterprises

The County shall not discriminate against small and minority firms, women-owned business enterprises, labor surplus area firms, or veteran-owned firms. Such entities shall be afforded the maximum practicable opportunity consistent with applicable law to compete for and obtain public contracts for services, and the County will encourage participation consistent with such business's general availability within the professional communities involved.

3.30.070 Contract Cost and Price

Lincoln County must perform a cost or price analysis in connection with every procurement action in excess of \$250,000 including contract modifications. The method and degree of analysis is dependent on the facts surrounding the particular procurement situation, but as a starting point, Lincoln County must make independent estimates before receiving bids or proposals.