

# Uniform Guidance M/WBE Requirements for NC Local Governments

Norma Houston
MWBE Coordinators Network
June 29,2018



# UNIFORM GUIDANCE (UG) OVERVIEW



#### FEDERAL REGISTER

Vol. 78

No. 248 December 26, 2013

Thursday,

Part III

#### Office of Management and Budget

2 CFR Chapter I, Chapter II, Part 200, et al. Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards; Final Rule

# What is the Uniform Guidance?

- Rules that set uniform standards for the award and expenditure of federal financial assistance (grants and loans)
- UG supersedes previous rules/OMB Circulars (ex: A-102, A-133)
- UG codified at 2 C.F.R. Part 200
- Procurement standards codified at 2 C.F.R. Subpart D (§§ 200.317-326)



### What is the Uniform Guidance?

Administrative Requirements **Cost Principles** • Pre-award (Subpart C) (Subpart E) Post-Award (Subpart D) **Definitions** (Subpart A) **Audit Requirements** (Subpart F) **General Provisions** Uniform (Subpart B) Guidance 2 C.F.R. Part 200



### What is the Uniform Guidance?



#### **Post-Award Requirements (Subpart D)**

- 1. Financial and Program Management Standards
- Property Standards
- 3. Procurement Standards
- 4. Performance and Financial Monitoring and Reporting
- Record Retention and Access
- 6. Remedies for Noncompliance
- 7. Closeout
- Post-closeout adjustment and continuing responsibilities
- Collection of Amounts Due



# Who Does the UG Apply To?

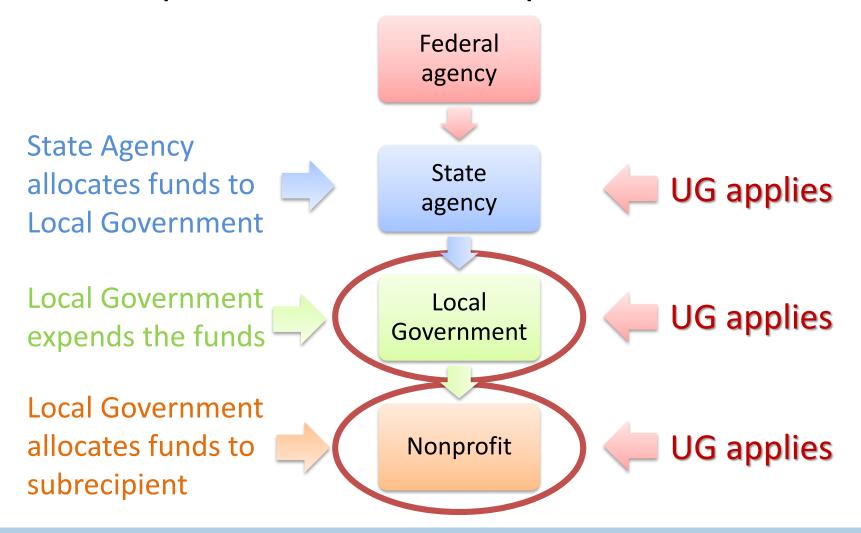
"Non-federal entities" that receive federal financial assistance – states, nonprofits, Indian Tribes, universities and colleges, and local governments

- City and County
- ✓ School District
- ✓ Public Authority and Special District
- Council of Government
- Any other "political subdivision"



# Who Does the UG Apply To?

Recipients and all subrecipients are covered





# Which Programs are Covered?

 UG applies to most (but not all) categories of federal financial assistance programs



- Not all federal programs are covered
- Not all parts of the UG apply to all categories of covered funds



ASSUME THE UG APPLIES UNLESS THE GRANTOR AGENCY ADVISES OTHERWISE - CHECK WITH YOUR GRANTOR AGENCY!













# When Does the UG Become Effective?

Grace period for implementing new requirements ends

on your first FYE after 12/25/2017



#### **Example:**

If your fiscal year ends 6/30/2018, UG requirements apply 7/1/2018



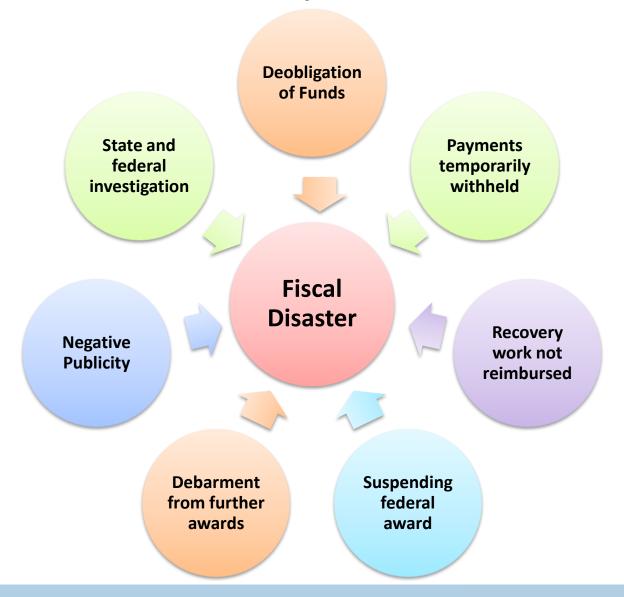
# Why Is This Important?





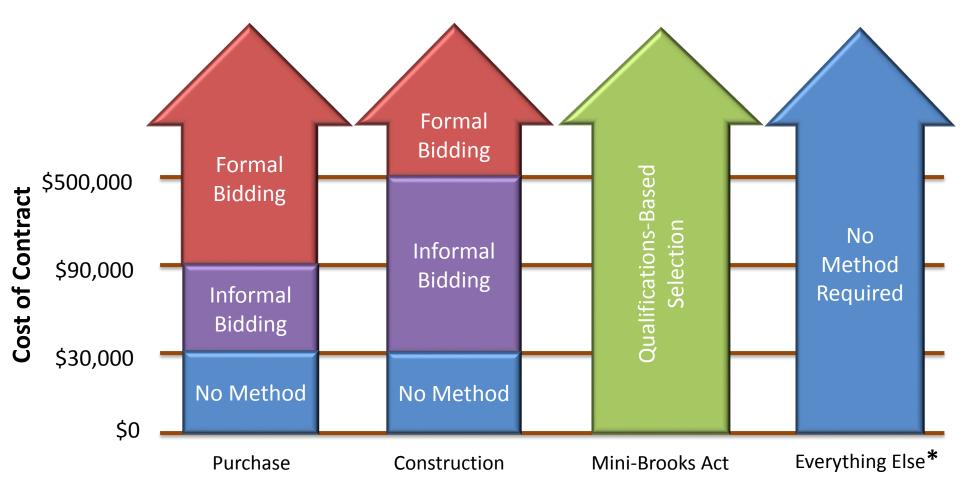
Noncompliance with state and federal procurement requirements most common reason for sanctions

# Sanctions & Consequences





#### Procurement Methods – State Law

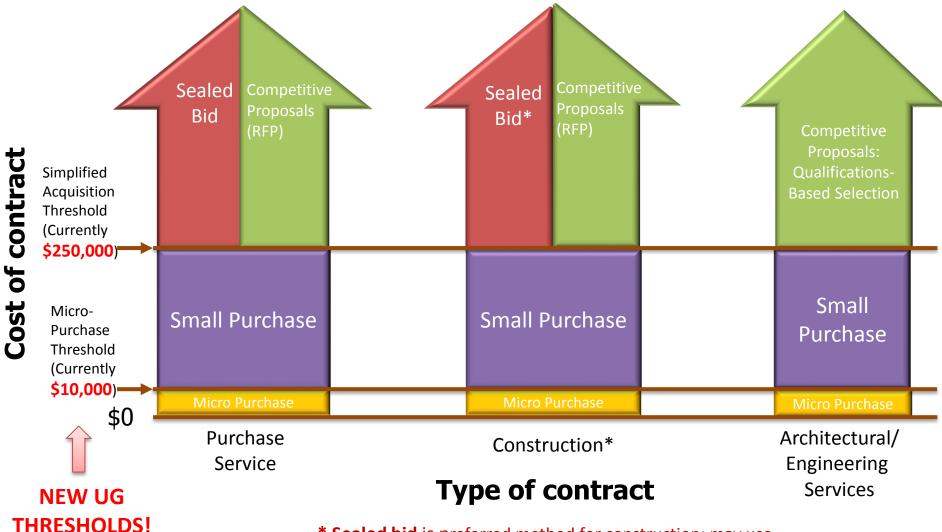


#### **Type of Contract**



<sup>\*</sup> Optional: May use **request for proposals** for service contracts or information technology purchases or services.

#### Procurement Methods – UG



\* **Sealed bid** is preferred method for construction; may use **competitive proposals** when sealed bidding not appropriate



#### Which Set of Rules Do I Follow?

 Follow the "Most Restrictive Rule"

 If rules are different but neither is more restrictive than the other, follow federal rules

 Even when generally following federal rules, some specific state requirements may still apply . . . .

. . . and vice versa



# UG M/WBE SOLICITATION REQUIREMENTS



# M/WBE / HUB Participation

- Not a quota or set-aside
- Focuses on opportunity to *compete* for contracts
- Lowest responsive, responsible bidder standard still applies
- Non-discrimination in contract award still applies







# Who is M/WBE?

#### Key Terms:

- Minority Business
- 2. Women's Business Enterprise
- 3. Labor Surplus Area Firm

Terms not defined in the UG

Check federal grantor definitions

If not defined by grantor agency; follow state

law definitions



#### Requirements

#### UG (M/WBE)

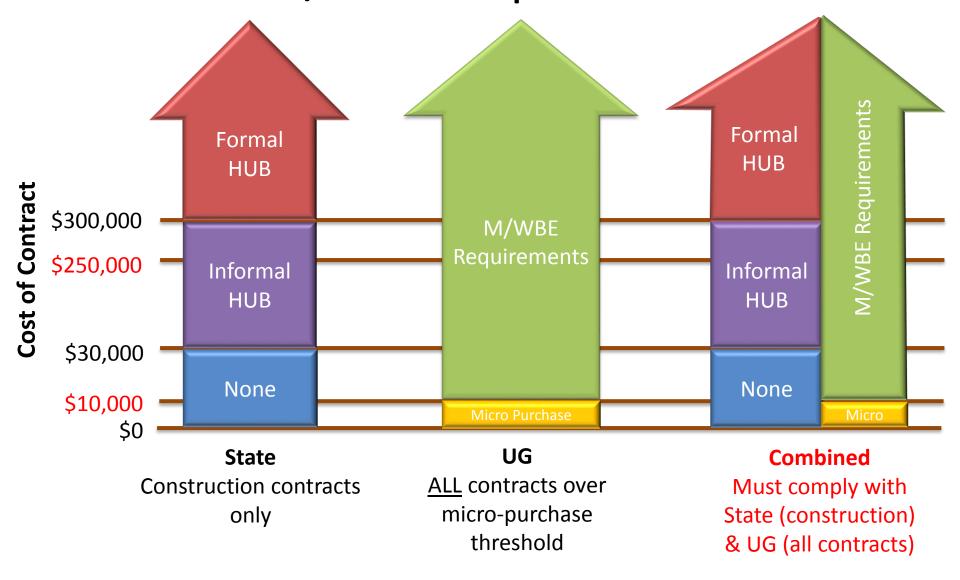
- ✓ Applies to All Contracts regardless of type above micro-purchase threshold (\$10,000)
- ✓ Requires 6 specific solicitation steps (UG steps similar to state HUB good faith efforts)

#### State (HUB)

- ✓ Local government engages in outreach efforts for all building construction contracts costing \$30,000 and above
- ✓ Require bidders to engage in good faith efforts for all building construction contracts costing \$300,000 and above



# **HUB** and M/WBE Requirements





# UG M/WBE Requirements

- Put M/WBEs on bidders list
- 2. Include M/WBEs in bid solicitations
- 3. Where economically feasible, divide project into smaller contracts to encourage M/WBE participation

- 4. Where feasible, establish delivery schedules to accommodate M/WBEs
- 5. Use services of SBA, US
  Dept. of Commerce
  Minority Development
  Agency, and other similar
  agencies such as NC HUB
  Office
- Require prime contractors to comply with steps 1-5 above

2 CFR § 200.321

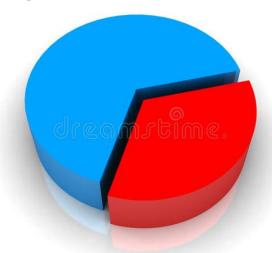


#### Goals

UG does not require M/WBE goals

 State law requires goals for building construction projects:

- \$300,000 with local funds
- \$100,000 with state funds
- Some federal programs require goals (ex: DBE goals for US DOT projects)





# Documentation and Reporting

#### UG

- Local government must document compliance with M/WBE solicitation requirements (along with all other procurement requirements)
- Recommend requiring contractors to document their compliance
- HUB certification of firms not required for compliance

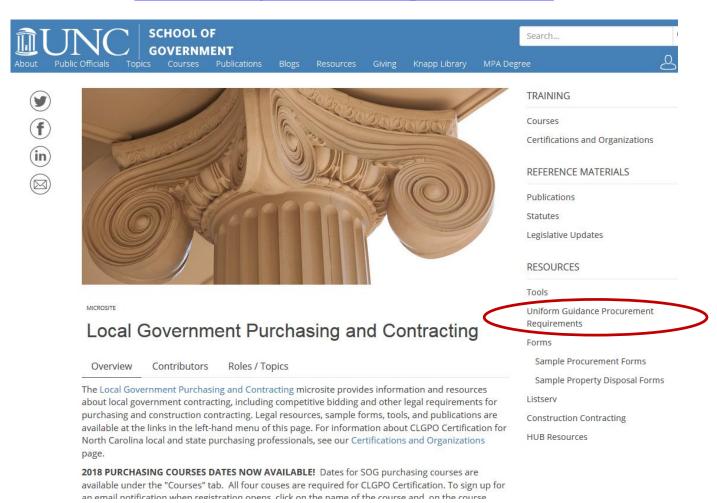
#### State

- Formal HUB bidder's good faith efforts affidavits
- Local government must report to NC HUB office
- HUB certification required for credit toward local government participation goals



#### Resources

#### www.ncpurchasing.unc.edu







Norma Houston
UNG School of Government
nhouston@sog.unc.edu

