Working Together For Improvement

Issue 13 | Summer FY2025

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A Note From the ICPT Chair- Nicole Colley

Greetings ICPT Community!

As our fiscal year draws to a close, I would like to reflect on our recent accomplishments and share exciting plans for the months ahead. Your partnership and engagement propel our organization forward, and I am grateful for your continued commitment.

This June, we had the pleasure of gathering for our annual Face to Face Meeting. While we were unable to meet in person at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory as originally planned, the virtual format enabled broader participation from our Steering Committee. The meeting was attended by twenty-seven Steering Council members, representing sixteen different laboratories—an inspiring testament to the diversity and dedication of our community. Seeing our Steering Committee come together to share expertise and develop innovative solutions was truly energizing. My sincerest thanks to all attendees, speakers, and volunteers who contributed to the event's success.



Looking ahead, I am pleased to announce Cheryl Colan will serve as ICPT Vice Chair and Paul Wilke will serve as Communication Lead. I'd also like to express my gratitude to Ruben Mittelstadt for his many contributions to ICPT—as a Steering Council and Executive Council member, where he served as the Communication Lead and most recently as Vice Chair.

This past year, we strengthened our collective knowledge by introducing targeted training initiatives. Our Lunch & Learn session on ICPT Staff Augmentation Agreements, What is ICPT | Value of ICPT, along with "How to Establish a New ICPT Agreement" training at our annual meeting, were well received. The recording of the Lunch & Learn will be available through the Contractor Acquisition University training catalog, and we look forward to offering follow-up sessions in FY26-Q1. We're excited to further expand this series, supporting the DOE laboratories and M&O contractors in maximizing the value of ICPT agreements.

I am also delighted to report progress in our sourcing efforts. In the past year, we successfully completed competitive sourcing in key areas, including Information Technology (CISCO Gold Partner Resellers), Laboratory Supplies, Ergonomic Furniture, and Electrical Supplies and Equipment. We have also extended or renegotiated agreements with Dell, Anixter, Wildflower Motorola, Ideal System Solutions, Lyme Computer Systems, and AIP Publishing. These successes have resulted in improved value, expanded selections, and meaningful cost savings for our ICPT community.

Looking forward, our working groups will focus on enhancing communication through our refreshed website and updated basic ordering agreement and terms and conditions to align with current policies and regulations. In the coming year, ICPT will also further develop as a community of practice, sharing best practices for navigating policy changes such as evolving tariffs and exploring the innovative use of AI in procurement. These initiatives not only ensure that ICPT continues to meet the evolving needs of the DOE labs and M&O Contractors but also reinforce that, as a community, we are never alone in facing our challenges.

Thank you again for your continued engagement and support. I look forward to all we will achieve together in the coming year.

YOU ERE

Nicole



ICPT Contributor of the Year



Angela Welke
ICPT Secretary
Pacific Northwest
National Laboratory

The ICPT Steering Committee recognizes an outstanding contributor to the ICPT. This year, we are delighted to announce the ICPT Contributor of the Year is Angela Welke, of Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL)!

Angela is an Acquisitions Lead Specialist at PNNL in Sam Grover's Acquisition Management Division and truly stands out for her remarkable contributions.

Angela, although recently new to the ICPT Steering Committee, has demonstrated her commitment to the ICPT, earning her nominations from multiple sources. She has not only been a successful contributor as a Site Champion, implementing 4 ICPT Awards for Furniture; and 5 ICPT Awards for lab supplies, but has risen to the rank of ICPT Secretary within the Executive Council, October 2024.

Additionally, our deep appreciation goes out to Sam Grover as the support and approval of the Acquisition Management Director for this level of volunteer time and contribution to the ICPT community is critical. PNNL has a well-established history of dedication to the ICPT and M&O Laboratory Community.

Congratulations to Angela Welke and the PNNL team for your significant contributions!

Training Update

Staff Augmentation Program and Training Efforts, Paul Wilke, NREL

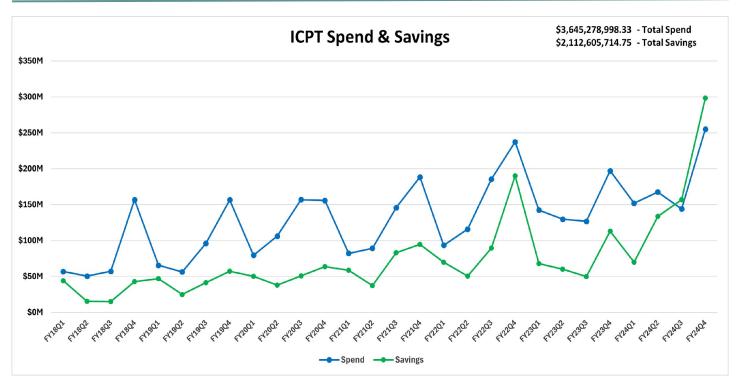
The Staff Augmentation program, backed by the Integrated Contractor Purchasing Team (ICPT) Basic Ordering Agreements (BOAs), provides DOE labs with a simple and flexible way to bring in temporary staff for critical mission needs. On April 22nd, Paul Wilke from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), conducted a training session available to all the participating ICPT Labs' Procurement Professionals on how to get started and use these agreements. The recorded session will soon be available on the CAU Learning Nucleus for those who missed it.

The program makes it easier to source temporary staff (usually for 6 to 24 months) in fields like engineering, IT, science & research, and business/project management.

The training covered the full process cradle-to-grave, from creating a Request for Resources (RFR) and setting cost ceilings, to selecting candidates from the nine pre-approved staffing agencies and managing onboarding and compliance. A key takeaway was how these agreements balance simplicity with the need to follow DOE policies and Lab-Specific requirements.

Also discussed were some of NREL success stories, like clearing backlogs and bringing in highly specialized staff quickly. Lessons learned included pricing variability, international engagements, and avoiding conflicts of interest.

Highlights SPEND & SAVINGS



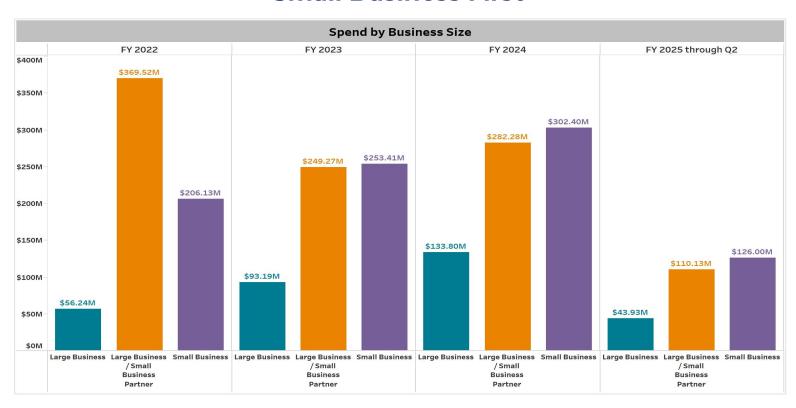
5-Year Spend Total - \$2.9B

5-Year Savings Total - \$1.8B

Average: \$589.95M

Average: \$365.00M

Small Business First



IT Corner

Al in Procurement – The Future is Here, Written by Jeremy Sladetz, Argonne National Laboratory

Whether we like it or not, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has transitioned from a futuristic concept to an integral component of modern technology. It is a part of nearly everything we interact with; recommendations on our favorite streaming services, utilizing voice assistants like Siri or Alexa, or even fraud detection for our financial accounts. AI technology is evolving at a rapid pace, with the possibilities seeming to only stop with one's imagination.

With Al's increased accessibility, procurement professionals can utilize this technology to streamline routine tasks, thereby allocating more time to address complex and strategic priorities. Chatbots can be used to help craft emails to suppliers or customers in a concise, professional manner.

Machine Learning platforms can be trained to help write detailed summaries, or used to analyze documents for gaps in information, such as proposals or Statements of Work. These are just a few of the use-cases in which Procurement professionals can leverage AI to amplify their day-to-day work.

However, it is important that all professionals use AI in a responsible, ethical manner. Proprietary or classified information should never be shared or uploaded into public AI platforms (such as ChatGPT). All personnel are responsible for confirming the information provided by an AI is accurate and current.

The future of AI is here, and it is an exciting one. And yes, I even leveraged AI to help write this article. I am excited to share all the updates as the landscape around AI continues to evolve.

ICPT Abstract

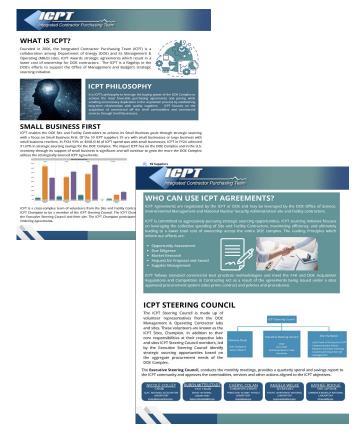
Created by Nicole Colley and Presented to the DOE OSDBU Director

The abstract defines the Integrated Contractor Purchasing Team (ICPT) and its agreements, outlining the benefits derived from utilizing this program.

This is a great resource to share within your lab and to anyone who wants any information about ICPT.

A round of applause to Nicole for putting this document together!

The Integrated Contractor Purchasing Team (ICPT), established in 2006, is a collaborative effort between the Department of Energy (DOE) and its various sites, aiming to optimize purchasing efficiency and reduce costs across the DOE complex. Its core philosophy centers on leveraging collective buying power and prioritizing small businesses in its strategic sourcing initiatives. ICPT operates through volunteer-led teams and a Steering Council, securing agreements that allow DOE contractors to achieve significant savings and meet small business goals. These strategically negotiated agreements simplify procurement process, often providing more favorable pricing than standard government rates.



Agreement SpotlightsPACIFIC NORTHWEST NATIONAL LABORATORY

Lab Supplies:

Supplier	Socioeconomic Category
Tevet, LLC	Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned HUBZone Small Business
Thomas Scientific, LLC	Small Business
Franklin Young International Inc.	Small Disadvantaged Veteran-Owned Business
Neta Scientific, Inc.	Small Disadvantaged Women-Owned Business
Samyak Scientific	Small Disadvantaged Women-Owned HUBZone Business

Ergonomic Furniture: (Recompete)

- Haworth, Inc.
- Ergogenesis Workplace Solutions, LLC
 - Lab furniture
- Catalyst Workplace Activation
 - Herman Miller, Knoll, Naughtone, Symbio Full Height Walls as well as Framery Phone Booths
- Workspace Interiors, LLC
 - Steelcase, Coalesse, and AIS items

IT HIGHLIGHTS: ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Competitive Sourcing

Cisco - Gold Partner Resellers; Effective 11/1/2024

- CTG Federal LLC
- Leverage Information Systems Inc.
- Trace 3 Government, LLC, formerly Zivaro Inc.
- Thundercat Technology LLC
- Colossal Contracting, LLC

Agreement Renewals

- Dell
 - Updated Pricing Structure
 - New Small Business Partners
 - New Products
- Wildflower | Motorola

ICPT STEERING COUNCIL MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Khalif
Striplilng,
Princeton
Plasma
Physics
Laboratory
(PPPL)

https://www.



Khalif Stripling, **MBA** is a seasoned procurement and subcontract management expert with over 25 years of experience in supply chain operations across commercial and government sectors. Currently serving Procurement Specialist III at Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, he primarily manages the ITER subcontracts. research and development subcontracts, basic ordering agreements for machine shop services, various facility maintenance agreements. He holds an MBA in Data Analytics from Louisiana State University Shreveport (LSUS) and has proven expertise in strategic sourcing, contract negotiations, vendor management, and international sourcing operations across diverse industries including clean energy, aerospace, and defense. Based in King of Prussia, PA, Khalif is proficient in multiple ERP/MRP systems and maintains a strong track record of minimizing procurement risk while delivering value-driven solutions for complex organizational needs. This marks his second year on the ICPT, where he appreciates the opportunity to connect with colleagues from various labs. Engaging with them allows him to explore different practices at their facilities and exchange innovative ideas.



Paul Wilke is a Procurement Project Manager at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) with over a decade of contracting and procurement expertise, including federal acquisitions and compliance. He manages complex contracts, but primarily provides strategic procurement planning support, process improvement. Paul served in the U.S. Air Force and has extensive knowledge of the FAR, DFAR, and DEAR regulations. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and an associate degree in Contract Management, complemented by multiple certifications in acquisition and pricing strategies. He also loves almost anything Star Wars-related. **Effective October 1**, 2025. Paul will serve as **ICPT** Communication Lead on the Executive Council.

National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)

Paul Wilke,

https://ww w.nrel.gov

Collaboration

"ICPT fosters collaboration across the entire DOE complex, encouraging all participating sites to work together to achieve strategic sourcing goals and realize collective benefits."

ICPT STEERING COUNCIL MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Gian Chaves, Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL)

https://www.



Gian Chaves is a Group Leader in Acquisition Service Management (ASM) supporting Strategic Sourcing at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). In this role, Gian aligns purchasing strategies and streamlines procurement process to enhance organizational goals. Gian started his procurement career in Supply Chain Management Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) in 2015, where he supported procurements for Nuclear Deterrence. In 2021 Gian joined Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) supporting Science Technology and Engineering and Strategic Sourcing. At LANL, Gian supports the use of Integrated Contractor Purchasing Team (ICPT) agreements to drive cost savings and enhance procurement efficiency.

Gian is a graduate of Strayer University with a Master of Business Administration with a concentration in Management and Organizational Development. He also holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology with a concentration in Molecular Biology from the University of New Mexico. Gian is a New Mexico native, born and raised in Albuquerque. He has a loving wife of 16 years and two daughters (13 & 17). He serves on the Board of Directors for Camp Enchantment (a summer camp for kids with cancer). He loves being active outdoors and enjoys traveling, hiking, and biking with his family.



Jacqueline "Paige" Carson started her career in procurement in 1985 as a purchasing clerk for a local utility company in Amarillo, TX. Over the past 40 years, she's held a variety of roles and has always been drawn to procurement as the central hub connecting customers. vendors, sales teams, warehouses, and accounting. She has experience procuring a wide range of commodities, including those in oil & gas, utilities, helicopters, railcars. automotive. and construction materials. She entered the DOE space in 2018 at CNS/Pantex and joined MSTS/NNSS in 2023, where she currently serves Principal Procurement as а Specialist.

Outside of work, she enjoys exploring her new hometown of San Antonio, TX, where she relocated to in February, and being "Ya-Ya" to her 1 ½ year old granddaughter.

Cost Savings

"ICPT agreements provide significant cost reductions by allowing labs to buy common items and services at lower, pre-negotiated prices, as demonstrated by substantial savings over the past five years."

Jacqueline
"Paige"
Carson,
Nevada
National
Security
Sites
(NNSS)

https://nns .gov/

ICPT STEERING COUNCIL MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Mia Spicer, Jefferson National Laboratory (JLAB)

<u>https://www.j</u> <u>lab.orq</u>



Mia Spicer is a seasoned supply chain professional with over 20 years of experience in procurement, supplier inclusion, and sustainability. At Jefferson Lab, she serves as the Small Business Liaison Officer (SBLO), helping to align small business goals with federal procurement requirements while ensuring strong partnerships across the lab's operations.

One of the key tools Mia and the procurement team use is the Integrated Contracting Procurement Team (ICPT). Through ICPT, Jefferson Lab accesses competitively awarded, pre-negotiated contracts for commonly used items like lab supplies, IT hardware, and software. These contracts save time, reduce administrative burden, and support cost-effective, compliant purchasing.

Jefferson Lab also participates in ICPT's monthly meetings to stay aligned with DOE priorities, collaborate across labs, and shape future acquisition strategies. Outside of work, Mia is an avid traveler who enjoys exploring new places and cultures. Whether it is for business or leisure, she finds inspiration in the connections built along the way.

What's NEW

New ICPT Executive Council: FY26

Nicole Colley - Chair, SLAC

Cheryl Colan - Vice Chair, PPPL

Paul WIlke - Communication Lead, NREL

Angela Wilke - Secretary, PNNL

Kathee Roque - Advisor, LBNL



Scheduled Events:

EVENT A:

Date: October 15, 2025
Course Title: How to
Establish an ICPT
Agreement

Audience: DOE Contractors

Length in Hours: 1 hour Course Description: By the end of the training learners will understand the process of identifying a need across the DOE laboratories and M&O Contractors and conduct sourcing strategic through to negotiating an Integrated Contractor Purchasing Team (ICPT) ordering basic agreement.

EVENT B:

Date: January 28, 2026
Course Title: Integrated
Contractor Purchasing
Team (ICPT) | Who We
Are and How to Use an
ICPT Agreement

Audience: DOE Contractors

Length in Hours: 1 hour Course Description: By the end of the training learners will understand what the Integrated Contractor Purchasing Team (ICPT) is and the purpose of ICPT; which organizations laboratories may use ICPT agreements and obtain a high level overview of how to use an ICPT agreement as a M&O Contractor.



Annual Face to Face Recap:

Building a Stronger Foundation

Integrated The Contractor Purchasing Team (ICPT) convened its Annual Face-to-Face Meeting on June 3-4, 2025, under the theme "Building a Stronger Foundation". Chaired by Nicole Colley, the event brought together members to review achievements. discuss current initiatives, and strategize for future efforts in leveraging DOE-wide spend and streamlining procurement processes.

Key Highlights and Administrative Updates: The ICPT Agreement
Summary is now updated online
continuously, replacing previous
biannual updates.

Angela Welke from Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) was honored as the FY24 Contributor of the Year.

An **ICPT Abstract** was developed and given to DOE OSDBU Director, Charlie Smith, to outline ICPT's purpose.

Staff Augmentation BOA Training was provided in April 2025 by Paul Wilke to over sixty individuals.

Nicole Colley also highlighted ICPT's value at the April PERT Monthly Meeting.

"The ICPT plays a crucial role in optimizing procurement processes, leveraging buying power, and driving strategic value within the National Laboratories."

Significant Financial Impact: The ICPT reported impressive financial results, with a 5-year total spend of \$2.9 billion, averaging \$589.95 million annually. Over the same period, 5-year savings totaled \$1.8 billion, averaging \$365.00 million annually. From FY18 to date, the total spend reached \$3.6 billion, accompanied by \$2.1 billion in savings. Additionally, Small Business First spend notably increased by 16% from FY23 to FY24.

Competitive Sourcing and New Agreements: The meeting showcased significant competitive sourcing efforts and new agreements across various

Laboratories: Cisco – Gold Partner Resellers: Agreements effective November 1, 2024, awarded by Argonne National Lab to several partners, including small and SDVO businesses. Dell: Renewal included an updated pricing structure, new small business partners, and new products. Wildflower | Motorola: Agreement renewal.

Lab Supplies (PNNL): New agreements secured with Tevet, LLC (SDVO HUBZone). **Thomas** Scientific, LLC (Small), Franklin Young International Inc. (SDVO), Neta Scientific, Inc. (SDWO), and Scientific Samyak (SDWO HUBZone).

Ergonomic Furniture Recompete RFP (PNNL): Led to new agreements with Haworth. Inc. Ergogenesis Workplace (Large), Solutions, LLC (Small), Catalyst Workplace Activation (Small), and Workspace Interiors, LLC (Small), including items from various well-known brands.

In-progress initiatives highlighted included the CAD/EDA Design Toolbox Initiative (Cadence – FermiLab, Synopsis – FermiLab), Electrical Supplies & Equipment Competitive (Brookhaven), Industrial Supplies (MRO) Re-Compete (Oak Ridge), Test Equipment / Radiation Test Equipment (INL), Grainger (PPPL), and ICPT Training - CAU Lunch / Learn.



The core purpose of the ICPT is to aggressively pursue strategic sourcing opportunities to leverage DOE-wide spend, award strategic agreements resulting in lower total cost of ownership for DOE contractors through reduced prices and streamlined processes and develop long-term strategic sourcing strategies along with providing communication on strategic sourcing initiatives and procurement issues. ICPT agreements are available to all Office of Science, National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), and Environmental Management (EM) M&O Sites and Designated DOE Contractor Vendors. There are 65 agreements, with 50% awarded to small businesses or businesses with a small business network.

Training was also provided by Ruben Mittelstadt (INL) and Cheryl Colan (PPPL) on how to create an ICPT agreement from scratch, emphasizing the use of "best value" selection techniques.

Sam Grover presented on the Procurement Executive Review Team (PERT), emphasizing its role as DOE's mechanism for peer reviews within the contractor community. PERT provides an independent assessment of a contractor's purchasing system, focusing on procurement process improvement and strategic initiatives.

Maintaining a Laboratory's purchasing authority is significantly influenced by PERT assessment results. The program underwent significant revisions in 2024 by a DOE-sponsored "Tiger Team," including changes to guiding principles and scope.

" PERT Review- DOE's Purchasing System Approval Process "

Policy Roundtable and **Emerging Topics**: Lance Nyman, DOE Advisor, led a discussion on the impact of Executive Orders (EOs) procurement on and contracting, specifically addressing whether EOs override Prime Contracts, particularly the FAR 52.222-26/Equal Opportunity Clause. Labs are generally following their Prime Contracts until modifications are made, often **EOs** implementing with Contracting Officer oversight. Discussions also covered supplier-cited tariffs and how labs validate and address them in contracts.

Category Management, spearheaded by Ruben Mittelstadt, and benchmarking discussions, spearheaded Kathee bγ Roquee. covered IT topics (Juniper, Arista, HPE, NVIDIA), Small Business topics (goal changes, Mentor-Protégé Program, HUBZones), and Al-related usage in labs. Notably, LBNL is using Al tools for research and summarizing clauses. avoiding business-sensitive information,m while Argonne is exploring an Al tool to improve Statement of Work documents and utilizes a Federally authorized secure AI model named "Ask Sage".

Future Strategy and Actions: The FY25/26 strategy will focus on making ICPT Agreements more accessible and visible to the DOE Contracting Community. Action items include: Setting up working groups for website redesign (including category updates and capabilities) search BOA/Terms & Conditions Refresh; Initiating data calls for potential new agreements such as Juniper and HPE; Exploring how AI can benefit the ICPT; Discussing potential new opportunities future ICPT monthly meetings and investigating potential Mentor -Protégé small businesses for future ICPT Agreements,

The meeting concluded with appreciation for the strong participation and collaboration, emphasizing continued efforts to build a stronger foundation for strategic sourcing within the DOE complex.

"The FY25/26
strategy will
focus on
making ICPT
Agreements
more accessible
and visible to
the DOE
Contracting
Community."

FAQ's

1. What is ICPT?

The Integrated Contractor Purchasing Team (ICPT) is a collaborative initiative among the Department of Energy (DOE) and its Management & Operating (M&O) sites, founded in 2006.

2. Who Can Use ICPT Agreements?

ICPT agreements are available for use by all Office of Science, National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), and Environmental Management (EM) M&O Contractor Sites and Designated DOE Vendor.

3. What is the "Golden Ticket" benefit of ICPT Agreements?

All ICPT Agreements are executed under the approved procurement system of the site issuing the agreement. This enables DOE M&O Contractor labs and sites to award contracts non-competitively and without further price justification. Many ICPT agreements provide discounts beyond what is offered from GSA pricing.

4. What are the Benefits of Using ICPT Agreements ("Golden Ticket")?

- Non-Competitive Award & Price Justification: All ICPT Agreements are executed under the approved procurement system of the site issuing the agreement. This allows DOE M&O Contractor labs and sites to award contracts non-competitively and without further price justification.
- Lower Total Cost of Ownership: Strategic agreements aim to reduce overall costs for DOE contractors through lower prices and streamlined procurement processes.
- Enhanced Discounts: Many ICPT agreements offer discounts beyond GSA pricing.
- Streamlined Procurement: By establishing long-term relationships with quality suppliers, ICPT avoids unnecessary duplication in the acquisition process.
- Support for Small Businesses: ICPT operates with a "Small Business First" philosophy, providing opportunities to small businesses. In FY24, 93% (\$668.61M) of ICPT spend was with small businesses. Over 50% of its 65 agreements are with small businesses or large businesses that utilize a small business network.

Helpful Hints

ICPT website https://icpt.doe.gov

FSSI website https://www.gsa.gov portal/content/11256

OASIS website https://www.gsa.gov/ portal/content/16136

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Questions or Comments?

https://icpt.doe.gov/contacts/contact-us/