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New Acquisition Workforce Report Shows Number of Contracting Professionals Increased

WASHINGTON, D.C. – According to a new report, the government continues to increase the total number of contracting professionals in the acquisition workforce.

Today, the Office of Federal Procurement Policy released the Annual Report on the Federal Acquisition Workforce showing the government hired more than 2,600 new employees into the contracting field for Fiscal Year 2006. This hiring resulted in a net increase of about 350 people since FY 2005 and 1,200 people since FY 2000.

“The report provides vital statistics on the current acquisition workforce, and this information assists agencies in identifying hiring needs and implementing appropriate workforce management initiatives,” said Paul Denett, Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy. “The contracting function is critical to ensuring agencies meet their mission needs efficiently, effectively, and responsibly. I am pleased that we continue to attract talented individuals to the profession.”

The federal government now has approximately 28,000 contracting professionals in the GS-1102 series – almost 19,000 in the Department of Defense and 9,000 in civilian agencies. The full report is available at <http://www.fai.gov/policies/sturep.asp>.

The report, which is based on data obtained from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), was prepared by the Federal Acquisition Institute (FAI) and provides acquisition workforce demographics and trend information that federal managers can use to forecast human capital needs in the contracting field and other acquisition-related disciplines.

For example, the report shows that the average retirement eligibility for contracting professionals increases from 29 percent in FY 2011 to 50 percent in FY 2016, though these figures are higher at certain agencies.

FAI has produced annual acquisition workforce reports since 1976 and all reports will soon be available at www.fai.gov. Additional workforce information and data can be found on OPM’s FedScope site at www.opm.gov/feddata.

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