

(2) "Secretary" means the Secretary of General Services, the Secretary of the Department of Transportation, or [the Superintendent of the State Department of Education.] THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND.

(3) "Small business" has the meaning established by the Secretary in rules and regulations, subject to the criteria set forth in subsection (b) of this section.

(4) "Small business set-aside" means a purchase request for which the Secretary invites bids from a list of qualified bidders including small businesses.

(b) (1) The Secretary shall adopt rules and regulations specifying the criteria for qualification as a small business.

(2) The criteria shall include a maximum number for employees and a maximum dollar volume computed on annual sales and receipts of a bidder and all its affiliates. The maximum number of employees and maximum dollar volume may vary from industry to industry to the extent necessary to reflect different characteristics. However, with respect to maximum number of employees, a manufacturing business may not employ more than 250 individuals. With respect to maximum dollar volume, a wholesale business may not have annual sales in excess of \$2,500,000 for its most recent fiscal year and a retail business or business selling services may not have annual sales and receipts in excess of \$5,000,000.

(c) The Secretary shall adopt rules and regulations specifying procedures for:

(1) Compiling and maintaining a comprehensive bidder's list of small businesses;

(2) Locating potential sources for various products and services and affirmatively seeking to locate potential minority business enterprise sources for various products and services;

(3) Assisting small businesses in complying with the procedures for bidding on State contracts;

(4) Examining requests from using authorities for purchase of products or services to help determine which invitations to bid are to be designated small business set-asides;

(5) Simplifying procurement specifications and terms in order to increase the opportunities for small business participation; and

(6) Investigating the responsibility of bidders on small business set-asides.