U.S. AbilityOne Commission Issues
"AbilityOne Program Studies and Evaluations Program" Policy

WASHINGTON, D.C., November 16, 2026 – The U.S. AbilityOne Commission today issued Commission Policy 51.212, "The AbilityOne Program Studies and Evaluations Program," to establish a policy framework for proposing, developing, approving, and executing studies and evaluations (pilot tests) in support of the AbilityOne Program.

This policy applies to the Commission and central nonprofit agencies (CNAs) when studies or evaluations will be funded with Program Fee (in the case of the CNAs) or appropriated funds (in the case of the Commission).

The Program Fee is an allowable cost paid by AbilityOne-participating Federal contractors to the AbilityOne Program central nonprofit agencies (CNAs) to fund CNA activities that facilitate AbilityOne Program operations. It is a percentage of the sales revenue generated from Federal contracts on the AbilityOne Procurement List.

The policy establishes two review periods (winter and summer) for project proposal submissions and approval, with the following recurring dates:

Winter Review: Proposals due by Nov. 15, with Commission decision by Feb. 15.

Summer Review: Proposals due by June 15, with Commission decision by Sept. 15.

However, **this year the Commission has extended the winter deadline for submitting project proposals to January 15, 2027**, because the effective date of this policy is November 15, 2026. The Commission will issue decisions on this round of winter project proposals by March 15, 2027.

Project proposals should be submitted to the Director of Business Operations at operationsinfo@abilityone.gov.

About the U.S. AbilityOne Commission

The U.S. AbilityOne Commission oversees the AbilityOne Program. The AbilityOne Commission is the operating name of the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled. The AbilityOne Commission is an independent Federal agency composed of 15 Presidential appointees: 11 represent Federal agencies, and four serve as private citizens who are knowledgeable about employment barriers facing people who are blind or have significant disabilities.

About the AbilityOne Program

The AbilityOne Program facilitates the use of government procurement to provide employment in the United States for people who are blind or have significant disabilities. In FY 2025, approximately 41,000 individuals, including approximately 2,800 veterans and wounded warriors, were employed nationwide at approximately 400 nonprofit agencies. In addition, AbilityOne provided more than $4.7 billion in products and services to approximately 40 Federal government agencies.

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