



U.S. AbilityOne Commission Issues Draft Compliance Policies for Public Feedback, Will Pause Routine Traditional Compliance Reviews Beginning Feb. 1, 2023

WASHINGTON, D.C., January 27, 2023 – The U.S. AbilityOne Commission’s [strategic plan](#) emphasizes expanding good and optimal jobs within the Program, achieving quality contract performance, and maintaining effective governance and results. One of the pillars of that plan is modernizing the oversight of nonprofit agency (NPA) compliance to align with Program requirements.

As a step in that modernization, the Commission today [released](#) three draft compliance policies for public feedback. The Commission requests that feedback be submitted to policy@abilityone.gov no later than Wednesday, March 15, 2023.

Once finalized, these new compliance policies will require a fundamental shift for Commission staff, NPAs, Central Nonprofit Agencies (CNAs), and stakeholders.

Therefore, on February 1, 2023, the Commission will pause routine traditional compliance reviews to consider public feedback, retrain staff, develop updated compliance materials for the NPA community, and ensure that the Commission, the NPAs, and the CNAs are in full alignment in the area of compliance.

While ongoing reporting and corrective actions will continue, the Commission will limit inspections to critical issues during this pause.

“Over the last two years, the Commission has rebuilt its compliance team, brought in new leadership, and conducted a review of nearly all NPAs in the Program,” said Jeffrey A. Koses, Commission Chairperson. “We’ve learned a lot from those reviews, from the insights of our employees, and from our dialogue with NPAs and stakeholders.

“Through this process, we recognized areas where we can better leverage work done by other Federal agencies, and highlighted opportunities to align inspections to our strategic plan. What we learned informed the drafting of the updated compliance policies released today. Now is the right time to refocus compliance as part of our strategic initiatives to modernize and enhance AbilityOne.”

The pause for purposes of refocusing compliance is expected to conclude before the end of FY 2023.

The Commission’s direction and approach to oversight and compliance will be discussed at the Commission’s quarterly [public meeting](#) on January 31, 2023.



About the U.S. AbilityOne Commission

The AbilityOne Program is administered by the U.S. AbilityOne Commission, the operating name of the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled. The 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. Approximately 40,000 individuals, including more than 2,500 veterans, are employed nationwide at approximately 450 nonprofit agencies from Maine to Guam. AbilityOne provided nearly \$4 billion in products and services to approximately 40 Federal government agencies in FY 2021.

