

evaluation group authorized by the selection official and from the investigators whose proposals are being considered. This is similar to the acquisition procedure for conducting written and oral discussions. A major consideration during discussions is to avoid unfairness and unequal treatment. Good judgment is required by in the extent and content of the discussions. There should be no reluctance in obtaining the advice and guidance of management and staff offices during the discussion phase. A summary should be prepared of the primary points covered in the written and oral discussions and show the effect of the discussions on the evaluation of proposals. This summary should also contain general information about the questions submitted to the investigators, the amount of time spent in oral discussion, and revisions in proposals, if any, resulting from the discussions.

(iv) During the conduct of discussions, all proposers being considered shall be offered an equitable opportunity to submit cost, technical, or other revisions in their proposals as may result from the discussions. All proposers shall be informed that any revisions to their proposals must be submitted by a common cut-off date in order to be considered. The record should note compliance of the investigators with that cut-off date.

(c) Significant items for consideration before award:

(1) Issuance of a Request for Proposal (RFP)—A formal RFP should not be issued to obtain additional information on proposals accepted under the AO process. Additional technical, cost, or other data received should be considered as a supplement to the original proposal.

(2) Selection of Investigator/Contractor—The selection decision of the Program AA approves the selected investigators and their institutions as the only satisfactory sources for the investigations. The selection of the investigator does not constitute the selection of that person's proposed supporting hardware fabricator unless the selection official specifically incor-

porates the fabricator in the selection decision.

[62 FR 4477, Jan. 30, 1997, as amended at 63 FR 9967, Feb. 27, 1998]

1872.703 Application of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and the NASA FAR Supplement.

The AO process supplants normal acquisition procedures only to the extent necessary to meet the distinctive features of the process. This process is not intended to conflict with any established statutory requirements.

1872.704 Other administrative and functional requirements.

After selection, all other applicable administrative and functional requirements will be complied with or incorporated in any resultant contract.

1872.705 Format of Announcement of Opportunity (AO).

Use the following format instructions when drafting AOs:

OMB APPROVAL NUMBER 2700-0085

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE
ADMINISTRATION

Washington, DC 20546

Announcement of Opportunity

AO No. _____ (Issuance Date)

(Descriptive Heading)

I. DESCRIPTION OF THE OPPORTUNITY

This section should set forth the basic purpose of the AO and describe the opportunity in terms of NASA's desire to obtain proposals which will meet the stated scientific, applications and/or technological objectives. These objectives may be directed to the generation of proposals for investigations and/or they may pertain to the acquisition of dissimilar ideas leading to selection of investigators, guest observers, guest investigators, or theorists. In those instances where proposals for investigations are sought, this section should describe the requirement, if any, for selected investigators to serve on advisory or working groups. In those instances where the project or program has not yet been approved, a