

(5) The determination of acceptability would require performance data to supplement technical requirements in the specification.

(b) VA Qualified Products Lists are lists of products qualified by VA under VA specifications or purchase descriptions. Such lists may be established as authorized by the appropriate administration or staff office.

(1) VA Qualified Products Lists will be supported by one or more of the justifications in 809.206(a) or the following:

(i) Where tests result in substantial or repetitive rejections, or

(ii) Where professional requirements of performance, balance, design, or construction cannot economically be developed into clear specifications, and professional judgment is required in determining the acceptability of items meeting VA requirements.

(2) In the event that the requirement for VA Qualified Products List is established for any given product, known suppliers of the type of item required will be notified and given an opportunity to submit samples for inspection, and test based upon guarantee that they will deliver the item to be inspected, provided the item is acceptable. A qualified products list shall not be used as a means of restricting competition to favored suppliers. All suppliers so desiring shall be given an opportunity to have their products tested for acceptability.

(3) Costs involved in the inspection and test will be borne by VA. The supplier will be required to bear the cost of the sample and its transportation to the inspecting point. After inspection, the sample shall be returned to the supplier "as is" unless it is destroyed by inspection or disposed of or retained by VA as authorized by the supplier.

(4) Items which have been accepted for the qualified products list will be subject to constant review for compliance with the applicable specification. Where there is a variance between the specification and item, the supplier shall be requested to furnish an item that conforms to the specification. Failure or inability on the part of the supplier to provide an item that conforms to the specification will be sufficient cause to consider the item unac-

ceptable in response to subsequent invitations.

(5) The acceptance of an item for the qualified products list does not guarantee acceptance in any future purchase, nor does it constitute a waiver of the requirements of the specifications as to acceptance, inspection, testing or other provisions of any future contract involving such item.

(6) Bid invitations covering products which have been included in a qualified products list will include the clause set forth in FAR 52.209-1 or 52.209-2 as applicable.

[49 FR 12594, Mar. 29, 1984, as amended at 54 FR 30044, July 18, 1989; 54 FR 40063, Sept. 29, 1989]

809.270 Qualified products for convenience/labor saving foods.

(a) Each VA medical district's Dietetic Service representative is delegated authority to establish a common Qualified Products List for convenience/labor-saving foods for the use of medical centers within his/her respective district. The medical district Dietetic Service representative will notify the Director, Dietetic Service, VA Central Office, of the establishment of each Qualified Products List and amendments to each established list.

(b) Each medical center is authorized to use its district Qualified Products List. Each medical center may test food of its own choice, but will submit test results to the district Dietetic Service representative. The Dietetic Service representative will coordinate and consolidate the test results and recommendations of individual medical centers with other medical centers within the district in order to avoid unnecessary duplication.

(c) The approved medical district Qualified Products List will be furnished each Supply office within the district. The Supply Services will have access to complete and accurate records of established Qualified Products Lists and all test results. These records will be made available to the Office of Acquisition and Materiel Management, VA Central Office, upon request.

[49 FR 12594, Mar. 29, 1984, as amended at 54 FR 30044, July 18, 1989]