

transactions (see appendix to this part).

(b) Specifically, a contract for goods or services is a covered transaction if any of the following applies:

(1) The contract is awarded by a participant in a nonprocurement transaction that is covered under §76.210, and the amount of the contract is expected to equal or exceed \$25,000.

(2) The contract requires the consent of a(n) HHS official. In that case, the contract, regardless of the amount, always is a covered transaction, and it does not matter who awarded it. For example, it could be a subcontract awarded by a contractor at a tier below a nonprocurement transaction, as shown in the appendix to this part.

(3) The contract is for federally-required audit services.

(c) The contract is a subcontract at any tier below a procurement transaction that is covered under paragraph (a) of this section, and the value of the contract exceeds or is expected to exceed the “simplified acquisition threshold” defined at 42 U.S.C. 403(11). This extends the coverage of paragraph (a) of this section to all lower tiers of contracts that exceed the simplified acquisition threshold (see optional lower tier coverage shown in the diagram in the appendix to this part).

[68 FR 66544, 66630, 66632, Nov. 26, 2003]

**§76.225 How do I know if a transaction in which I may participate is a covered transaction?**

As a participant in a transaction, you will know that it is a covered transaction because the agency regulations governing the transaction, the appropriate agency official, or participant at the next higher tier who enters into the transaction with you, will tell you that you must comply with applicable portions of this part.

**§76.230 What is the relationship between covered transactions and exclusions from participation in Federal health care programs under Title XI of the Social Security Act?**

Any individual or entity excluded from participation in Medicare, Medicaid and other Federal health care programs under Title XI of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 1320a-7, will be

subject to the prohibitions against participating in covered transactions, as set forth in this part. In addition, these excluded parties are also prohibited from participating in all Executive Branch procurement programs and activities. (Public Law 103-355, section 2455) For example, if an individual or entity is excluded by the HHS Office of Inspector General from participation in Medicare, Medicaid and all other Federal health care programs, in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 1320a-7, then that individual or entity is prohibited from participating in all Federal Government procurement and nonprocurement programs (42 CFR part 1001).

[68 FR 66632, Nov. 26, 2003]

**Subpart C—Responsibilities of Participants Regarding Transactions**

**DOING BUSINESS WITH OTHER PERSONS**

**§ 76.300 What must I do before I enter into a covered transaction with another person at the next lower tier?**

When you enter into a covered transaction with another person at the next lower tier, you must verify that the person with whom you intend to do business is not excluded or disqualified. You do this by:

- (a) Checking the *EPLS*; or
- (b) Collecting a certification from that person if allowed by this rule; or
- (c) Adding a clause or condition to the covered transaction with that person.

**§ 76.305 May I enter into a covered transaction with an excluded or disqualified person?**

(a) You as a participant may not enter into a covered transaction with an excluded person, unless the HHS grants an exception under §76.120.

(b) You may not enter into any transaction with a person who is disqualified from that transaction, unless you have obtained an exception under the disqualifying statute, Executive order, or regulation.