

## Procurement Reform-Frequently Asked Questions

### New System

- **What is HB1021?**  
Legislation approved and signed into law by Governor Hogan for the Reorganization of State Procurement. For more information on HB1021 please see link. ([Link](#))
- **What will the reorganization establish?**  
This reorganization 1) establishes a Chief Procurement Officer to control and oversee specified State procurement activity; 2)renames the Procurement Advisory Council as the Procurement Improvement Council; 3)requires the Council to advise the General Assembly on proposed legislation to enhance efficiency and transparency of State procurement, and; 4)transfers procurement control and oversight responsibility and authority to the Department of General Services(DGS) from the Departments of Budget and Management (DBM), Information Technology (DoIT), and Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS).
- **What was the Governor's Commission to Modernize State Procurement?**  
Established on February 10, 2016, chaired by Lieutenant Governor Rutherford, the Commission requirements were to review all aspects of modernizing Maryland's state procurement process, including standardizing interpretation of procurement provisions in the Code of Maryland Regulations across all agencies; reducing costs for state agencies by using new technologies; developing a statewide procurement manual for use by state agencies for awarding contracts; and simplifying the Request For Proposals template to make it easier for businesses to understand and respond to public solicitations. For more information on the Commission please see their website at the link. ([Link](#))
- **What were the Commission's Recommendations?**  
The Commission produced 57 recommendations covering five significant areas, i.e. 1) Enhancing the Procurement Process to Attract More Participation; 2) Streamlining Architectural / Engineering Services Procurements; 3) Expanding Small and Minority Business Opportunities; 4) Developing Quality Procurement Personnel; 5) Updating Procurement Oversight Structure. All recommendations can be viewed online in the Commission's Final Report. ([Link](#))
- **How is MD Procurement changing?**  
The law requires the establishment of a Chief Procurement Officer (CPO) role to control and oversee specified State procurement activities. As well as renaming the *Procurement Advisory Council* the *Procurement Improvement Council*, requiring the *Council* to advise the General Assembly on proposed legislation to enhance the efficiency and transparency of State procurement, and transferring the authority of specified primary procurement units to the Department of General Services.

The new law will also introduce the new *eMaryland Marketplace Advantage* (“eMMA”). eMMA will help modernize supplier enablement, automate enterprise-wide procurement processes, and standardize contracting methods to provide more significant value through transparency, efficiency, and effectiveness. ([Link](#))

The Administrative Workplan outlines in detail the specific strategic goals and concepts to accomplish the changes required by HB1021 (CH590). Please see link for the Administrative Workplan. ([Link](#))

- **Why is MD Procurement changing?**

Numerous studies have been produced by the Executive and Legislative branch over the years pointing to the difficulty of suppliers to work with Maryland. Reasons are numerous and complex, but the changes being undertaken are intended to reverse the situations outlined in these reports.

- **When will these changes be taking place?**

Plans for changes with our current eMaryland Marketplace (Periscope) are underway at this time, with deployment of our new eMMA (Ivalua) eProcurement platform planned to be released in phases.

1. eMMA Release 1.0 (*Supplier Enablement, Sourcing [Basic] and Contract Repository*) deployment planned for the end of July 2019.
2. eMMA Release 1.1 (*Sourcing, Project Management, Auctions, and Contract Migration*) deployment planned for the end of November 2019.
3. eMMA Release 1.2 (*Supplier Data Integration & Analytics*) deployment planned for mid-March 2020.

For the most recent information at any time throughout this period, the following website URL can be checked for updates, <https://procurement.maryland.gov/>, or you can email questions directly to [central.procurement@Maryland.gov](mailto:central.procurement@Maryland.gov).

The effective date for all other changes is October 1, 2019 e.g., establishment of a CPO, the Procurement Improvement Council (PIC), DGS as primary control agency, etc. In preparation for this transition and until this effective date, DGS staff is working with all affected stakeholders.

### **What does this mean for the procurement employees?**

- **Will I be relocated?**

It is not anticipated that Agency procurement staff will be relocated. Staff assigned to agencies will continue to work at and with their agencies. Their duties and responsibilities continue to be in support of their agency, agency head, and the citizens and clients who are supported by their agency. Staff for the primary Procurement units that are merging under the reorganization may be moving at some point in the future to bring units together that perform similar tasks in order to operate more effectively.

- **What does job reclassification mean?**

Job reclassification means moving from one State position classification to another. In the case of Procurement Transformation, if according to their MS22, agency staff spend the majority of time performing formal procurement duties and responsibilities, then they are to be reclassified to a role within the Procurement CGD. This change is the result of creating a new State procurement career group, and is required by legislation.

The key requirement was to develop a specific Career Group to professionalize the state procurement workforce to improve procurement skills and competencies. This will be accomplished through a State training program, which will provide a statewide career path to develop Maryland procurement professional leaders. Development and training of our professional procurement workforce is a top priority of transformation.

- **What responsibilities will be staying the same?**

Responsibilities should remain the same for agency staff who, in accordance with their MS22, spend the majority of their time performing formal procurement duties and responsibilities i.e., Competitive Sealed Bids, Competitive Sealed Proposals, other formal methods of procurement, and related duties and responsibilities detailed in the formal Procurement Career Group Description (CGD), then their responsibilities remain unchanged.

- **What responsibilities will be changing?**

Responsibilities may change for staff who are to be reclassified to other roles e.g., Administration, Finance, etc., outside Procurement in accordance with instructions and guidance provided by the DBM Office of Personnel Services and Benefits (OPSB) and in coordination with their own agency personnel officers. ([Link](#))

## **eMaryland Marketplace Advantage (eMMA)**

- **What is eMMA?**

“eMMA” is the familiar term referring to Maryland’s statewide eProcurement program properly titled “eMaryland Marketplace Advantage.” The vision for this program is for it to be an advantage to all key Maryland stakeholders. These include all state and local suppliers, citizens, leaders, and procurement professionals. The advantages are provided, for example, through data transparency, transactional and reporting efficiency, and cost savings through leveraged purchasing power.

- **How is eMMA different from eMM?**

eMMA replaces the former eMM solution. The new suite of tools eMMA provides will be more advanced, comprehensive and easier-to-use. eMMA will provide better sourcing, solicitation and contract management tools allowing for improved analytics, reporting, transparency and work-flow management.

- **When will the switch take place?**

eMMA will be implemented in phases, the first of which is to go live towards the end of July, 2019. Functionality offered during this first phase of the implementation will replace the functionality in the current eMM.

- **Where can eMMA be found?**

<https://procurement.maryland.gov/>

- **Where can I go to stay informed on future changes?**

<https://procurement.maryland.gov/> or email [central.procurement@Maryland.gov](mailto:central.procurement@Maryland.gov)