



U.S. AbilityOne Commission Issues Four Compliance Policies

WASHINGTON, D.C., August 2, 2024 – The U.S. AbilityOne Commission today issued four compliance policies as part of its continuing focus on modernizing AbilityOne Program compliance to align with the agency’s [strategic plan](#).

[Policy 51.401: AbilityOne Program Nonprofit Agency Entry Qualifications](#)

This policy sets forth the qualifications required for a nonprofit agency (NPA) to enter the AbilityOne Program. This policy is effective today.

[Policy 51.402: Qualified Nonprofit Agency Requirements](#)

This policy prescribes the qualification requirements for NPAs to participate in the AbilityOne Program, and responsibilities of the Central Nonprofit Agencies (CNAs) in monitoring and assisting NPAs in meeting the qualifications. This policy is effective on October 1, 2024.

[Policy 51.403: Determining Eligibility of Participating Employees](#)

This policy prescribes the documentation required for an NPA to evaluate eligibility and count individuals towards the direct labor hour ratio of individuals who are blind and/or have significant disabilities in the workforce of an NPA in order for the NPA to be qualified to participate in the AbilityOne Program. It also sets forth the record-keeping responsibilities of an NPA; the review and evaluation responsibilities of a CNA; and the oversight and quality assurance monitoring responsibilities of the Commission.

This policy is effective today. It reflects minor clarifications made by the Commission to the earlier version of this policy issued in November 2023 and effective January 1, 2024.

[Policy 51.404: Direct Labor Hour Ratio Requirements](#)

This policy prescribes the requirements to satisfy the overall direct labor hour ratio in order for an NPA to be qualified to participate in the AbilityOne Program. It also sets forth the documentation requirements and record-keeping responsibilities of an NPA, the review and evaluation responsibilities of a CNA, and the oversight responsibilities of the Commission.



This policy is effective on October 1, 2024.

As part of developing these and other policies, the Commission conducts wide-ranging stakeholder engagement both within and beyond the AbilityOne Program, including publishing [drafts](#) on the Commission website for public feedback.

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. Nearly 37,000 individuals, including more than 2,500 veterans, are employed nationwide at more than 400 nonprofit agencies from Maine to Guam. AbilityOne provided more than \$4 billion in products and services to approximately 40 Federal government agencies in FY 2023.

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