



# GET STARTED

## with Digital Services

### Best for

- Learning digital services
- Trying new modern tech stacks
- Developing a minimally viable product

### Generally not for

- Full system/solution implementation
- Operations & maintenance efforts
- Other non-included services  
(i.e. content strategy, data architecture and migration, etc.)

### Overview

The Small Business Administration (SBA) and the US Digital Service have partnered to provide a release from the repetitive acquisition rules for agencies that want to use the 8(a) direct award to experiment and learn digital services. By leveraging this initiative, agencies can keep any follow-on work within the 8(a) program or switch to another contracting method or vehicle at the end of the contract without getting SBA

### How to use the SBA's 8(a) exemption:

- Determine if the project's needs can be met with a **non-competitive, direct award procurement** contract under **\$4 million**.
- Determine if the project **qualifies for the initiative**. Review the SOOs to find the scope most appropriate for your program.
- Identify capable 8(a) vendors (this may include vendors with valid GSA Stars II contracts.)
- Proceed through the normal procurement process per FAR 19.8. (Note: If using GSA stars II, follow GSA's ordering guide.)
- Send the SBA memo, dated December 20, 2016, to your agency's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) along with the RFP, or other associated or contract documents with one of the SOO's incorporated.

#### At the end of the contract...

- Keep any follow-on work within the 8(a) program or switch to another contracting method or vehicle without getting SBA or OSDBU approval for removal from 8(a) program.

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To learn more about the SBA's 8(a) Digital Services initiative, visit:  
[https://techfarhub.cio.gov/do-IT/SBA\\_8a/](https://techfarhub.cio.gov/do-IT/SBA_8a/)

