



Comptroller General  
of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20548

## Decision

**Matter of:** Federal Contract Specialists, Inc.

**File:** B-270847

**Date:** January 5, 1996

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### DECISION

Federal Contract Specialists, Inc. (FCI) protests the terms of solicitation No. DAAJ04-95-R-0018, issued by the Department of the Army for meals and lodging for military applicants at the St. Louis Military Entrance Processing Station. FCI contends that the solicitation should have been issued as an invitation for bids rather than as a request for proposals.

We dismiss this protest on the basis that the protester is not an interested party.

Under the bid protest provisions of the Competition in Contracting Act of 1984, 31 U.S.C. §§ 3551-3556, only an "interested party" may protest a federal procurement. That is, a protester must be an actual or prospective supplier whose direct economic interest would be affected by the award of a contract or the failure to award a contract. Section 21.0(a), 60 Fed. Reg. 40,737, 40,739 (Aug. 10, 1995) (to be codified at 4 C.F.R. § 21.0(a)). Since we have no reason to believe that FCI is preparing an offer in response to this solicitation, and since FCI fails to identify any other entity whose protest rights it is pursuing—as is its usual practice—we dismiss the protest.

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