

Direct Express On Schedule For FY2005

Similar to making a purchase using the GSA schedule, FEDLINK customers can place orders directly with online services vendors via the Direct Express option. With this streamlined purchasing process, database products and service offerings continue to be as comprehensive as always—including electronic database publications, document delivery services, associated print publications and specialized access options.

Revolving Fund Makes It Happen

Under Section 103 of P.L. 106-481 (2 U.S.C. 182c), which established FEDLINK as a revolving fund beginning in Fiscal Year 2002, FEDLINK can provide “the procurement of commercial information services, publications in any format, and library support services,...related accounting services,...related education, information and support services” to federal offices and to other organizations entitled to use federal sources of supply. FEDLINK can now accept fees from federal agencies that have “passed through” a vendor and have been earned for facilitating federal purchasing, i.e., the vendors pay the FEDLINK administrative fees.

To establish this option, FEDLINK has negotiated indefinite delivery indefinite quantity (IDIQ) contracts on a sole source basis with most online services vendors. An IDIQ contract allows the government to place orders for an indefinite quantity of commercially available supplies or services during a fixed period.

Cite the Contract Number on Your PO and Place the Order

Customers simply cite the FEDLINK IDIQ contract number on their agency’s purchase order and send it straight to the vendor. No synopsis nor further competition is required on purchases over \$25,000 as the FEDLINK IDIQ establishes the vendors as sole source for their individual products and services. When comparing two vendors with similar databases, customers may want to compare prices or choose a vendor based upon their interface.

The vendor receives the purchase order, sets up the customer’s account and promptly issues pass-

words and/or authorization numbers. The vendor will then invoice the FEDLINK customer directly against their agency’s purchase order. The customer’s agency finance office pays the invoice (and any interest penalties) and reports disbursements to the customer. FEDLINK does not issue statements of account for Direct Express purchases.

The vendor pays the FEDLINK fee based on the volume of quarterly sales of Direct Express customers. Direct Express customers are responsible for initiating the purchase, managing delivery of the products and services and paying invoices.



Online Vendors On Board for Direct Express

More than 50 online services vendors have contracts with FEDLINK to accept Direct Express orders. For the latest information on Direct Express or other FEDLINK vendors visit <http://www.loc.gov/flicc/contracting.html> (or see next page for a list). Last summer, FEDLINK staff issued a new request for proposals from these vendors and added the Direct Express option to their contracts. These same vendors are also available under Transfer Pay mode but are not available through FEDLINK Direct Pay option. (See “Direct Express or Transfer Pay” below for additional information on these payment options.)

Watch for Updates

For information, please contact FEDLINK Network Operations by phone at (202) 707-4848 or by email to FLICCFno@loc.gov.

DIRECT EXPRESS OR TRANSFER PAY?

As cost effective as Direct Express is, most current members will continue to prefer transfer pay mode, which offers them more flexibility in managing their funds and provides more assistance with procurement processes.

Under the Transfer Pay option, customers transfer both FEDLINK administrative fees and estimated annual service dollars to FEDLINK/Library of Congress (LC) via a signed Interagency Agreement (IAG) or alternate document. On behalf of the customer, LC/Contracts issues a delivery order to the vendor in the amount specified on the IAG. After receiving the delivery order, the vendor provides service to the customer and submits the customer’s invoices to FEDLINK. FEDLINK reviews the invoices, rejects improper ones, and pays acceptable ones from the customer’s account. FEDLINK sends the customer copies of rejected invoices, paid invoices, and a monthly statement of account.

If there are surplus funds in one vendor account, an amendment form can conveniently move these funds to another needed service. Another major benefit of Transfer Pay is extended order deadlines. Instead of having to fulfill a member’s order either by providing services or by issuing delivery orders to vendors prior to the end of the fiscal year, before their funds expire, FEDLINK is able to accept signed IAGs with firm orders late in September every year and generate delivery orders well into October. In addition, FEDLINK is also authorized to accept IAGs and amendments by fax, pending receipt of originals via courier service or mail. This reduces the lead time necessary to add funds to purchase information products and services at the end of the fiscal year.

For more information, contact FEDLINK Network Operations by phone at (202) 707-4848 or by email to FLICCFno@loc.gov.

Online Services Vendors Participate in Direct Express

The following online services vendors have contracts with FEDLINK to accept Direct Express orders. (See the chart below.) These same vendors are also available under Transfer Pay mode but are no longer available through the FEDLINK Direct Pay option.

Vendors Offering Direct Express and Transfer Pay Options (Vendor ID follows vendor name.)

Contract

Acquisition Solutions-AQ	LOC04C-7069
American Chemical Society-CA	LOC04C-7039
Cambridge Scientific (CSA)-SA	LOC04C-7010
ChoicePoint, Inc.-CT	LOC04C-7058
Columbia University Press-CO	LOC04C-7046
Congressional Quarterly-CQ	LOC04C-7011
CountryWatch.com	LOC04C-7065
Court Express.com-RS	LOC04C-7062
CQ Press-QP	LOC04C-7013
CRIBIS Corporation-SM	LOC04C-7049
Dialog Corporation (DataStar)-DI	LOC04C-7019
Dun & Bradstreet-DU	LOC04C-7018
East View Information-EV.	LOC04C-7030
EBSCO Publishing-EH	03CSFC70101
Economist Intelligence Unit, N. A.-EU	LOC04C-7023
Economy.com, Inc.-EC	LOC04C-7002
ERI-Economic Research Institute-ER	LOC04C-7065
Fastcase.com, Inc.-FC	LOC04C-7014
Gale Group-GR	03CSFC70102
Global Insight-WG	LOC04C-7008
H. W. Wilson-WI	LOC04C-7035
IBISWorld Pty Ltd-IS	LOC04C-7063
IEEE-IE	LOC04C-7022
InfoUSA-AI	LOC04C-7005
Ingenta-CU	LOC04C-7036
Inside Washington Publishers-IW	LOC04C-7003
Investigation Technologies (formerly Rapsheets.com)-DN	LOC04C-7020
Jane's Information Group-JN	LOC04C-7037
JSTOR-JS	LOC04C-7043
Knovel Corporation-KN	LOC03C-7031
LexisNexis/LexisNexis CourtLink-ML	03CSFC70103
LRP Publications-PS	LOC04C-7060
Market Research.com-MA	LOC04C-7015
MD Consult (Elsevier)-MK	LOC04C-7050
Mindbranch, Inc.- IM	LOC04C-7068
Moreover Technologies-MO	LOC03C-7051
netLibrary, Inc.-NE	LOC04C-7048
NewsBank, Inc.-NB	LOC04C-7009
OECD-OE	LOC04C-7006
Outsell, Inc.-OS	02CSFC40001
Ovid Technologies, Inc.-BR	LOC04C-7038
Oxford University Press-OU	LOC04C-7007
Peterson's Guides-PG	LOC04C-7044
Press Association-PA	LOC04C-7012
ProQuest Information and Learning Co.-UM	03CSFC70104
Questel/Orbit-OR	LOC04C-7059
Reis Reports, Inc.-RR	LOC04C-7064
Research Libraries Group (RLG)-RL	LOC04C-7053
RIA-RI	LOC04C-7042
R.R. Bowker, LLC-RB	LOC04C-7061
Serials Solutions-SS	LOC04C-7032
Tax Analysts-TA	LOC04C-7056
TD Net-TD	LOC04C-7054
TLC (The Library Corp.)-LC	LOC04C-7025
United Communications Group (Periscope)-UC	LOC04C-7001
West Publishing Corp.-WE	03CSFC70105
World Bank-WB	LOC04C-7055
