Foreword

When we work with the U.S. Federal Government, we adhere to unique business and ethical standards. All Accenture Federal Services (AFS) company people who engage with and support the Federal Government must understand the Federal Government’s rules for doing business.

The Standards of Federal Business Ethics and Conduct (the “Standards”) apply Accenture’s Core Values to AFS companies, highlighting our ethics and compliance policies and practices that are unique to working with the Federal Government. They foster an atmosphere of transparency and integrity and are essential to address the significant risks of non-compliance in our market.

Our Code of Business Ethics states:

We obtain all required approvals to provide services to government clients and comply with government contracting and procurement regulations.

We understand and comply with the legal requirements and restrictions that apply to bidding, pricing and delivering our services to government clients.

The Standards are a specific supplement to the Code of Business Ethics that all our people must know and understand. They apply to all AFS company people who deal directly or indirectly with the U.S. Federal Government. “AFS company people” means all AFS and AFS subsidiary employees (including interns and temporary employees), as well as Accenture borrowed resources. We also recognize that Federal Government employees are subject to their own strict ethical standards, and AFS company people must be mindful of those rules and respectful of their application.

AFS companies are committed to upholding the highest professional and ethical standards. We will not tolerate retaliation against any AFS company person who in good faith reports an ethical or legal concern. AFS company people who come forward with concerns play an important role in maintaining our ethical workplace. If you have questions about these Standards or how they affect your daily work, please send an email to AFS Legal Compliance. Additionally, new and updated AFS company policies will be issued from time to time. We encourage you to regularly check the AFS Policies website.

John Goodman, AFS Chief Executive Officer
Deborah Ringel, AFS General Counsel and Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer
Federal Standards at a Glance

1. **Stewardship**  
1.1. We only allow authorized AFS company people to contract with Federal Government clients  
1.2. We do not use appropriated funds to influence Congress regarding our Federal Government contracts  
1.3. We comply with all lobbying registration and reporting requirements  
1.4. We understand that unique rules apply to inventions made while working for the Federal Government  
1.5. We safeguard AFS company and Accenture proprietary and confidential information

2. **Best People**  
2.1. We follow all restrictions applicable to employment discussions with current Federal Government employees  
2.2. We observe “Revolving Door” and Procurement Integrity Act restrictions applicable to former Federal Government employees

3. **Client Value Creation**  
3.1. We diligently prepare proposals for Federal Government work  
3.2. We submit current, accurate, and complete Cost or Pricing Data to the Federal Government  
3.3. We comply with the specifications, terms, and conditions of our Federal Government contracts  
3.4. We promote open and fair competition for all subcontractors and suppliers  
3.5. We do not solicit or accept kickbacks from subcontractors and suppliers  
3.6. We do not accept Third-Party Compensation without review and approval from AFS Legal  
3.7. We submit accurate invoices when we bill the Federal Government

4. **One Global Network**  
4.1. We are fierce but fair competitors and follow rules applicable to Federal Government competitions  
4.2. We will not seek or obtain competitors’ non-public proprietary information or Federal Government-sensitive information relating to a procurement  
4.3. We do not make improper “contingent payments” to obtain Federal Government business  
4.4. We only deliver products and services that meet the Federal Government’s country of origin and domestic preference restrictions  
4.5. We cooperate with Federal Government and internal investigations and audits

5. **Respect for the Individual**  
5.1. We seek to understand and support the Federal Government’s ethical standards for its employees and avoid exposing Federal Government employees to personal conflicts of interest  
5.2. We take the Prohibition on Human Trafficking, Forced Labor, and Child Labor regulations seriously  
5.3. We pursue diversity as an organizational priority and strive to create opportunities for our people, as well as small businesses, including those owned by women, minorities, and military veterans  
5.4. We promote a workplace free of prohibited drugs

6. **Integrity**  
6.1. We do not provide gifts to Federal Government employees nor do we invite them to attend corporate-sponsored events without appropriate pre-approval  
6.2. We avoid putting AFS companies and Accenture in the position of an organizational conflict of interest  
6.3. We protect Federal Government information  
6.4. We promote security in everything we do  
6.5. We promote privacy  
6.6. We protect Federal Government property  
6.7. We keep complete and accurate records
1. **Stewardship**

We understand that the laws and regulations governing Federal work are complex and that non-compliance raises significant financial and credibility risks. Accordingly, we are accountable for the current and future health of our business by balancing any Federal Government demands with the company's long-term needs. Further, we understand that we are accountable to each of the many “faces” of the Federal Government, which include contract administration personnel, program personnel, auditors, and others.

1.1. **We only allow authorized AFS company people to contract with Federal Government clients**

Because signing a contract with the Federal Government has broad-reaching implications, only authorized AFS company people may sign contracts and any related certifications.

See Policy AFS-1072, *Signature Authority*.

**Back to Federal Standards at a Glance**

1.2. **We do not use appropriated funds to influence Congress regarding our Federal Government contracts**

As a business partner of the Federal Government, we will not use appropriated funds to pay any person for influencing or attempting to influence a Federal Government employee, member of Congress, employee of Congress, or employee of a member of Congress in connection with any specific Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

**Back to Federal Standards at a Glance**

1.3. **We comply with all lobbying registration and reporting requirements**

Contacts with Federal Government employees for the purpose of influencing legislation, regulations, or decision-making may constitute lobbying, which triggers registration and disclosure requirements. If an AFS company person or a retained consultant or someone working on our behalf, such as a subcontractor, communicates with any public official or the official’s staff to influence the approval, modification, or rejection of any Federal Government policy, rule, or legislation on behalf of AFS companies, Accenture, or their clients, that person may be obligated to register as a lobbyist or comply with other regulations. All such people are responsible for understanding the applicable rules and must work with the AFS Office of Government Relations to ensure they comply. AFS companies comply with all lobbying registration and reporting requirements, in accordance with the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995.

See Policy AFS-1221, *Contacts with Public Officials*.

**Back to Federal Standards at a Glance**

1.4. **We understand that unique rules apply to inventions made while working for the Federal Government**

The Federal Government may be entitled to special intellectual property rights in inventions that its contractors create while performing work under a Federal Government contract or subcontract. Therefore, we ensure that we know and understand the allocation of intellectual property rights in anything produced in the performance of a Federal Government contract.

**Back to Federal Standards at a Glance**
1.5. We safeguard AFS company and Accenture proprietary and confidential information

Protecting our proprietary information is of critical importance. When we submit proprietary information to the Federal Government, we must observe protections beyond those we take with commercial customers. Accordingly, we carefully mark proprietary materials submitted to the Federal Government with appropriate restrictive legends in accordance with the Federal Acquisition Regulation, as well as Federal customer-specific direction or requirements.

See Policy AFS-0051, Use and Distribution of Packaged Knowledge; Policy AFS-0069, Confidentiality; Policy AFS-0091, Intellectual Property.

Back to Federal Standards at a Glance

2. Best People

We mobilize the best people at the right time and in the right place. We search out the best talent, seek opportunities to develop leading-edge skills, and take time to integrate new people into the company. We recognize that people with Federal Government experience bring tremendous value to Accenture and AFS companies. However, we also understand that while people are free to move in and out of employment with the Federal Government, there are restrictions that limit our ability to discuss employment with Federal Government employees. We also understand there are restrictions that limit the ability of former Federal Government employees to perform certain functions after leaving the Federal Government.

2.1. We follow all restrictions applicable to employment discussions with current Federal Government employees

Employment discussions between AFS company people and current Federal Government employees are carefully managed to avoid the appearance of a “conflict of interest.” We will not engage in employment discussions with a current Federal Government employee while that employee is participating in any matter relating to AFS companies or Accenture. Given the complexities and risks in this area, AFS company people must consult with AFS Recruiting (who, in turn, will consult with AFS Legal) before entering into any employment discussions with current Federal Government employees.

See Policy AFS-9031, Recruiting of Government Employees / “Revolving Door” Recruiting.

A Federal Government employee I worked with on an old program is planning to retire. She would fit in perfectly with our AFS team. Can I ask her to work for us when she retires?

No. Before you engage in any employment discussions with the Federal Government employee, you must obtain approval from the AFS Recruiting team. Additionally, AFS is not allowed to discuss potential employment with her until she has retired or until she disqualifies herself from further participation on matters involving AFS companies or Accenture.

Back to Federal Standards at a Glance
2.2. We observe “Revolving Door” and Procurement Integrity Act restrictions applicable to former Federal Government employees

Legal restrictions do not end once Federal Government employees leave Government service. “Revolving Door” restrictions place limits on these employees’ post-Government activities, and the Procurement Integrity Act prohibits some former Federal Government employees from receiving any compensation from a contractor for a period of time after they leave the Federal Government. Further, these restrictions may apply even to Business Development Agents and Subject Matter Experts who are internal consultants to AFS companies.

Because “Revolving Door” and Procurement Integrity Act restrictions are complex, AFS company people, including former Federal Government employees and those with whom they work, must coordinate with AFS Legal, through AFS Recruiting or Procurement as appropriate, to determine applicable restrictions. Further, AFS company people involved in employment discussions with current or former Federal Government employees are expected to know that certain limitations may apply to the activities the person would be able to perform if they joined the company.

I previously worked for a current Federal Government client of AFS, and now I am an employee of AFS. While working for the Federal Government, I served as a technical advisor overseeing decisions concerning one of AFS’s contracts. Can I meet with employees of my former Government agency to discuss potential modifications to the specifications of that contract?

No, you may not meet with employees of the Federal Government client to discuss the contract with which you were personally and substantially involved during your time with the Government. However, you should consult with AFS Legal to determine whether other viable options are permissible.

See Policy AFS-9031, Recruiting of Government Employees / “Revolving Door” Recruiting; Policy AFS-9029, Procurement Integrity Act – Disclosure or Receipt of Competitive Information.

3. Client Value Creation

We seek to build long-term relationships with our Federal Government clients based on delivering value. We focus on sustainable, long-term outcomes, forgoing short-term opportunities that are inconsistent with our goal of delivering long-term value.

3.1. We diligently prepare proposals for Federal Government work

The Federal Government may rely on everything we say and do, and in some cases what we don’t say or do. Accordingly, AFS company people preparing proposals, bids, or engaging in contract negotiations for current or prospective Federal Government clients must be certain that all statements, communications, and representations are accurate and truthful. We focus on the substance of our capabilities and delivery expertise, and we limit marketing claims to factual matters.

3.2. We submit current, accurate, and complete Cost or Pricing Data to the Federal Government

Federal Government clients have an obligation to determine that prices are “fair and reasonable.” In certain circumstances, they may ask us to certify that the information provided is current, accurate, and complete. We
take this certification requirement very seriously and allow only authorized AFS company people to sign a Certificate of Current Cost or Pricing Data and only after all personnel who have had a major role in preparing the proposal have signed a corresponding internal certificate.

We comply with Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Cost Principles and Cost Accounting Standards where applicable.


3.3. We comply with the specifications, terms, and conditions of our Federal Government contracts

Once a contract is awarded, we read it carefully and perform in compliance with its specifications, requirements, and terms and conditions. We understand that certain regulations may apply even if not expressly stated in the contract. We will not substitute a different product or service without appropriate approvals. We flow appropriate contract requirements down to subcontractors and suppliers.

3.4. We promote open and fair competition for all subcontractors and suppliers

The Federal Government is legally bound to promote fair and open competition. When we serve as a prime contractor, we are bound to select subcontractors who offer fair and reasonable prices. Because our Federal Government client generally bears the ultimate costs of these supplies and services, we use competitive procedures to the maximum extent possible to provide the best value.


3.5. We do not solicit or accept kickbacks from subcontractors and suppliers

We understand that doing business with the Federal Government requires extra diligence to ensure our purchasing practices are fair and compliant. We enter into subcontracts and supply agreements based on merit and do not accept kickbacks in any form, including contingency fees, gratuities, commissions, rebates, or discounts that are made for the purpose of improperly obtaining or rewarding favorable treatment in connection with a prime contract or in connection with a subcontract relating to a prime contract. AFS company people with any question about whether a payment could constitute a kickback must contact AFS Legal.

See Policy AFS-9026, Anti-Kickback Act/Gifts from Third Parties.

3.6. We do not accept Third-Party Compensation without review and approval from AFS Legal

"Third-Party Compensation" is cash or other benefits provided by a Third Party, which is in any way connected with sales, marketing, or development activities of AFS companies or Accenture in support of: (i) that Third Party, its products or services or (ii) that Third Party's joint undertaking with AFS companies or Accenture.

We understand that accepting Third-Party Compensation can (i) cause AFS companies to violate a law, regulation, or contractual obligation; (ii) adversely affect our reputation or good standing; or (iii) present a conflict of interest that cannot reasonably be mitigated.
We do not place purchase orders or suggest that Federal Government clients place purchase orders for goods or services that the Federal Government does not need. Likewise, we do not place purchase orders or suggest that the Federal Government place purchase orders with a vendor to induce that vendor to purchase goods or services from Accenture or AFS companies.

AFS company people must obtain AFS Legal approval prior to acceptance of any rebate on a Federal Government contract.

See Policy AFS-0081, Compensation from Third Parties.

Back to Federal Standards at a Glance

3.7. We submit accurate invoices when we bill the Federal Government

We seek to submit accurate invoices and promptly correct inadvertent errors. We understand that some contracts are subject to the contract cost principles and procedures set forth in FAR Part 31. In order for us to charge and recover an incurred cost, we determine that it is reasonable, allocable, and allowable. We segregate allowable from unallowable costs, and we do not invoice the Federal Government for, or include in our indirect cost rates, unallowable costs, including advertising, lobbying, and fines and penalties. We stay within Federal Government guidelines for reimbursement of travel. If we discover that a client has been incorrectly billed, we report and correct it.

See Policy AFS-9013, Billing Manual; Policy AFS-9012, Discounted Payment Terms and Overpayments; Policy AFS-9022, Unallowable Cost Segregation and Prohibition from Recovery; Policy AFS-9005, Mandatory Disclosure Obligations.

Back to Federal Standards at a Glance

4. One Global Network

We are a good corporate citizen and follow consistent standards when interacting with the Federal Government. We understand that in the Federal Government market we may be competing with a company one day, and seeking subcontracting opportunities with that same company the next.

4.1. We are fierce but fair competitors and follow rules applicable to Federal Government competitions

We compete fairly and ethically for all business opportunities. We understand that the competitive process for Federal Government business is more restricted than that of commercial work. When an AFS company is involved in a procurement, we do not discuss the procurement with any officials of the procuring agency who are not authorized to discuss the procurement with prospective offerors. We do not engage in any anticompetitive practices, such as price fixing, bid rigging, or any other types of collusion, and we avoid even the appearance of such practices.

See Policy AFS-1322, Interactions with Competitors; Policy AFS-9029 Procurement Integrity Act - Disclosure or Receipt of Competitive Information.

Back to Federal Standards at a Glance

4.2. We will not seek or obtain competitors’ non-public proprietary information or Federal Government-sensitive information relating to a procurement

A critical aspect of Federal Government competitions is a level playing field. A competitor with access to protected information of the Federal Government or another competitor may have an unfair competitive advantage. Seeking or obtaining such information is illegal. We do not tolerate possessing unauthorized,
protected information. Examples of protected Federal Government information may include any documents that:

- Reflect the agency’s source selection and technical evaluation plans.
- Reflect the agency’s evaluations of any proposals offered.
- Reflect competitive range determinations, rankings of bidders, or recommendations for award.
- Are marked “source selection information” or contain a similar legend.

Examples of protected competitor information include:

- Any non-public information related to cost or pricing or methods for developing cost or pricing.
- Any information about proprietary processes or business strategy.
- Any documents marked “bid or proposal information.”

If such information inadvertently comes into our possession, we isolate and secure it to prevent further distribution, and immediately contact AFS Legal to explain where, when, how, and from whom the information was received. We seek guidance and follow the incident reporting requirements established by the AFS Security and Intelligence Directorate.

We do not ask AFS company people to share confidential or proprietary information from former employers. We do not share confidential or proprietary information of our former employers.


---

**A competitor inadvertently left files containing its company information at a public meeting. It is not obvious from the face of the information that it is not public. Can I retain the copy?**

No. You should not retain the document and must cease reviewing any information contained in the document. You should not share the document, which should be sealed immediately and sent to AFS Legal for proper handling.

---

**I received an e-mail from a Federal Government employee and attached to the e-mail is a document marked “source selection sensitive” and appears to describe the agency’s needs for a future IT system. What should I do?**

You must cease reviewing any information contained in the document. You must notify AFS Legal and refrain from forwarding the document (either internally or externally) without AFS Legal’s authorization.

---

**4.3. We do not make improper “contingent payments” to obtain Federal Government business**

We do not make payments to third parties that are contingent solely on receiving Federal Government business, including payments to Business Development Agents (BD Agents). No BD Agent will be paid on a contingent fee basis. A “Contingent Fee” means any commission, percentage, brokerage, or other fee that is paid to a person or company based on the success of that person’s or organization’s efforts in securing a Federal Government contract awarded to an AFS company.

See Policy AFS-1327, *Business Intermediaries*.

---

Back to Federal Standards at a Glance
4.4. We only deliver products and services that meet the Federal Government’s country of origin and domestic preference restrictions

Many of our contracts with the Federal Government require that we use products produced or manufactured in the U.S. or other designated countries—generally countries that have entered into trade agreements with the U.S. or certain less developed countries. When these limitations apply, we only provide products from permitted countries. We do not alter or remove the country of origin markings on products to be delivered to the Federal Government. We purchase services for use on Federal Government engagements in compliance with applicable domestic preference laws. We do not provide products from “prohibited source” countries, such as Sudan and Iran, with which the Federal Government does not do business.

See Policy AFS-9030, Acquisition of Foreign Products: Buy American Act/Trade Agreements Act/Prohibited Sources.

Back to Federal Standards at a Glance

4.5. We cooperate with Federal Government and internal investigations and audits

We cooperate fully with Federal Government investigations and audits, as well as state and local investigations. By contracting with the Federal Government, we have agreed that the Federal Government may examine certain corporate financial records and cost data. When the Federal Government audits our contracts and the associated records, we refer the matter to AFS Legal and comply with valid requests. AFS companies and Accenture conduct their affairs as good corporate citizens by conducting internal investigations and making appropriate self-disclosures, as determined by AFS Legal. All AFS company people have an obligation to assist by truthfully cooperating with internal investigations.

Back to Federal Standards at a Glance

5. Respect for the Individual

We treat people as we would like to be treated, which means honoring the codes of conduct of our Federal Government clients and living our own Code of Business Ethics.

5.1. We seek to understand and support the Federal Government’s ethical standards for its employees and avoid exposing Federal Government employees to personal conflicts of interest

The Federal Government has its own ethical standards for its employees, and in some cases these standards may be more stringent than those of our own company. We understand that Federal Government employees are subject to strict ethical standards, and we strive to understand those rules and to learn how we can support our Federal Government clients in their compliance. We do not rely on individual Federal Government employees to tell us an agency’s rules; we seek to understand them ourselves.

Federal Government employees are prohibited from engaging in any activity that constitutes a “personal conflict of interest.” AFS company people must try to avoid any circumstances that could create the appearance that a Federal Government employee is violating the conflict of interest restrictions. Simply put, we must not put Federal Government employees in a situation in which their responsibilities to the Federal Government—including their objectivity and judgment—are compromised (or appear to be compromised) by an outside transaction or relationship. If in doubt, ask AFS Legal for guidance. We do not offer or provide any gift, meal, entertainment, or travel to a Federal Government employee without approval from AFS Legal.

See Policy AFS-1004, Addressing Personal Conflicts of Interest; Policy AFS-0150, Gifts, Meals, Entertainment & Travel.
5.2. We take the Prohibition on Human Trafficking, Forced Labor, and Child Labor regulations seriously

AFS company people are prohibited from engaging in human-trafficking, forced labor, or child labor-related activities at any time, regardless of whether such people are acting in their official capacities. Prohibited conduct includes procuring commercial sex acts, using forced labor, using misleading or fraudulent recruiting practices, and using recruiters that do not comply with local labor laws in the country that the recruiting takes place. We recognize that proactive steps must be taken in certain circumstances and that disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment, may be applied against employees, agents, or subcontractors that engage in human trafficking, forced labor, or child labor activities.

See Policy AFS-9025, Prohibition on Human Trafficking, Forced Labor, and Child Labor.

5.3. We pursue diversity as an organizational priority and strive to create opportunities for our people, as well as small businesses, including those owned by women, minorities, and military veterans

Accenture and AFS companies encourage, enhance, and support cultural diversity. We understand that, as Federal Government contractors, AFS companies are subject to a higher standard when it comes to maintaining a positive workplace. We have affirmative action plans in place. We provide equal employment opportunities, and we do not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, color, religion, disability status, national origin, race, creed, past or present membership in the uniformed services, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, citizenship status, genetic information, political belief, or any other basis protected by Federal, state, or local law. This practice applies to all terms and conditions of employment, including recruiting, hiring, transfers, promotions, terminations, compensation, and benefits. We abide by specific Federal Government requirements to verify U.S. Citizenship. We follow established guidelines and communicate specific requirements to potential hires seeking to work on client engagements that impose special requirements for access to restricted Federal Government-owned facilities and information.

We understand that the Federal Government requires that we set goals for creating business opportunities for small businesses, including those owned by women, minorities, and certain military veterans. We are dedicated to setting ambitious yet realistic small business subcontracting goals, and we endeavor in good faith to meet those goals.


5.4. We promote a workplace free of prohibited drugs

We are all responsible for ensuring a healthy, drug-free work environment. As a Federal Government contractor, we are under additional scrutiny. As stated in Policy AFS-1002, Behaving Professionally, AFS company people will not possess, use (or be under the influence of), supply, distribute, sell, or otherwise deal with a prohibited drug (or any other intoxicating substance) when performing work responsibilities, whether in an office, client site, or working elsewhere. Individuals who do not comply with this standard are subject to disciplinary action (up to, and including, termination of employment).
Employees with security clearances are prohibited from possessing, using, selling, or otherwise dealing with prohibited drug in all situations, including non-work-related activities. Employees with security clearances may also be held to additional standards in accordance with the requirements of their security clearance.

See Policy AFS-1002, Behaving Professionally.

6. Integrity

We conduct our business with integrity, fairness, and openness. We as individuals, and the company itself, face serious sanctions if we fail to conduct our business with integrity. It is not only policy and the right thing to do, it is the law.

6.1. We do not provide gifts to Federal Government employees nor do we invite them to attend corporate-sponsored events without appropriate pre-approval

In Accenture’s commercial business, it is standard practice to offer or receive social amenities or exchange business courtesies to foster goodwill and enhance business relationships. However, when interacting with Federal Government employees, entertainment practices that may be acceptable in a purely commercial setting may be unacceptable or even against the law.

Federal Government employees are prohibited from soliciting gifts, meals, entertainment, or travel (GMET) and are subject to very restrictive rules on accepting, directly or indirectly, any GMET from AFS companies due to our status as a Federal Government contractor. AFS company people will not offer or provide GMET that, if accepted, would violate the Federal Government employee’s ethical obligations. GMET is defined very broadly and includes anything of value, including any gratuity, favor, discount, entertainment, hospitality, loan, forbearance, training, travel, meal, or other item of monetary value, whether provided in-kind or through reimbursement – including meals. For example, an invitation to an Accenture marketing event (paid for by Accenture or AFS companies) could be considered a gift. Further, if a Federal Government employee approaches us about employment for one of their friends or relatives, the offer of such employment could be considered not only a gift, but a bribe.

As a general matter, we do not provide gifts to Federal Government employees because of our status as a Federal Contractor. If we decide to make an exception, we only provide something of value to Federal Government employees on AFS’s behalf—or engage a third party to provide on AFS’s behalf—after first reviewing the particular situation of the intended gift with, and receiving advance approval from, AFS Legal. This applies regardless of whether gifts are provided directly or in-kind. Note the mere promise, offer, or invitation may create the thing of value, so AFS Legal review and approval is required in advance of making any such offers.

See Policy AFS-0150, Gifts, Meals, Entertainment, & Travel; Policy AFS-1221, Contacts with Public Officials.

6.2. We avoid putting AFS companies and Accenture in the position of an organizational conflict of interest

The Federal Government restricts companies from serving in conflicting roles. The organizational conflict of interest rules aim to prevent conflicting roles that might bias the contractor’s judgment or advice and to prevent an unfair competitive advantage. We take appropriate steps to recognize and mitigate organizational conflicts of interest, and avoid organizational conflicts of interest in which our activities may preclude the pursuit of a related activity by AFS companies or another Accenture business segment. If we believe that we are in, or
may appear to be in, a conflict situation, we seek advice from AFS Legal before we act and appropriately disclose the circumstances to the Federal Government. See Policy AFS-0015, *Conflicts of Interest: Organizational*.

**Back to Federal Standards at a Glance**

### 6.3. We protect Federal Government information

Our work requires the Federal Government to entrust AFS companies with access to sensitive Government information, both classified and unclassified. Unless we have proper authorization or clearance in advance, we will not discuss, disclose, copy, or use such information. We understand the additional restrictions and penalties imposed by the Procurement Integrity Act when our work on Federal contracts involves access to information relating to a bid, proposal, or source selection before the contract is awarded. We understand the additional restrictions and penalties imposed by the Privacy Act when dealing with the design, development, or operation of a Federal Government system of records on individuals.

AFS company people are responsible for taking appropriate precautions to ensure unauthorized personnel do not have access to sensitive Federal Government information. Further, when performing classified work, we respect and observe all clearance requirements, including those limiting access to cleared information and to classified facilities. Contact AFS Security for help obtaining the necessary authorizations or if you are in doubt.


**Back to Federal Standards at a Glance**

### 6.4. We promote security in everything we do

We understand that security is an imperative in everything that we do. We understand that we must take necessary precautions to ensure we protect the national security interest. We confirm our understanding of applicable security requirements in every client engagement. We follow established security guidelines and procedures, even when those procedures require additional commitment in both time and cost. We ask questions about security protocols when we do not understand them. We follow established protocols to ensure proper Foreign Ownership, Control, or Influence (FOCI) mitigation. We report any suspected violations. AFS companies will not tolerate retaliation of any kind against any AFS company person who reports a security violation or raises security concerns.


**Back to Federal Standards at a Glance**

### 6.5. We promote privacy

We understand our obligation to safeguard personal information, and we protect personal information using appropriate technical and organizational measures. We follow applicable privacy laws and regulations and implement Privacy-by-Design and Privacy-by-Default principles and industry-appropriate best practices.

See Policy AFS-0090, *Privacy and Personal Information*.

**Back to Federal Standards at a Glance**
6.6. We protect Federal Government property
We understand our obligations to protect, preserve, inventory, and track Federal Government property that is within our custody and control, including “contractor-acquired” Federal Government property. We dispose of or return it appropriately at the end of the contract. We comply with license requirements associated with Federal Government-owned software.


Back to Federal Standards at a Glance

6.7. We keep complete and accurate records
We record all time on a daily basis, accurately and completely. We record all expenses, on a timely basis, accurately and completely. Misrepresenting facts or falsifying records is strictly prohibited. All AFS company people are responsible for ensuring that labor and material costs are accurately recorded and charged on our records. We will maintain and dispose of records in accordance with AFS company policies and applicable Federal Government requirements.

See Policy AFS-0063, Time Reporting; Policy AFS-9036, Expense Reporting; AFS-9005, Mandatory Disclosure Obligations; Policy AFS-0123, Contract Records Retention and Management

Do’s and Don’ts of Federal Government Business Interactions

• Do report concerns without fear of retaliation.
• Do consult AFS Legal with any questions about business transactions with the Federal Government.
• Do abide by post-Government employment restrictions applicable to former Federal Government employees.
• Do address even the appearance of an organizational conflict of interest.
• Do submit current, accurate, and complete Cost or Pricing Data to the Federal Government.
• Do promote open and fair competition for all subcontractors and suppliers.
• Do understand the unique obligations of performing systems integration services.
• Do safeguard AFS company and Accenture proprietary and confidential, and personal information.
• Do not engage in employment discussions with current Federal Government employees without approval from Recruiting.
• Do not solicit or accept kickbacks from subcontractors and suppliers.
• Do not provide gifts to Federal Government employees nor invite them to attend AFS company or Accenture-sponsored events without pre-approval from AFS Legal.
• Do not participate in any form of human trafficking, forced labor, or child labor.

Back to Federal Standards at a Glance

Reporting
To report a possible violation of AFS company policies, the Code of Business Ethics, or the Standards of Federal Business Ethics and Conduct, you are encouraged to raise your concern directly to your career
counselor, AFS Legal, AFS Human Resources, or to any member of AFS Leadership. You may also visit the Business Ethics Helpline via the icon on your desktop, at https://businessethicsline.com/accenture, where you may report your concern (including an anonymous reporting option) online or by calling +1-833-226-2351 to speak with an agent 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In addition to these reporting channels, employees of AFS’s subsidiaries may raise concerns directly to their Human Resources group.

Nothing in Accenture or AFS company policy or in any agreement is intended to prohibit you (with or without notice to Accenture) from reporting possible violations of laws or regulations to a governmental agency, regulatory body, or a local authority, or from making disclosures that are protected under whistleblower laws and regulations.

As stated in Policy AFS-1000, Raising Legal & Ethical Concerns and Prohibiting Retaliation, we will not tolerate retaliation against any AFS company person because they reported, in good faith, an ethical or legal concern. AFS company people who do retaliate violate our ethical standards and will be subject to discipline including termination of employment. We take all allegations seriously, and we resolve them in a standard, impartial process. We respect the privacy of our people.

We will use your personal information in accordance with Policy AFS-0090, Privacy and Personal Information, and data privacy law. To learn more about how we protect personal data of individuals that we receive or obtain during the reporting and investigation process and how we respect the privacy of our people, please refer to the Data Privacy Notice.