



News Release

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DGS Wins National Award for eVA eProcurement Program

*~ Center for Digital Government honored DGS for overall
project experience ~*

DENVER, COLORADO – The Department of General Services (DGS) today announced it has received a national award for overall project experience for its eProcurement program, eVA.

The Center for Digital Government presented DGS with the State Government Project Experience Award Sept. 24 during a virtual ceremony based in Denver, Colorado. The Government Experience Awards recognize the achievements and best practices of states, cities and counties that have used digital technology to radically improve the experience of government and push the boundaries of how services are delivered.

Long recognized as one of the best-managed states, Virginia continues to focus on transparency of government operations. Government transparency is more than supplying information; it includes making information easy to access and understand. With more than 700,000 purchase orders representing more than \$7.3 billion in spend (annually) visible, eVA brings innovation to the promise of transparency. With a few clicks of the mouse, citizens and businesses can find out what Virginia state agencies and other public entities are buying, whom they're buying from, and how much they are paying for items, as well as the rules, regulations, processes and standards behind those purchases. Vendors also can quickly find business opportunities and connect with other vendors.

“DGS continues to update eVA to ensure that it is easy to use for our buyers, businesses and the public and that our vendors are receiving top-of-the-line services. It is an honor to be recognized for eVA’s ever-evolving and improving user experience,” said **Joe Damico, DGS Director**. “We want those using eVA to be able to find what they need quickly and easily, whether it’s a vendor researching the next great business opportunity or the citizen who wants to understand how taxpayer dollars are being spent.”

Beyond transparency, eVA serves as the single source for identifying business opportunities in Virginia. The eVA team focused on enhancing the vendor experience by improving the ability to identify and track opportunities of interest, and improving how vendors receive notifications. The team applied new technologies to gain higher-quality insights to vendor profiles to suggest business opportunities beyond traditional commodity code matches. The enhanced Virginia Business Opportunities page, where public bodies announce close to 15,000 solicitations each year, provides vendors an ultra-fast, intuitive, and responsive search engine experience. Through the business-to-business (B2B) collaboration tool called the Virginia Information Business Exchange (VIBE), anyone _ even those not interested in selling to the Commonwealth _ can promote, advertise, search, and exchange information. VIBE provides a platform for businesses and citizens to partner and find opportunities in the private sector, similar to the eVA B2B Connect feature that helps businesses collaborate and partner on public contracting opportunities.

The eVA program also added an enhanced public search that allows for quick, public access to search purchase order data, supplier profiles, loaded contract details, and additional metrics that give insight into what Virginia is buying. This new tool was developed specifically to support citizens and businesses who want to track expenditures related to COVID-19.

“Our state and local government winners this year demonstrated that focusing on the government experience provides a foundation that played a vital role in responding and adapting to the uncertainties and disruptions of 2020,” said Dustin Haisler, chief innovation officer for the Center for Digital Government. A full list of 2020 Government Experience Award winners can be found at <https://www.govtech.com/cdg/government-experience/Government-Experience-Awards-2020-Winners-Announced.html>.

DGS provides laboratory, procurement, real estate, and engineering and architectural services for state agencies, as well as fleet vehicle management, graphic design, surplus property disposal, and mail services at the seat of government. The agency also manages the facilities and grounds at Capitol Square.

For more information or to browse the website, visit www.dgs.virginia.gov.

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