**CMS Training Program Frequently Asked Questions**

**What is the goal of the CMS program**?

The goal of the CMS program is to assist in the development of high-growth career opportunities for people who are legally blind by providing high-level training in the field of Contract Management.

**What are the training courses**?

The CMS training consists of four Defense Acquisition University (DAU) on-line classes – CON 100, CON 110, CON 111 and 112. Please click the link for course descriptions.

**Do I need to relocate for training?**

No. The CMS training program courses are offered on-line.

**How long is the training**?

It is estimated to take 80-90 hours to complete all four on-line courses. Each course is an average of 20 hours. Candidates have 60 days to complete each course.

**Is there a cost for the CMS program**?

No. The Committee for Purchase has a signed Memorandum of Understanding with DAU allowing all approved AbilityOne CMS participants to take the courses at no cost.

**Does NIB assist with job placement after the training is completed**?

The CMS program does not place participants and there is **no guarantee of employment** after the training is completed. The training program is designed to provide additional skills in a growing service area to better qualify participants for employment in the field of contracting.

**What is the pay range**?

The pay range for Close-out Specialist with no previous experience is based on the Federal Government GS-5 pay scale. Positions as Contract Specialist with no previous experience is based on the Federal Government GS-7 pay scale.

**Where are the opportunities located**?

Opportunities for Close-Out Specialist positions can be located across the country. Currently there are two AbilityOne pilot programs located in San Antonio and Philadelphia with the potential for several more locations to be added. Individuals without the federal government-required 24 business credit hours can still be employed through NIB associated agencies as contractors for the federal government. The opportunities for a Contract Specialist with the required 24 business credit hours are also located around the country, but the majority of federal government opportunities are in the Washington, D.C., area.

**Is the training accessible**?

Yes. All DAU courses offered as part of the CMS training are accessible.