

DECISION**THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL
OF THE UNITED STATES**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

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FILE: B-212274**DATE:** January 4, 1984**MATTER OF:** Chicago City-Wide College**DIGEST:**

Protest concerning the terms of a contract for educational services is denied. Air Force's decision to have all courses which are part of a baccalaureate degree program obtained from one institution is reasonable.

Chicago City-Wide College (CCWC) protests the terms of request for proposals (RFP) F61546-83-R-0027, issued by the Air Force for educational services. The procurement supports the Air Force's off-duty voluntary educational program for personnel located in Europe. CCWC complains that the RFP precludes community colleges that do not offer baccalaureate degrees from offering courses that lead to the baccalaureate degree. We deny the protest.

CCWC's complaint is that the Air Force has decided that courses which are taught by both community colleges and baccalaureate degree institutions will be acquired only from the baccalaureate institution. As a result, CCWC complains, it cannot offer these courses on its own even though the student might incur less expense if it could and even though the courses may be required for the degrees (presumably "associate" degrees) it does award. CCWC attacks the Air Force's decision as shortsighted and likely to increase costs because the students will pay higher tuition for the course offered by the baccalaureate institution.

It is well settled that contracting agencies have broad discretion in determining the needs of the government and the methods of best accommodating those needs. See Potomac Industrial Trucks, Inc., B-204648, January 27, 1982, 82-1 CPD 61. While our Office will sustain protests

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