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## Progress Through Regional Cooperation In The Alleghenies

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**he PTAC - April 2021**

*by James Gerraughty,  
SAP&DC PTAC Program Manager*

We're marking the one-year anniversary of the pandemic, by doing a partial return to work at the SAP&DC PTAC offices! It's nice being back in the office, and having a bit more space to work in.

PTACers around the country just wrapped up the Spring 2021 APTAC conference. Much like the Fall 2020 conference, this was a virtual event. There were presenters from law firms, advocacy groups, and government agencies, and of course lots of opportunities for PTACers to ask questions.

Asking questions is a great way to learn about any topic. For that reason, we always include a Q&A portion in our outreach events. Even if time runs out, but you have a question in the queue, it can still be answered by the PTAC and/or the

subject matter expert (SME) that we're working with.

On that note, please review our training opportunities that are coming up later in April and beyond for our PTAC on [our event page](#). You can search by date and location between our 3 centers. We are planning some events involving the Navy SBIT/STTR programs, the All Small Mentor-Protégé program, and our favorite dynamic topic, Cybersecurity updates and news. We hope to see you there!

As stated before, we are here to serve you! If you have any ideas for topics, or would like to learn more about government contracting, please drop us a line at (814) 949-6500 or send us an [Email](#).

### **NEW: GSA Providing Automatic 180-Day Extension of Expiring Entity Registrations in SAM.gov**

By Ken Goldman, GSA

The U.S. General Services Administration is working to support implementation of many aspects of the American Rescue Plan Act. GSA's Integrated Award Environment specifically is working to administer relief for certain entities already registered in SAM.gov in order to do business with the government.

To help reduce burden, there will be a 180-day extension for SAM.gov registrations that have expiration dates ranging between April 1, 2021, and September 30, 2021. This effort is intended as relief for those otherwise required to re-register during that time frame. This does not impact entities registering for the first time during this time period. No action is required on the part of registrants.

Each entity registration will have 180 days added to its expiration date. As an example, an entity that is set to expire on April 1, 2021 will be automatically granted an extension to September 28, 2021. [Continue Reading](#)

(Accessed 4/09/2021)

### **Single Sign-in For Government Services Expands to States, Localities**

By Andrea Noble, Nextgov staff

The U.S. General Services Administration is looking to partner with state and local governments to offer user authentication and identity verification services for users of federally funded programs.

[Seventeen](#) federal agencies use the Login.gov website to offer secure and single sign-in services and the expansion would allow state and local governments to utilize it for federal programs administered at the local level, including Medicaid and Medicaid managed care plans. Through [Login.gov](#), users only need one account and password to

access the participating federal services.

The coronavirus pandemic has underscored the need for agencies to simplify the process of obtaining government benefits and services at the state and local level, a GSA spokesman said.

“Login.gov’s user-friendly, secure service is an ideal solution to help people get access to those resources during the time they need it most,” said spokesman Matthew Burrell in an email response to questions about the program. [Continue Reading](#)

(Accessed 4/09/2021)

### **NIST Seeks Small Business to Help Develop Cybersecurity Standards**

By Mariam Baksh, Nextgov

The National Institute of Standards and Technology is in the market for a company to support its work crafting privacy and cybersecurity standards for critical technology that will apply to federal agencies.

In a recent notice posted to the government’s procurement website, the agency listed standards development for areas including cyber-physical systems, cloud computing and virtualization, and privacy engineering and risk management as a high-priority in a time of heightened cybersecurity awareness following widespread breaches of the public and private sector. Hackers were able to penetrate the defenses of federal agencies by leveraging access they gained through the network management company SolarWinds and other means.

“With a new and re-energized national emphasis on information security, the NIST Information Technology Laboratory's Computer Security Division is uniquely positioned to ensure that new technology initiatives are selected, deployed, and operated in a manner that does not increase the risk to organizational missions, individuals, and the Nation,” the sources sought notice reads.

NIST is also seeking support for [Continue Reading](#)

(Accessed 4/09/2021)

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SAP&DC is an economic development entity that bridges the gap between supplier and buyer in the government marketplace. The PTAC stands ready to support businesses in the central PA Alleghenies region in the pursuit to secure contracts with local, state and/or federal government agencies nationwide.

Due to the generous support of our Commonwealth and Federal funding partners, services provided by the PTAC are free of charge.

Whether you are an experienced contractor or new to the government marketplace, the PTAC will provide one-on-one counseling utilizing all of the program resources necessary to increase your share of contract awards.

Contact us today at The PTAC at SAP&DC to get started!

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