

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

General Application Special Provision

DATE: November 17, 2025

GASP No. 26-GA0003

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Early Award.

Alabama Standard Specifications, 2026 Edition, SECTIONS 103 and 108 shall be amended as follows:

SECTION 103 AWARD AND EXECUTION OF CONTRACT

103.02 Award of Contract.

(a) General.

Subarticle 103.02 (a) shall be replaced by the following:

(a) General.

After opening of proposals, the award of the contract to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder whose proposals comply with the requirements of Section 102 and the invitation to bid (Notice to Contractors) will be made within the following number of days:

- **10 calendar days** for contracts that do not have a race conscious DBE goal (0 % DBE) or;
- **15 calendar days** for contracts that have a race conscious DBE goal (designated % DBE).

Should no award be made within the allowed calendar day time period, all proposals will be rejected unless the successful bidder agrees in writing to a stipulated extension in the time limit for award. The successful bidder will be notified by telegram, confirmed facsimile, or letter mailed to the address shown on his proposal that his bid has been accepted and that he has been awarded the contract.

After the opening of bids on work involving Federal funds, the award of the contract to the low bidder will be contingent upon said low bidder obtaining a license from the State Licensing Board for General Contractors in accordance with the existing State laws.

103.05 Requirements of Contract Bonds.

(a) Performance Bond.

Subarticle 103.05(a) shall be replaced by the following:

(a) Performance Bond.

The bidder to whom the award is made shall, within **5 calendar days** after the prescribed forms have been presented to him for signature (i.e. after date of award), furnish and file with the Transportation Director an acceptable surety bond on the form included in the proposal in an amount equal to 100 percent of the contract bid price of the contract as awarded. Said bond shall be furnished by a surety company qualified and authorized to make such bonds in the State of Alabama, and countersigned by an authorized agent resident in the State who is qualified to execute such instruments. The bond shall have attached thereto power of attorney of the signing official unless such power of attorney is already on file in the office of the Department. In case of default on the part of the Contractor, all expense incident to ascertaining and collecting losses suffered by the State under the bond, including engineering, direct administration, and legal services, shall be charged against the contract bond for performance of the work.

(b) Labor, Materials, Services, Insurance, Feed Stuffs, or Supplies Bond.

Subarticle 103.05 (b) shall be replaced by the following:

(b) Labor, Materials, Services, Insurance, Feed Stuffs, or Supplies Bond.

In addition thereto, the bidder to whom the award is made shall, within the same **5 calendar days**, execute and file with the Director an acceptable surety bond payable to the State in an amount not less than 100 percent of the contract bid price, with the obligation that the Contractor shall promptly make payment to all persons furnishing him or them with labor, materials, feed stuffs, services, insurance, bond, or supplies for or in the prosecution of the work, and for the payment of reasonable attorneys fees, incurred by successful claimants or plaintiffs in suits on said bond.

103.06 Execution of Contract.

Article 103.06 shall be replaced by the following:

103.06 Execution of Contract.

The contract shall be executed by the bidder to whom award is made, on the form included in the proposal, and returned to the Director with satisfactory contract bonds within **5 calendar days** after the prescribed forms have been presented to him for signature (i.e. after date of award). Should extenuating circumstances prevail, the Director may grant an extension in time not exceeding **5 calendar days** for the return of the contract and bonds as provided herein and in Article 103.05.

103.07 Approval of Contract.

Article 103.07 shall be replaced by the following:

103.07 Approval of Contract.

A period of 20 calendar days will be allowed for execution of the contract by the Director and approval of same by the Governor, after its presentation by the successful bidder, unless the successful bidder agrees in writing to a longer period. No contract is binding upon the State until it has been executed by the Director and approved by the Governor of the State. The date of the final execution of the contract shall be the date on which it is signed by the Governor.

SECTION 108 PROSECUTION AND PROGRESS

108.02 Notice to Proceed.

Article 108.02 shall be replaced by the following:

108.02 Notice to Proceed.

(a) General.

A notice to proceed shall be issued by the Engineer within **5 calendar days** after final execution of the contract by the Director and approval by the Governor, unless both parties agree in writing to a stipulated extension in time for the issuance of a notice to proceed. Unless the Contractor is otherwise notified in writing, it shall be understood that the mailing or the delivery to the Contractor or his authorized agent, of a copy of the executed and approved contract and bonds or the mailing of written notice by the Engineer or receipt of facsimile notice from the Engineer, that the contract has been approved by the Governor, shall constitute the notice to proceed. If the Contractor is notified in writing that none of the above shall constitute notice to proceed, he shall not commence work until receipt of a written notice to proceed signed by the Engineer.

(b) Beginning and End of Contract Time Charges.

Contract time charges will begin when the Contractor begins work on a pay item or on incidental work that will interfere with traffic, but in no case later than **10 calendar days** after issuance of notice to proceed. Time charges will end upon satisfactory completion of all pay items in the contract.