

DoD Intergovernmental Support Agreements



Installations conduct a wide variety of activities to support the day-to-day operations and maintenance of military facilities for mission assurance. In 1997, the United States Government Accountability Office designated DOD infrastructure management as a high-risk area given that the associated costs consume a large portion of the annual budget for installation support. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2013, Congress established DoD Intergovernmental Support Agreements (IGSAs) through the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to allow military Services to partner with local and state governments¹ to conduct shared support functions and services and save money. This fact sheet will provide an overview of IGSAs and the benefits they can provide to the DoD, an example of the use of an IGSA, and discuss Service-specific pathways for IGSA approval.

Benefits and Limitations

IGSAs provide an opportunity to build on existing community relationships, collaborate on services and procure materials (typically taking advantage of collective buying power to acquire higher quality services), achieve cost savings, and enhance operational effectiveness. Outsourcing military services to the community allows for: engagement with a potentially broader pool of experts, access to new tools and resources to improve the quality of facilities that support the mission and military readiness among other benefits (Figure 1). Though IGSAs exclude security guard and fire-fighting functions, multiple support services including waste removal, street sweeping and road maintenance, ecological forest monitoring, water and wastewater treatment and testing, and stormwater mitigation are eligible. Since FY2015, section 351 of the NDAA states that IGSAs do not require the usage of the Federal Acquisitions Regulations System but delegate Service Secretaries to determine the most appropriate documentation technique for each agreement. Additionally, blanket IGSAs will allow local governments to deliver multiple services within one agreement and once the agreement is approved, it guarantees availability of funding throughout the contract period. These factors help reduce

administrative time and barriers to developing partnerships with communities and local entities. However, any installation services obtained through an IGSA must already be provided by the state or local government for its own use and provide a case analysis demonstrating cost savings when compared to a traditional contract or Public Works Department execution. IGSAs are limited to a maximum 10-year term (though agreements may be renewed after this period), but shorter initial terms may be useful for both parties to be able to adapt and maximize the benefits of future agreements.

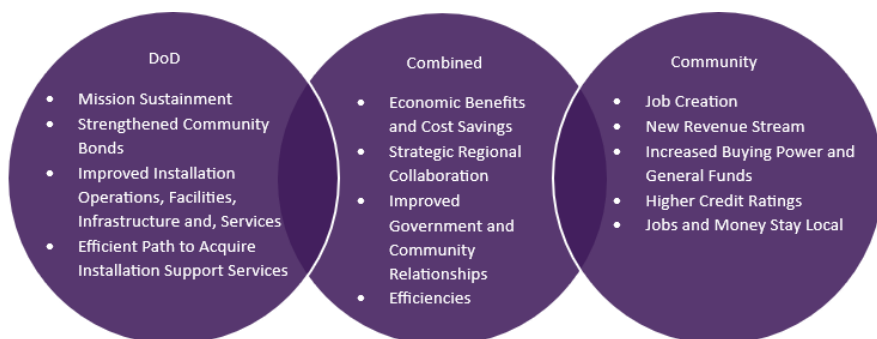


Figure 1. IGSA Benefits

Source: Government Accountability Office, 2018

Case Study: Naval Weapon Station Earle partners with Monmouth County, New Jersey

As of March 2023, DoD has established 170 IGSAs at nearly 100 installations across the country as noted by the “DoD Intergovernmental Support Agreement (ISGA) Report” by the Association of Defense Communities. These services will generate millions of dollars in benefits related to cost savings and avoidances. Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Earle in New Jersey is among one of these installations and has been using IGSAs to conduct multiple maintenance activities since 2018. NWS Earle developed an IGSA with the regional government of Monmouth County, New Jersey, which is also where the base is located. The original

¹ In this context, state and local governments include counties, municipalities, towns, cities, any agency of a local government, and public universities.





agreement allows the installation to conduct services for snow plowing, shade tree trimming, roadway paving, traffic signal maintenance, stormwater pipe and catch basin cleaning, and stream de-snagging for the prevention of backups and flooding. In FY2021, the IGSA was expanded to include services for stormwater mitigation, wildfire protection, and installation resiliency. This included the removal of debris and silt along streams and the removal of brush and trees along heavily traveled public highways.

Actions for Installations to Develop IGSA

Though the approval process is similar among Services, Figure 2 depicts the chain of command and regulation by Service that IGSA must follow.

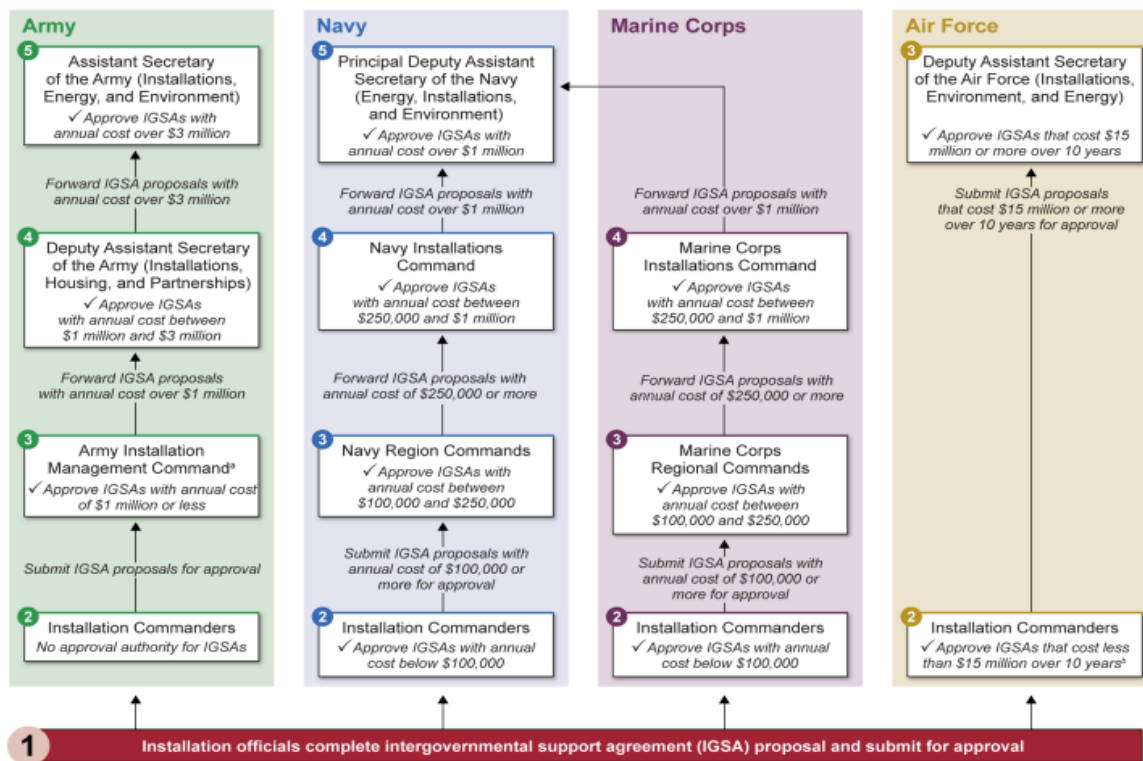


Figure 2. Military Services' Approval Processes for Intergovernmental Support Agreements

Source: Government Accountability Office, 2018

DoD achieves financial and nonfinancial benefits from the numerous IGSA in place and there's ample opportunity for expansion of IGSA use. The DoD CBP is keen on understanding the value in using IGSA for improved implementation and lowered cost of stormwater implementation and inspection and maintenance services. Shared benefits, enhanced community relations, improved economies, enhanced product procurement and service delivery, and cost savings can all result from IGSA use. Improved mission effectiveness and readiness, in accordance with a reduced administrative burden, also promotes efficiency and better-quality service for the military. For further information regarding developing an IGSA at your installation, please contact Michael Khamayzer at michael.khamayzer2.civ@army.mil (Army), Jennifer Oelke-Farley at jennifer.l.oelkefarley.civ@us.navy.mil (Navy), or Alan Roberts at alan.roberts@us.af.mil (Air Force).

For More Information

For more information about the effectiveness of IGSA, refer to these resources:

Government Accountability Office 2018 Report to Congressional Committees: <https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-19-4.pdf>

The Association of Defense Communities Report: <https://adcsummit.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/NS2022-IGSA-Report.pdf>