

Department of the Interior Acquisition, Arts, and Asset Policy (DOI-AAAP)

Title	Class Deviation – FAR Part 19, Small Business
Reference Number	F019
Version Number	1
Function(s)	Acquisition, Small Business
Point of Contact	PAM_Policy@ios.doi.gov
Source of this Requirement	Executive Order (EO) 14275, Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement; Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memo M-25-26, Overhauling the Federal Acquisition Regulation
Regulatory Reference	FAR part 19, DIAR part 1419

Purpose:

To issue a class deviation to the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and the Department of the Interior Acquisition Regulation (DIAR) for the Department of the Interior to follow FAR part 19, Small Business, as revised under the Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (RFO) and in accordance with [Executive Order \(EO\) 14275, Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement](#), and [Office of Management and Budget \(OMB\) Memo M-25-26, Overhauling the Federal Acquisition Regulation](#).

Scope:

This policy applies to Department of the Interior (DOI) procurements subject to the FAR.

Effective date:

01/30/2026

The acquisition workforce has the option of following this deviation from the date of issuance until the effective date. This policy will remain in effect until the FAR is amended or the policy is otherwise rescinded.

Background:

Issued April 15, 2025, [EO 14275, Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement](#), directed the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) to amend the FAR to ensure that it contains only provisions that are required by statute or that are otherwise necessary to support simplicity and usability, strengthen the efficacy of the procurement system, or protect economic or national security interests.

This effort has been designated the Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (RFO) and is further outlined in [OMB Memo M-25-26, Overhauling the Federal Acquisition Regulation](#). The RFO includes the issuance of revised streamlined FAR parts and a FAR Companion Guide, which are collectively referred to as the Strategic Acquisition Guidance (SAG). Additional materials, such as

Practitioner Albums (for which continuous learning points may be earned) and a Category Buying Guide, have been issued alongside the RFO.

The revised streamlined FAR parts will be implemented by issuing model deviation guidance by FAR part on a rolling basis. As these FAR parts are issued, agencies are encouraged to issue class deviations to implement the drafted versions within 30 days. While these revised FAR parts are in effect by class deviation, feedback will be solicited and considered in the rulemaking process to finalize the revisions as regulation.

The official page for RFO is: <https://www.acquisition.gov/far-overhaul>

DOI is issuing class deviations to implement the revised FAR parts on a rolling basis as they are released by OFPP and the FAR Council. These class deviations will be issued by DOI Acquisition, Arts, and Asset Policies (AAAPs), using a distinct numbering to identify them as RFO class deviations: DOI-AAAP-F0[FAR part].

FAR Part 19 RFO Key Changes:

- Rule of Two Maintained: The "rule of two" is retained for contracts between the micro-purchase threshold (MPT) and the simplified acquisition threshold (SAT).
- Order-Level Representation Eliminated: Small business re-representation requirements at the order level under multiple-award contracts have been removed. Size status is now determined at contract award and updated only for certain contract-level events.
- 8(a) Program Changes: Contracting officers must first attempt competitive 8(a) acquisitions below the competitive threshold before considering 8(a) sole source awards.
- Automatic Release from 8(a) Program: Follow-on requirements previously set aside under the 8a program may be set-aside for HUBZone, Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) or Women-Owned Small Business (WOSB) programs. Such acquisitions are automatically released from the 8(a) program, without a formal SBA release.
- Socioeconomic Programs and Protests: No substantive changes to SDVOSB, WOSB or HUBZone program rules. Size and status protest procedures remain unchanged.

DIAR Part 1419 RFO Key Changes:

- Removes the class set-aside of construction acquisitions under \$2M.
- Removes the requirement of Chief of the Contracting Office (CCO) approval for Certificates of Competency under FAR.

Action:

The DOI acquisition workforce shall follow the RFO part 19 model deviation text instead of FAR part 19 as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 1. The FAR Council's RFO part 19 model deviation text is available at [acquisition.gov/far-overhaul](https://www.acquisition.gov/far-overhaul), and is incorporated into this class deviation.

The DOI acquisition workforce shall follow the DIAR text attached, Attachment 1 – RFO Class Deviation for DIAR Part 1419, instead of part 1419 as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 14.

As a regulation, the FAR, including the deviated version implemented by this class deviation, supersedes any Departmental policy or guidance, such as DOI-AAAPs. Where there is a direct conflict between Department-issued policy or guidance, the FAR shall take precedence. Please review the [RFO site on the DOI Acquisition Toolkit](#) and use the DOI feedback tool to help report discrepancies.

Attachments:

[Attachment 1 – RFO Class Deviation for DIAR Part 1419](#)

References:

- [Executive Order \(EO\) 14275, Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement](#)
- [Office of Management and Budget \(OMB\) Memo M-25-26, *Overhauling the Federal Acquisition Regulation*](#)
- [acquisition.gov/far-overhaul](#)
- [DOI Acquisition Toolkit RFO Site](#)

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