

Acquisition Alert 25-19

TO: All Contracting Activities

FROM: Michael W. Derrios

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SUBJECT: Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Class Deviation for FAR Part 10

in Support of Executive Order on Restoring Common Sense to Federal

Procurement

1. Introduction: The purpose of this Acquisition Alert is to issue a FAR class deviation to part 10 for purposes of implementing the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council's model deviation text to those parts.

2. Background: On April 15, 2025, Executive Order (E.O.) 14275 on Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement was signed. Section 2 of the E.O. establishes the policy that the FAR "should only contain provisions required by statute or essential to sound procurement, and any FAR provisions that do not advance these objectives should be removed."

The FAR is being updated to:

- Remove language that is not required by statute
- Remove duplicative or outdated language
- Clarify or provide more plain language
- Revise language for the new FAR framework
- Retain language necessary for governmentwide acquisition standards.

This project is referred to as the Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (RFO) initiative. This class deviation is issued under the authority of E.O. 14275, OMB M-25-25, and 48 CFR 1.4.

Deviation Summary

The RFO FAR part 10 model deviation text provides more flexibility in market research methods and reduced documentation requirements.

- Greater flexibility in techniques: The FAR no longer lists specific market research considerations or techniques that must be used.
 - COs have the flexibility to choose the market research method that best fits your needs. For example, hosting a reverse industry day or expert panel. This allows industry experts to share their perspectives, commercial practices, and experiences with the acquisition team.
 - Additional information on market research best practices can be found in the Practitioner Album available at Acquisition.gov/faroverhaul.
 - Procedures from FAR subpart 10.002 will move to the FAR Companion Guide.
 - The FAR no longer requires market research to be performed within 18 months of award.
- Competition requirements remain: Acquisition professionals must still comply with the Competition in Contracting Act (CICA) (41 U.S.C.§ 3301 et seq), which may necessitate market research.
- Flexibility at all dollar values: Acquisition professionals can apply market research concepts to procurements of any size.
- While FAR subpart 10.003, which requires the insertion of FAR clause 52.210-1 Market Research in certain solicitations and contracts over \$6 million, is not required by statute, it has been retained as essential to the acquisition process.
- Statutory requirements retained in the RFO FAR part 10 model deviation include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - 10 U.S.C. 3453 and 41 U.S.C. 3307, Preference for Commercial Products and Commercial Services
 - o 41 U.S.C.§ 3301 et seq, Competition in Contracting Act (CICA)
 - 41 U.S.C. 3306, Planning and Solicitation Requirements

 41 U.S.C. 1703 note, inclusive of 41 U.S.C. 3301 et seq and 41 U.S.C.
 2101 et seq., Effective Communication Between Government and Industry.

| Change | Description |
|----------|---|
| Retained | Subparts "10.001 Policy" and "10.002 Procedures" are |
| | combined and streamlined to remove duplicative and |
| | discretionary guidance. |
| | FAR clause 52.210-1, Market Research, in solicitations and |
| | contracts for noncommercial acquisitions over \$6 million, as |
| | prescribed by FAR subpart 10.003 Contract clause. |
| | Language encouraging exchanges with industry is moved from |
| | FAR part 1 to FAR part 10. |
| Removed | Requirements to consider various issues in market research, |
| | including for consolidation or bundling procurements are |
| | removed. Content stemming from 15 U.S.C. 644(e) and 15 U.S.C. |
| | 657(q) is mandatory, however the requirement is covered in |
| | FAR part 7. |
| | Requirements for disaster relief purchasing are removed. |
| | Content stemming from 6 U.S.C. 796 is mandatory, however the |
| | requirement is covered in FAR part 26. |

- **3. Acquisition Impact:** The changes resulting from this class deviation affect all DoS procurements and contracting activities. The DOSAR does not cover FAR part 10 and therefore is not impacted by this deviation.
- **4. Action Required:** The acquisition workforce must follow the RFO part 10 model deviation text instead of FAR part 10 as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 1. The Council's RFO model deviation text is available at <a href="https://example.com/scale-exa
- **5. Effective Date:** While this Acquisition Alert is effective upon issuance, the model deviated language was released on May 22, 2025.

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- **6. Expiration Date:** This Acquisition Alert expires upon incorporation into the FAR, DOSAR, and/or DOSAM.
- **7. Additional Information:** Questions regarding this Acquisition Alert may be directed to AcquisitionPolicy@state.gov.
- 8. Attachments: None
- 9. Referenced Documents, Checklists, Guides and Templates:

FAR Part 10 Deviation Line Out Document