

Acquisition Alert 25-22

TO: All Contracting Activities

- FROM: Michael W. Derrios Senior Procurement Executive U.S. Department of State
- **SUBJECT:** Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Class Deviation for FAR Part 18 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 18 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- Remove duplicative or outdated language;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; and
- 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**

FAR part 18 describes policies and procedures for use in emergency acquisitions. The RFO part 18 model deviation text has been updated to streamline the acquisition flexibilities available for emergency acquisitions, and to retain increased thresholds, commercial procedures, and award preferences during an emergency.

Statutory requirements retained in the RFO FAR part 18 deviation include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 41 U.S.C. § 1903, Special Emergency Procurement Authority;
- 42 U.S.C. Ch. 68, Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act;
- 10 U.S.C. § 101(a)(13), Contingency Operation;
- 22 U.S.C. § 2292b, International Disaster Assistance;
- 46 U.S.C. § 55305, Cargo Preference Act of 1954; and
- 41 U.S.C. § 153, Contract in Support of Humanitarian or Peacekeeping Operation

General acquisition flexibilities that support emergency procurement have been removed and are now located at <u>https://www.acquisition.gov/emergency-procurement</u>.

**3. Acquisition Impact:** The changes resulting from this class deviation affect all DoS procurements and contracting activities. The DOSAR does not cover FAR part 18 and therefore is not impacted by this deviation.

**4. Action Required:** The acquisition workforce must follow the RFO part 18 model deviation text instead of FAR part 18 as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 18. The Council's RFO model deviation text is available at <u>Acquisition.gov/far-overhaul</u>, and is incorporated into this class deviation.

- **5. Effective Date:** While this Acquisition Alert is effective upon issuance, the model deviated language was released on June 12, 2025.
- **6. Expiration Date:** This Acquisition Alert expires upon incorporation into the FAR, DOSAR, and/or DOSAM, as applicable.
- **7. Additional Information:** Questions regarding this Acquisition Alert may be directed to <u>AcquisitionPolicy@state.gov</u>.

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## 8. Attachments: None

9. Referenced Documents, Checklists, Guides and Templates:

Emergency Procurement List | Acquisition.GOV