

**GSA Office of Governmentwide Policy** 

RFO-2025-13 Supplement 1

MEMORANDUM FOR GSA CONTRACTING ACTIVITIES

FROM: JEFFREY A. KOSES

SENIOR PROCUREMENT EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ACQUISITION POLICY (MV)

SUBJECT: Supplement to Certain GSA Implementing Deviations in Support of Executive Order 14275, Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement

**1. Purpose.** This supplement provides updates and amendments to certain GSA implementing deviations.

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**2. Background.** In accordance with Executive Order (E.O.) 14275, Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement, between May and September 2025, the FAR Council issued model deviation text by FAR part in support of the Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (RFO) initiative. This initiative is intended to make the FAR more concise, understandable, and focused on core procurement requirements.

In accordance with OMB Memorandum M-25-26, GSA issued implementing class deviations following release of each RFO FAR part deviation text. More information about the purpose of the RFO initiative and background on individual model deviation language can be found in the original GSA implementing deviation for each part.

Subsequent review has identified the need to update and amend GSA's implementing deviations for RFO FAR parts 5, 8, 9, 12, 13, and 23. The specific changes and rationale are discussed below.

## 3. Summary of Supplement Updates

RFO FAR parts 5, 12, 13, and 23	
Background	RFO FAR parts 5, 12, 13, and 23 included corresponding definition updates to part 2, but the implementing GSA deviations did not provide instructions to the workforce on how to use the revised part 2 definitions in concert with existing definitions in part 2.
Supplement Update	In GSA's class deviations implementing RFO FAR parts 5, 12, 13, and 23, section 4, "Instructions", is updated to add the following bullet:
	<ul> <li>The GSA acquisition workforce must use the definitions (Part 2 - Definitions of Words and Terms) found on Acquisition.gov/far- overhaul.</li> </ul>
	The remainder of the deviation is unchanged.

RFO FAR part 8	
Background	The FAR Council initially released the RFO FAR part 8 model deviation text on August 14, which required use of Office of Federal Property Policy best-in-class (BIC) contracts. On August 29, OFPP updated the model deviation text to reference "required use" contracts at 8.104 instead of BIC contracts. It is understood that OFPP will be establishing a new class of "required use" contracts (and associated criteria) that will be separate from BIC contracts. "Required use" contracts will be mandatory. BICs may be prioritized, but are not mandatory.  GSA's class deviation implementing RFO FAR part 8 is amended as follows, to reflect the updated RFO FAR part 8 model deviation text:
Supplement Update 1	Section 3, "Summary of Changes", is updated as follows:  3. Summary of Changes. FAR part 8, Required Sources of Supplies and Services, is significantly updated. The model deviation language:  • Enhances usability by restructuring and organizing the part in the logical flow of the acquisition lifecycle.  • Simplifies mandatory source guidance.  • Makes the use of Governmentwide Best-In-Class (BIC) contracts mandatory[Makes the use of OFPP-designated "Required Use" contracts mandatory].  • Retains focus on the importance of the AbilityOne Program.
Supplement Update 2	<ul> <li>The fourth bullet in the "Retained" section of the table in Section 3, "Summary of Changes", is updated as follows:</li> <li>Use of Existing Contracts. 8.104 replaces section 8.004, "Use of Other Sources". Best-in-class (BIC)[OFPP-designated "Required Use"] contracts or BPAs are now required[mandatory] to be used when a commercial product or commercial service meets an agency's need, unless approved by the Head of the Contracting Activity (HCA). If a BIC["required use" contract] is not suitable, agencies should consider use of an existing governmentwide contract, BPA, or shared service.</li> </ul>
Miscellaneous	OFPP is expected to provide more information about "required use" contracts in the future.

RFO FAR part 9	
Background	The GSA implementing deviation stated that all existing provisions and clauses are retained (or remain reserved if previously reserved) with no

	changes to the text. The implementing class deviation is amended as follows to highlight that some provisions and clauses were updated.
Supplement Update 1	The third bullet in the "Retained" section of the table in Section 3, "Summary of Changes", is updated as follows:
	<u>From</u> : All existing provisions and clauses are retained (or remain reserved if previously reserved) with no changes to the text.
	<ul> <li>To: The following provision and clause are retained (or remain reserved if previously reserved) with no changes to the text:         <ul> <li>52.209-8 remains reserved</li> <li>52.509-12 (Provision), Certification Regarding Tax Matters</li> <li>52.209-14 (Clause), Reserve Officer Training Corps and Military Recruiting on Campus</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Supplement Update 2	A new section titled "Updated" is added to the table in Section 3, "Summary of Changes". The following bullet is added:
	<ul> <li>The following provisions and clauses have been updated to reflect plain language, update cross-references, or to correspond with updates made within the part:         <ul> <li>52.209-1 (Clause), Qualification Requirements</li> <li>52.209-2 (Provision), Prohibition on Contracting with Inverted Domestic Corporations-Representation</li> <li>52.209-3 (Clause), First Article Approval-Contractor Testing</li></ul></li></ul>
Supplement Update 3	Section 4, "Instructions", is updated to add the following bullets:

	<ul> <li>For new solicitations or contracts, when using any provisions or clauses that have been revised, utilize the RFO model deviation language at RFO FAR part 52.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>For open solicitations or awarded contracts, the contracting officer has discretion regarding the need to enforce or amend the provisions or clauses. Note that without some of the removed provisions or clauses, the contracting officer may be required to separately address certain aspects in the contract.</li> </ul>
	All other bullets in Section 4, "Instructions" are unchanged.
Miscellaneous	<ul> <li>For ease of reference, GSA's Office of Acquisition Policy has created a helpful tool to easily find and sort provision and clauses changes: RFO Part 52 P&amp;C Table.</li> </ul>

- **4. Applicability.** This supplement to applicable class deviations applies to all GSA procurements.
- **5. Authority.** This class deviation is issued under the authority of E.O. 14275, OMB Memo M-25-26, 48 CFR 1.4, and RFO FAR 1.304.
- **6. Effective Date.** This supplement is effective consistent with the effective date of the respective applicable GSA implementing deviation (check Section 7 of the applicable GSA implementing deviation) and remains in effect until rescinded or incorporated into the FAR. All GSA implementing deviations can be found on <a href="mailto:acquisition.gov">acquisition.gov</a>.
- **7. Points of Contact.** Try asking <u>GSAi</u> first (upload the new RFO language and GSA's implementing deviation, then ask your question). If you still need clarification, you may email the GSA Acquisition Policy Division at <u>GSARPolicy@gsa.gov</u>.



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RFO-2025-13

MEMORANDUM FOR GSA CONTRACTING ACTIVITIES

FROM: JEFFREY A. KOSES Jeffrey Loses

SENIOR PROCUREMENT EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ACQUISITION POLICY (MV)

SUBJECT: FAR Class Deviation for FAR Part 13 in Support of Executive Order 14275, Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement

- **1. Purpose.** This memorandum approves a class deviation to Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) part 13 for purposes of implementing the FAR Council's model deviation to FAR part 13.
- **2. Background.** Executive Order (E.O.) 14275, Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement, signed April 15, 2025, mandates a comprehensive review and simplification of the FAR.

The FAR is being updated to:

- Eliminate non-statutory language
- Remove redundant or obsolete language
- Enhance clarity through plain language
- Align with the new FAR framework
- Preserve essential governmentwide acquisition standards

This project is referred to as the Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (RFO) initiative. This initiative will make the FAR more concise, understandable, and focused on core procurement requirements.

- **3. Summary of Changes.** FAR part 13 is renamed from "Simplified Acquisition Procedures" to "Simplified Procedures for Non-commercial Acquisitions". The part has been significantly changed:
  - **From a focus on**: Simplified procedures for the acquisition of commercial products and commercial services
  - **To a focus on**: Simplified procedures for the acquisition of noncommercial products and services valued at or below the simplified acquisition threshold (SAT).

The procedures in this part may be used only if:

- There are no commercial products or commercial services that can satisfy the agency's needs (see RFO part 12)
- The supplies or services are not available from a required source (see RFO part 8)

It's important to note that some statutory text and other text essential to support sound procurement has been or will be moved to other RFO FAR parts, to include:

• Definition of governmentwide commercial purchase card (RFO part 2)

- Simplified procedures for procuring commercial items (RFO part 12)
- Price or cost evaluation factor for multiple-award contracts (RFO part 16)
- Advance payments for subscriptions and fast payment procedures (RFO part 32).

Statutory requirements retained in the RFO FAR part 13 model deviation include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- 41 U.S.C. §§ 1901-1905, Simplified Acquisition Procedures
- 41 U.S.C. § 3305 and 10 U.S.C. § 3205, Simplified Procedures for Small Purchases
- 41 U.S.C. § 3306 and 10 U.S.C. § 3206, Planning and Solicitation Requirements

Change	Description
Retained	<ul> <li>13.001, "Applicability", retains the prohibition on splitting requirements to stay below the SAT.</li> <li>13.101, "Competition", retains the requirement that agencies must promote competition to the maximum extent practicable when procuring noncommercial products and services valued at or below the SAT.</li> <li>13.102, "Small Business", retains the requirement that acquisitions of supplies or services with an anticipated dollar value above the MPT, but at or below the SAT, must be set aside for small business concerns.</li> <li>13.301, "Notifications", consolidates instructions for notifying unsuccessful quoters. It retains award notice posting requirements of FAR subpart 5.3 and brief explanations.</li> <li>13.302, "Cancellations and Terminations", provides a clear distinction between canceling an unaccepted purchase order and terminating an accepted purchase order and directs the contracting officer to FAR part 49 or clause 52.213-4 for terminations.</li> </ul>
Moved / Updated	<ul> <li>The revised part structure now reflects the acquisition lifecycle:         <ul> <li>Subpart 13.1 - Presolicitation</li> <li>Subpart 13.2 - Solicitation, Evaluation, and Award</li> <li>Subpart 13.3 - Postaward</li> <li>Subpart 13.4 - Micro-purchases</li> </ul> </li> <li>The lengthy list of inapplicable laws in former 13.005 is moved to a dynamic link, now at 13.001         (<ul> <li>https://www.acquisition.gov/inapplicablelaws</li> <li>This is a significant modernization, ensuring the regulation points to a continuously updated official source rather than a static list that could become outdated.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The definition of "governmentwide commercial purchase card" is moved from the former 13.001, "Definitions", to section 2.101.</li> <li>Content regarding price or cost evaluation factors for multiple-award contracts is moved from the former 13.106-1 to RFO part 16.</li> <li>13.201, "Procedures", and 13.202, "Evaluation", cross reference part 12. This cross-referencing achieves several goals. It promotes consistency in government procurement practices,</li> </ul>

reducing the need for contracting officers to master two distinct sets of procedures for simple buys and leverages the best practices in commercial acquisitions. 13.204, "Contract Clauses", authorizes the use of the revised clause 52.213-4 for a streamlined set of terms and conditions for inspection/acceptance, excusable delays, terminations, and warranties. The primary clause for noncommercial simplified acquisitions, 52.213-4, has been retitled and revised. The title is changed from "Terms and Conditions—Simplified Acquisitions (Other Than Commercial Products and Commercial Services)" to "Terms and Conditions—Simplified Acquisitions (Noncommercial)" to align with the new focus of part 13. o 13.204(c) **explicitly prohibits** the use of part 12 clauses (52.212-1, 52.212-2, and 52.212-4) in noncommercial acquisitions 13,303, "Contractor Financing and Payments", now directs readers to part 32 for payment procedures, including fast payment procedures. 13.401, "General", for micropurchases, now points to part 12 when making purchases below the micropurchase threshold (MPT) ensuring that the simplest and most common type of acquisition is governed by a single, consistent set of rules, regardless of whether the item is commercial or noncommercial. Removed A significant amount of content has been **streamlined**, and removed from part 13 and shifted to other parts of the FAR as highlighted in the summary of changes above the table. The following **clauses** were deleted: o 52.213-1, Fast Payment Procedure. Fast payments procedures will be covered in part 32. o 52.213-2, Invoices. General payment procedures will be covered in part 32. o 52.213-3, Notice to Supplier. The streamlined procedures and the general principles of offer and acceptance are deemed adequate without this specific clause.

This table is not an exhaustive list.

## 4. Instructions.

- The GSA acquisition workforce shall follow the RFO part 13 model deviation text instead
  of FAR part 13 as codified at 48 CFR chapter 1. The Council's RFO part 13 model
  deviation text is available at <u>Acquisition.gov</u>, under the <u>"FAR Overhaul" link</u>, and is
  incorporated into this class deviation.
- For new solicitations or contracts, when using any provisions or clauses that have been revised, utilize the RFO model deviation language at RFO FAR part 52.

- For open solicitations or awarded contracts, the contracting officer has discretion regarding the need to enforce or amend the provisions or clauses. Note that without some of the removed provisions or clauses, the contracting officer may be required to separately address certain aspects in the contract.
- Contracting activities must review templates and related standard operating procedures to align with this class deviation and remove unnecessary processes and steps.
- **5. Applicability.** This class deviation applies to all GSA procurements.
- **6. Authority.** This class deviation is issued under the authority of E.O. 14275, OMB Memo M-25-26, 48 CFR 1.4, and RFO FAR 1.304.
- **7. Effective Date.** This class deviation is effective November 3, 2025 and remains in effect until rescinded or incorporated into the FAR.
- **8. Points of Contact.** Try asking <u>GSAi</u> first (upload the new RFO language and GSA's implementing deviation, then ask your question). If you still need clarification, you may email the GSA Acquisition Policy Division at <u>GSARPolicy@gsa.gov</u>.