

GSA Office of Governmentwide Policy

RFO-2025-08 Supplement 1

MEMORANDUM FOR GSA CONTRACTING ACTIVITIES

FROM: JEFFREY A. KOSES

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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:
	 The GSA acquisition workforce must use the definitions (Part 2 - Definitions of Words and Terms) found on Acquisition.gov/far- overhaul.
	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	 The fourth bullet in the "Retained" section of the table in Section 3, "Summary of Changes", is updated as follows: 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.
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: From: All existing provisions and clauses are retained (or remain reserved if previously reserved) with no changes to the text. To: The following provision and clause are retained (or remain reserved if previously reserved) with no changes to the text: 52.209-8 remains reserved 52.509-12 (Provision), Certification Regarding Tax Matters 52.209-14 (Clause), Reserve Officer Training Corps and Military Recruiting on Campus
Supplement Update 2	A new section titled "Updated" is added to the table in Section 3, "Summary of Changes". The following bullet is added: • The following provisions and clauses have been updated to reflect plain language, update cross-references, or to correspond with updates made within the part: • 52.209-1 (Clause), Qualification Requirements • 52.209-2 (Provision), Prohibition on Contracting with Inverted Domestic Corporations-Representation • 52.209-3 (Clause), First Article Approval-Contractor Testing ■ Note - The Alternates are not updated • 52.209-4 (Clause), First Article Approval-Government Testing ■ Note - The Alternates are not updated • 52.209-5 (Provision), Certification Regarding Responsibility Matters • 52.209-6 (Clause), Protecting the Government's Interest When Subcontracting With Contractors Debarred, Suspended, Proposed for Debarment, or Voluntarily Excluded • 52.209-7 (Provision) Information Regarding Responsibility Matters • 52.209-9 (Clause), Updates of Publicly Available Information Regarding Responsibility Matters • 52.209-10 (Clause), Prohibition on Contracting with Inverted Domestic Corporations • 52.209-11 (Provision), Representation by Corporations Regarding Delinquent Tax Liability or a Felony Conviction under any Federal Law • 52.209-13 (Provision) Violation of Arms Control Treaties or Agreements-Certification
Supplement Update 3	Section 4, "Instructions", is updated to add the following bullets:

	 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.
	All other bullets in Section 4, "Instructions" are unchanged.
Miscellaneous	 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&C Table.

- **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 acquisition.gov.
- **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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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 8 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 8 for the purpose of implementing the FAR Council's model deviation to FAR part 8.
- **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 Federal Acquisition Regulation.

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 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.
 - Retains focus on the importance of the AbilityOne Program.

This revolutionary change also moves the procedures for ordering under the Federal Supply Schedule (FSS) from the FAR into the General Services Administration Acquisition Regulation (GSAR). The new language represents a significant shift from the overly prescriptive framework found in FAR subpart 8.4. FSS ordering procedures have been revised to create a streamlined structure that provides only the essential requirements needed to place orders and establish blanket purchase agreements (BPAs) against FSS contracts. This streamlined structure enhances the speed of acquisition, and empowers acquisition professionals to use innovative approaches to acquire products/services/solutions under the FSS program.

Statutory requirements retained in the RFO FAR part 8 model deviation include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 10 U.S.C. § 3905, Products of Federal Prison Industries
- 18 U.S.C. § 4124, Purchase of Prison-Made Products by Federal Departments
- 40 U.S.C. § 501, Services for Executive Agencies
- 41 U.S.C. § 152(3), Competitive Procedures
- 41 U.S.C. § 3302, Requirements for Purchase of Property and Services Pursuant to Multiple Award Contracts
- 41 U.S.C. §§ 8501 et seq, Committee for Purchase from People Who are Blind or Severely Disabled
- 44 U.S.C. §§ 501 et seq, Production and Procurement of Printing and Binding
- Pub. L. 108-136, Title XIV, Services Acquisition Reform Act of 2003

Change	Description
Retained	 The substance of the "Scope" in 8.000 is retained. Many definitions, previously scattered across different subparts of part 8, are now consolidated at new section 8.001. Use of Mandatory Sources. The priorities and requirements for use of mandatory sources are moved from 8.002 to new sections 8.102, and 8.103. Former section 8.003, "Use of Other Mandatory Sources", is deleted, but its content is preserved and merged into the new section 8.101. Use of Existing Contracts. 8.104 replaces section 8.004, "Use of Other Sources". Best-in-class (BIC) contracts or BPAs are now required 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 is not suitable, agencies should consider use of an existing government supply sources. This new content moves from FAR part 51 to the new section at 8.105. A new clause is prescribed in section 8.105-1 and discussed below. Contractor Use of GSA Fleet. Former subpart 8.11, "Leasing of Motor Vehicles", is deleted but guidance for authorizing contractor use of GSA Fleet is preserved and moved to section 8.105-3. Ordering under the Federal Supply Schedule. This new subpart 8.4 directs agencies to follow the ordering procedures established by GSA found at General Services Acquisition Regulation (GSAR) part 538. Requirements and procedures for Acquisition From Federal Prison Industries, Inc. are retained and streamlined. The content has been moved from subpart 8.6 to the new subpart 8.3. Requirements and procedures for Acquisition From AbilityOne Participating Nonprofit Agencies are retained and streamlined. The content has been moved from subpart 8.7 to the new subpart 8.2.

	 Requirements and procedures for Acquisitions of Government Printing and Related Supplies are retained and streamlined. The content has been moved from subpart 8.8 to the new subpart 8.5. The following clauses are retained or relocated from other parts: Clause 52.208-9, Contractor Use of Mandatory Sources of Supply and Services, is streamlined. The prescription is now at 8.105-1(b). Clause 52.208-10 Government Supply Sources (previously at 52.251-1) The prescription is now at 8.105-2(c). Clause 52.208-11, GSA Fleet and Related Services (previously at 52.251-2) The prescription is now at 8.105-3(c). 52.208-1 through 52.208-8 remain reserved.
Removed	 Section 8.001, "General", is removed. It contained a general requirement for IT acquisitions to comply with capital planning rules. This information is not specific to the core purpose of part 8. Subpart 8.1, "Excess Personal Property" is removed. The new 8.103(a)(2) points readers to the authoritative Federal Management Regulation (41 C.F.R. 102-36) to avoid outdated information. Subpart 8.4, "Federal Supply Schedules" is retitled to "Ordering under the Federal Supply Schedule", and streamlined with the majority of the content moving to GSAM/R 538. The following clauses associated with "Leasing of Motor Vehicles" are removed: 52.208-4, Vehicle Lease Payments 52.208-5, Condition of Leased Vehicles 52.208-6, Marking of Leased Vehicles 52.208-7, Tagging of Leased Vehicles

This table is not an exhaustive list.

4. Instructions.

- The GSA acquisition workforce must follow the RFO part 8 and corresponding 52 model deviation text instead of FAR part 8 and 52 as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 1. The Council's RFO part 8 model deviation text is available at <u>Acquisition.gov/far-overhaul</u>, and is incorporated into this class deviation.
- GSA's deviation moving the FSS Ordering Procedures into the GSAM/R can also be found at Acquisition.gov/far-overhaul/far-part-deviation-guide.
- To access the new FSS Ordering Procedures, you can:
 - Click the hyperlinked "538" in the part 8 model deviation text at 8.401(b).
 - Click the hyperlinked "NEW FSS Ordering Procedures" link in the new box at the top right of <u>Acquisition.gov/far-overhaul/far-part-deviation-guide</u>.
 - Type acquisition.gov/FSS-ordering-procedures in your URL address bar.
- For new solicitations or contracts, when using any provisions or clauses that have been revised, utilize the RFO model deviation language at <u>RFO FAR part 52</u>. Do not include any of the removed provisions or clauses in future solicitations and contracts.

- 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 EO 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.

- **a.** 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>.
- **b.** Feedback regarding RFO part 8 or RFO FSS Ordering Procedures established by this class deviation can be submitted via https://www.acquisition.gov/far-overhaul.