

MKU-DEV-2025-05

**MEMORANDUM FOR MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION (UDALL FOUNDATION)
CONTRACTING ACTIVITIES**

DATE: June 27, 2025

SUBJECT: Class Deviations for FAR Part 39 in support of Executive Order 14275, *Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement*

FROM: David P. Brown, Executive Director

1. **Purpose.** This memorandum approves a class deviation to Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 39 for purposes of implementing the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council's ("the Council's" or "RFO") model deviation text to FAR Part 39.
2. **Background.** On April 15, 2025, President Trump signed Executive Order (E.O.) 14275, "Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement" to reform the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR). This E.O. further advances the intent of E.O. 14192, "Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation," signed on January 31, 2025, which established that the policy of the executive branch is to be prudent and financially responsible in the expenditure of funds and to alleviate unnecessary regulatory burdens placed on the American people. E.O. 14275 orders the Administrator of the Office of Federal Public Procurement Policy (OFPP), in coordination with the other members of the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council (FAR Council), the heads of agencies, and appropriate senior acquisition and procurement officials from agencies, 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 project is referred to as the Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (RFO) initiative.

On May 2, 2025, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released Memorandum M-25-26, "Overhauling the Federal Acquisition Regulation," that directs all agencies to "Generally issue individual or class deviations to implement the FAR Council's deregulated coverage within 30 days after the Council releases its model deviation text[and] Provide copies of class deviations to the FAR Secretariat at gsaregsec@gsa.gov for public posting on Acquisition.gov."

Also on May 2, 2025, the Acting Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy at OMB released a Memorandum, "Deviation Guidance to Support of the Overhaul of the Federal Acquisition Regulation." This Memorandum advises that agencies using the RFO model class deviation text do not need to further coordinate with the Council; class deviations that differ from the RFO model text require Council approval unless the difference is necessary to address agency-specific statutory direction.

On June 12, 2025, the FAR Council issued completed revisions for FAR Part 39 and a FAR Part 52 clause to be future forward and emphasize strategies that promote faster acquisition and secure deployment of technology that is new or emerging.

Notably, FAR part 39 is renamed –

- From:
 - Acquisition of Information Technology
- To:
 - Acquisition of Information and Communication Technology

Statutory requirements retained in the RFO FAR part 39 model deviation include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 41 U.S.C. § 2308, Modular Contracting for Information Technology
- 40 U.S.C. § 1461, Procurement Procedures
- 29 U.S.C. § 794d, Electronic and Information Technology.

Change	Description
Retained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicability of part 39 to information technology, Internet of Things devices, and operational technology. Importantly, part 39 clarifies its application to new or emerging technology. • Agencies should continue to use modular contracting for incremental and successive contracts when acquiring IT. • The prohibition on describing minimum experience or educational requirements is now discretionary rather than mandatory. • Accessibility standards, including Section 508 compliance, are still required (with limited exceptions and exemptions) to ensure federal employees and members of the public with disabilities have comparable access and use of information and data. • Information regarding the management of risk has been streamlined. Both the contracting and program office offices are responsible for assessing, monitoring and controlling risk throughout the acquisition process.
Removed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reference to OMB Circular No's A-127, Financial Management Systems, and A-130, Management of Federal Information Resources. These Circulars may still be applicable for certain procurements and use of them is more appropriate for a guide. • Redundant prohibitions currently covered at FAR subparts 4.20, 4.21, 4.22, 4.23, and FAR part 40 not unique to IT procurements. • Clause 52.239-1, Privacy or Security Safeguards and its prescription.

This table is not an exhaustive list.

3. **Determination.** To fully comply with E.O. 14275, OMB implementation guidance, and direction related to use of model deviations, and the model deviations for revised FAR Parts 39 and 52, the Udall Foundation shall follow the RFO Part 39 model deviation text instead of FAR Part 39 as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 39 and replace the relevant RFO Part 52 model deviation clause instead of the FAR Part 52 clause as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 52. The FAR Council's RFO Part 39 and Part 52 model deviation text is available at [Acquisition.gov](https://www.acquisition.gov), under the "FAR Overhaul" link. This deviation

applies to all solicitations and new contracts as of the date of the Memorandum. This deviation does not apply to contracts signed and executed on or before the date of this Memorandum.

4. **Instructions.** The Udall Foundation acquisition workforce shall follow the RFO Part 39 model deviation text instead of FAR Part 39 as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 39. The Council's RFO Part 39 model deviation text is available at Acquisition.gov, under the "FAR Overhaul" link, and is incorporated into this class deviation.

The Udall Foundation acquisition workforce shall not include the clause 52.239-1, Privacy or Security Safeguards in future solicitations and contracts. For open solicitations or awarded contracts, the Contracting Officer has discretion regarding the need to enforce or amend the clause.

The Udall Foundation acquisition workforce shall review templates and related standard operating procedures to align with this deviation and remove unnecessary processes or steps.

A copy of this Class Deviation will be provided to the FAR Secretariat at gsaregsec@gsa.gov.

5. **Applicability.** This class deviation applies to all Udall Foundation procurements.
6. **Authority.** This class deviation is issued under the authority of E.O. 14275, OMB Memo M-25-26, and 48 CFR 1.4, and RFO FAR 1.304.
7. **Effective Date.** This class deviation is effective immediately and remains in effect until rescinded or incorporated into the FAR.

Points of Contact. Questions regarding this class deviation may be directed to the Udall Foundation General Counsel, Gwendolyn Franks, at franks@udall.gov.