

Acquisition & Assistance Policy Directive (AAPD)

From the Director, Office of Acquisition & Assistance

AAPD No. 25-03

Implementing the Revolutionary FAR Overhaul

Issued: August 7, 2025

AAPDs provide information of significance to all Agency personnel and partners involved in the Acquisition and Assistance process. Information includes (but is not limited to): advance notification of changes in acquisition or assistance regulations; reminders; procedures; and general information. AAPDs may be used to implement new requirements on short notice, pending formal amendment of acquisition or assistance regulations. Each AAPD is effective as of the issuance date on its cover page unless otherwise noted elsewhere in the AAPD guidance; the directives remain in effect until the specified expiration date (if any) or M/OAA/Policy issues a recission.

This AAPD is:	New R	eplaces:	
Category:	Acquisition	Assistance	PSCs
This AAPD applies to:	Solicitations	New awards	Existing awards
			Modification required
This AAPD precedes changes to:			
FAR	AIDAR		CFR
ADS	Other _		No change to regulations
Clause/Provision: New Provision/Clause Provided Herein Available in GLAAS			
Contains a deviation? No Yes: # M-OAA-DEV-FAR-25-01c Effective until: rescinded			
Michael Capobianco, Acting Director, M/OAA			

I. Purpose

The purpose of this AAPD is to issue a FAR class deviation to implement model deviated text issued by the FAR Council for parts 1, 6, 10, 11, 18, 29, 31, 34, 39, 43, and corresponding provisions and clauses in part 52.

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- Remove duplicative or outdated language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 initiative will make the FAR more concise, understandable, and focused on core procurement requirements.

This class deviation is issued under the authority of <u>E.O. 14275</u> "Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement", <u>OMB Memorandum M-25-26</u> "Overhauling the Federal Acquisition Regulation", and <u>48 CFR 1.4</u>.

This AAPD is effective as of the issuance date on the cover page and continues in effect until rescinded or the FAR is formally revised through rulemaking, whichever occurs first.

II. Required Actions

The USAID acquisition workforce must follow the RFO model deviation text for FAR parts 1, 6, 10, 11, 18, 29, 31, 34, 39, 43, and corresponding provisions and clauses in part 52, instead of the FAR language codified at <u>48 CFR Chapter 1</u>. Deviated text is available at <u>Acquisition.gov/faroverhaul</u> and is incorporated into this class deviation for the listed FAR parts (see Attachment 1).

<u>New solicitations and contracts</u>. Contracting Officers (COs) must include RFO deviated provisions and clauses in any new solicitation or contract. COs should carefully review existing templates for alignment with the RFO deviated text and make any necessary revisions.

<u>Open solicitations and existing contracts</u>. For open solicitations and awarded contracts, COs have discretion regarding the need to either amend or enforce provisions or clauses.

<u>Terminated contracts</u>. COs should continue to negotiate settlements and proceed with closeout in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract.

III. Additional Guidance

This AAPD will be amended and reissued as new RFO deviated text and associated part 52 provisions and clauses are issued by the FAR Council. COs should refer to the most recent version of this AAPD for up-to-date guidance.

IV. Background

On April 15, 2025, the president issued <u>E.O. 14275</u> which directs the elimination of excessive acquisition regulations and establishes the policy that the FAR should "contain 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." To implement the E.O., the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) is leading an overhaul of the FAR, in coordination with the other members of the FAR Council (i.e., the General Services Administration (GSA), the Department of Defense (DOD), and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)) and federal buying agencies. Per <u>OMB Memorandum M-25-26</u> issued on May 2, 2025, the FAR will be refocused on its statutory roots with most nonstatutory regulations replaced with OFPP-endorsed buying guides that highlight best practices and innovative buying techniques for different phases of the acquisition lifecycle. The streamlined FAR and buying guides will collectively be referred to as the Strategic Acquisition Guidance (SAG). The FAR Overhaul process will proceed in two phases.

Phase I: FAR Council deviation guidance. The FAR Council will issue guidance with clear, plain language model deviation text by FAR part, on a rolling basis. The revisions will retain limited non-statutory coverage only when necessary to advance core stewardship principles and practices. The FAR Council will post general guidance addressing the deviation process and model deviation text per FAR part, as it is completed, on the Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (RFO) website and will include instructions for informal public comment. Per OFPP and the FAR Council's Deviation Guidance, agencies should generally issue individual or class deviations to implement the FAR Council's deregulated coverage within 30 days after the model deviation text is

released. Agencies should provide copies of their deviations to the FAR Secretariat at gsas.gov for public posting on the RFO website.

<u>Phase II: Formal rulemaking</u>. After the FAR Council has posted model deviation guidance for all FAR parts, it will complete formal rulemaking using the notice and comment process. The rulemaking will be informed by the model deviation text, public input on the text received on the RFO website, operational experience with agency deviations, recommendations from agency points of contact, testing of the buying guides, and other appropriate inputs. All FAR requirements not directed by statute that remain in the FAR will expire four years after the effective date of the rule unless renewed by the FAR Council.

V. Point of Contact

Contracting officers may direct their questions about this AAPD to the Policy Mailbox (policymailbox@usaid.gov).

VI. Attachments

Attachment 1: Summaries and Deviated FAR Text by Part

Attachment 2: E.O. 14275, Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement

Attachment 3: OMB Memorandum M-25-26, Overhauling the Federal Acquisition Regulation

Attachment 4: OFPP and FAR Council Memo, Deviation Guidance to Support the Overhaul of the Federal Acquisition Regulation

Attachment 1: Summaries and Deviated FAR Text by Part

- 1. FAR Part 1 (summary and deviated text), issued May 2, 2025
- 2. FAR Part 6 (summary and deviated text), issued June 27, 2025
- 3. FAR Part 10 (summary and deviated text), issued May 22, 2025
- 4. FAR Part 11 (summary and deviated text), issued June 18, 2025
- 5. FAR Part 18 (summary and deviated text), issued June 12, 2025
- 6. FAR Part 29 (summary and deviated text), issued July 17, 2025
- 7. FAR Part 31 (summary and deviated text), issued July 17, 2025
- 8. FAR Part 34 (summary and deviated text), issued May 2, 2025
- 9. FAR Part 39 (summary and deviated text), issued June 12, 2025
- 10. FAR Part 43 (summary and deviated text), issued June 12, 2025
- 11. FAR Part 52 (<u>deviated text</u>), reflects revisions linked to deviated FAR parts issued through July 17, 2025. Most current version accessible online <u>here</u>.