



RFO-2025-35

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

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Office of the  
Assistant Secretary  
for Administration

## MEMORANDUM FOR USDA CONTRACTING ACTIVITIES

Office of  
Contracting and  
Procurement

**From:** Hilary Erickson  
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**Subject:** Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Class Deviation for FAR Part 45 in Support of Executive Order 14275 on Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement

Washington, DC  
20250-9308

**1. Purpose.** This memorandum approves a class deviation to Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 45 for purposes of implementing the FAR Council's model deviation to FAR Part 45.

**2. Background.** [Executive Order \(E.O.\) 14275 on 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 45, Government Property, has been retained with minimal deletions and minor updates made for plain language. No changes were made to provisions or clauses. The FAR Companion includes additional guidance and best practices to support this FAR part.

Statutory requirements retained in the RFO FAR part 45 model deviation include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- 40 U.S.C. § 503, Exchange or Sale of Similar Items
- 40 U.S.C. § 524, Duties of Executive Agencies
- 40 U.S.C. § 546, Contractor Inventories

**4. Instructions.**

- The USDA acquisition workforce shall follow the RFO Part 45 and corresponding Part 52 model deviation text instead of FAR Part 45 and Part 52 as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 1. The Council's RFO Part 45 and Part 52 model deviation text is available at [Acquisition.gov/far-overhaul](https://www.acquisition.gov/far-overhaul) and is incorporated into this class deviation.

**5. Applicability.** This class deviation applies to all USDA procurements.

**6. Authority.** This class deviation is issued under the authority of [E.O. 14275](#), [OMB M-25-25](#), 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.

**8. Points of Contact.** Questions regarding this class deviation may be directed to the USDA Procurement Policy Division at [procurement.policy@usda.gov](mailto:procurement.policy@usda.gov).