

43.102 Policy.

(a) Only *contracting officers* acting within the scope of their authority are empowered to execute *contract modifications* on behalf of the Government. Other Government personnel *shall* not-

(1) Execute *contract modifications*;

(2) Act in such a manner as to cause the contractor to believe that they have authority to bind the Government; or

(3) Direct or encourage the contractor to perform work that *should* be the subject of a *contract modification*.

(b) *Contract modifications*, including changes that could be issued unilaterally, *shall* be priced before their execution if this can be done without adversely affecting the interest of the Government. If a significant cost increase could result from a *contract modification* and time does not permit negotiation of a price, at least a ceiling price *shall* be negotiated unless impractical.

Parent topic: [Subpart 43.1 - General](#)