

**CLASS DEVIATION
FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION
FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION (FAR) PART 18 – EMERGENCY
ACQUISITIONS**

Findings

1. The objective of this class deviation is to implement the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council’s model deviation text to the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 18 – Emergency Acquisitions.
2. On April 15, 2025, President Donald J. Trump issued Executive Order (E.O.) 14275, *Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement*. Section 2 of the E.O. established the policy that the FAR “should only contain provisions required by statute or essential to sound procurement, and any FAR provisions that do not advance these objectives should be removed.”
3. On May 2, 2025, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued memorandum M- 25-26, *Overhauling the Federal Acquisition Regulation*, initiating a major overhaul of the FAR (Revolutionary FAR Overhaul, or “RFO”). The memorandum tasked the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) with leading the RFO, in coordination with the other members of the Federal Acquisition Regulatory 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. The goal is to focus the FAR on its statutory roots. To that end, 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 - Remove duplicative or outdated language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

The OMB memorandum M-25-26 established a two phased approach to implementing enterprise deregulation as follows: Phase one, FAR Council deviation guidance, and phase two, formal rulemaking. Phase one involves the FAR Council issuing guidance on a rolling basis with clear, plain language model deviation text organized by FAR part.

The goal is streamlining the regulation by aligning it more closely to its statutory base. According to the memorandum, agencies should adopt this model deviation text within 30 days by issuing either individual or class deviations.

4. On May 2, 2025, the FAR Council issued further implementing guidance in a memorandum titled *Deviation Guidance to Support the Overhaul of the Federal Acquisition Regulation*. Pursuant to the FAR Council’s memorandum, “agencies that adopt the Council’s RFO class deviation text without change, or require different text only to address statutory direction unique to the agency, do not need to coordinate with the Council.”

5. Accompanying the FAR Council memorandum, the FAR Council issued model deviation text for FAR Part 18, which provides federal agencies with the authority to streamline procurement processes during emergencies, enabling rapid acquisition of goods and services when traditional procedures cannot meet urgent needs. The RFO Part 18 model deviation text retains content retained statutory requirements found in 18.001, that include, but are not limited to, Special Emergency Procurement Authority (41 U.S.C. § 1903), Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. Ch. 68), Contingency Operation (10 U.S.C. § 101(a)(13)), International Disaster Assistance (22 U.S.C. § 2292b), Cargo Preference Act of 1954 (46 U.S.C. § 55305), and Contract in Support of Humanitarian or Peacekeeping Operation (41 U.S.C. § 153). Non-statutory requirements removed from FAR Part 18 include general acquisition flexibilities that support emergency procurement have been removed and are now located at <https://www.acquisition.gov/emergency-procurement>. Additionally, references to resources such as the National Response Framework and the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) “Emergency Acquisitions Guide” are expected to be moved to non-regulatory guidance as required.

Determination

In accordance with RFO 1.304 *Class deviations* and Department of Energy Acquisition Regulation (DEAR) 901.404 *Class deviations*, to fully comply with the requirement of E.O. 14275 and the revised FAR Part 18, it is hereby determined that a class deviation is appropriate pursuant to OMB memorandum M-25-26 (Attachment 1) and the FAR Council memorandum (Attachment 2) issued on May 2, 2025, using the RFO model deviation text for Part 18 (Attachment 3). Specifically, DOE/NNSA will use the RFO model deviation text for Part 18 in lieu of 48 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 18. Once approved, the Department will share the deviation widely among its workforce to ensure full awareness of and compliance with the revisions to the affected regulations. This class deviation is effective upon issuance, and will remain effective until cancelled or incorporated into the FAR.

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Attachments:

OMB Memorandum M-25-26, *Overhauling the Federal Acquisition Regulation*

FAR Council Memorandum, *Deviation Guidance to Support the Overhaul of the Federal Acquisition Regulation*

RFO Part 18 Deviation Text