



Global Acquisition

U.S. DEPARTMENT *of* STATE | MANAGEMENT

Acquisition Alert 25-26

TO: All Contracting Activities

FROM: Michael W. Derrios
Senior Procurement Executive
U.S. Department of State

SUBJECT: Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Class Deviation for FAR part 6 in Support of Executive Order on Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement

- 1. Introduction:** The purpose of this Acquisition Alert is to issue a FAR class deviation to part 6 for purposes of implementing the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council's model deviation text to that part.
- 2. Background:** On April 15, 2025, Executive Order (E.O.) 14275 on Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement was signed. Section 2 of the E.O. establishes 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."

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- Remove duplicative or outdated language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
- Align with the new FAR framework
- Retain language necessary for governmentwide acquisition standards.

This project is referred to as the Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (RFO) initiative. This class deviation is issued under the authority of E.O. 14275, OMB M-25-25, and 48 CFR 1.4.

Deviation Summary

FAR part 6, Competition Requirements, has been streamlined to strengthen clarity and focus, helping to ensure procedures that support full and open competition are easier to understand and apply. It retains language providing Contracting Officers discretion to set aside acquisitions for small business concerns, including contract actions conducted under the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs, and local firms during a major disaster or emergency. The revisions also move content within the part and provide streamlined guidance regarding Sealed Bidding and the roles and responsibilities of the Advocates for Competition.

Statutory requirements retained in the RFO FAR part 6 model deviation include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 41 U.S.C. 1705, Advocates for Competition
- 41 U.S.C. 3301 and 10 U.S.C. 3201, Full and Open Competition
- 41 U.S.C. 3303 and 10 U.S.C. § 3203, Exclusion of Particular Source or Restriction of Solicitation to Small Business Concerns
- 41 U.S.C. 3304, Use of Noncompetitive Procedures
- 41 U.S.C. 3204, Use of Procedures Other than Competitive Procedures
- 15 U.S.C. Chapter 14A, Aid to Small Business
- 42 U.S.C. § 5150, Major Disaster and Emergency Assistance, Use of Local Firms and Individuals

Non-statutory requirements removed from FAR part 6 include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The word “advance” was removed from the phrase, “A lack of advance planning by the requiring activity” to remove ambiguity regarding the meaning of “advance” planning.
- The list of specific small business socioeconomic categories (e.g., 8(a), HUBZone, service-disabled veteran-owned small business (SDVOSB), economically disadvantaged women-owned small business (EDWOSB), and women-owned small business (WOSB)) was removed and replaced with a reference to FAR part 19.

Corresponding DOSAR Deviation Summary

Based on the Council's model deviated language, a class deviation is hereby issued to the Department of State Acquisition Regulations (DOSAR) to make the following corresponding changes:

- Renumbering sections in DOSAR Part 606 to mirror FAR part 6 numbering changes;
- Updating FAR part 6 citations throughout the DOSAR to reflect the updated section numbers;
- Adjusting section titles to match the FAR deviated language; and
- Other updates to reflect internal office structure.

3. Acquisition Impact: The changes resulting from this class deviation affect all DoS procurements and contracting activities.

4. Action Required: The acquisition workforce must follow the RFO part 6 model deviation text instead of FAR part 6 as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 1. The Council's part 6 RFO model deviation text is available at [Acquisition.gov/far-overhaul](https://www.acquisition.gov/far-overhaul), and is incorporated into this class deviation.

5. Effective Date: While this Acquisition Alert is effective upon issuance, the model deviated language was released on June 26, 2025.

6. Expiration Date: This Acquisition Alert expires upon incorporation into the FAR, DOSAR, and/or DOSAM.

7. Additional Information: Questions regarding this Acquisition Alert may be directed to AcquisitionPolicy@state.gov.

8. Attachments: [DOSAR Part 606 Deviation Line In/Line Out Document](#)

9. Referenced Documents, Checklists, Guides and Templates: None