



**U.S. Department
of Transportation**

1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

SUBJECT: Class Deviation No. 2025-05 from the Federal Acquisition Regulation for FAR Part 10 in Support of Executive Order 14275 on Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement

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TO: Department of Transportation Chiefs of the Contracting Offices

- I. Purpose:** This class deviation (CD) is issued under Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) part 1 and Transportation Acquisition Regulation (TAR) part 1201 and authorizes a class deviation to FAR part 10 for purposes of implementing the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council's (the Council's) model deviation text to FAR part 10.
- II. Effective Date:** Immediately
- III. 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- Remove duplicative or outdated language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
- 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.

FAR part 10, concerning Market Research, has been updated to offer acquisition teams more flexibility in their research methods:

- Greater flexibility in techniques: The FAR no longer lists specific market research considerations or techniques that must be used.

- You have the flexibility to choose the market research method that best fits your needs. For example, you might host a reverse industry day or expert panel. This allows industry experts to share their perspectives, commercial practices, and experiences with the acquisition team.
- For more information on reverse industry days, and to read about more good market research techniques, check out the “Smart Accelerators” in the Practitioner Album available at [Acquisition.gov/far-overhaul](https://www.acquisition.gov/far-overhaul).
- Competition requirements remain: Acquisition professionals must still comply with the Competition in Contracting Act (CICA) (41 U.S.C. § 3301 et seq), which may necessitate market research.
- Flexibility at all dollar values: Acquisition professionals can apply market research concepts to procurements of any size.
- While FAR clause 52.210-1 Market Research is not required by statute, across Government, it has been retained as essential to the acquisition process.

Statutory requirements retained in the RFO FAR part 10 model deviation include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 10 U.S.C. § 3453, Preference for Commercial Products and Commercial Services
- 41 U.S.C. § 3306, Planning and Solicitation Requirements
- 41 U.S.C. § 3307, Preference for Commercial Products and Commercial Services
- 41 U.S.C. § 1703 note, Effective Communication Between Government and Industry; inclusive of 41 U.S.C. § 3301 et seq and 41 U.S.C. § 2101 et seq.

The following table is not an exhaustive list but includes notable updates to FAR part 10.

Change	Description
Retained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Subparts “10.0001 Policy” and “10.002 Procedures” are combined and streamlined to remove duplicative and discretionary guidance. ● FAR Clause 52.210-1, Market Research, in solicitations and contracts for noncommercial acquisitions over \$6 million. ● Language encouraging exchanges with industry is moved from FAR part 1 to FAR part 10.
Removed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Requirements to consider various issues in market research, including for consolidation or bundling requirements, are removed. Contract stemming from 15 U.S.C. 644(e) and 15 U.S.C 657(q) is mandatory; however the requirement is covered in FAR part 7. ● Requirements for disaster relief purchasing are removed. Content stemming from 6 U.S.C. 796 is mandatory, however the requirement is covered in FAR part 26.

- IV. Required Actions:** All DOT Operating Administrations (OAs), the Office of the Secretary of Transportation (OST), and the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), excluding the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) per TAR 1201.104(d) shall follow the RFO part 10 model deviation text instead of FAR part 10 as codified at 48 CFR chapter 10. The Council's RFO part 10 model deviation text is available at [Acquisition.gov/far-overhaul](https://www.acquisition.gov/far-overhaul) and is incorporated by reference into this CD. A line-out version of the changes may also be found [here](#) for reference.

Heads of the Contracting Activities (HCAs) must ensure this deviation is disseminated to the acquisition workforce and ensure compliance with the requirements in the revised FAR part 10 guidance.

- V. Applicability:** This CD applies to all DOT OAs, OST, and OIG, excluding the FAA in accordance with TAR 1201.104(d).
- VI. Expiration Date:** This CD will remain in effect until it is incorporated into the FAR or is otherwise rescinded, whichever occurs first.
- VII. Point of Contact:** Questions or comments regarding this deviation may be directed to DOTAcquisitionPolicy@dot.gov.