



**U.S. Department
of Transportation**

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

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

SUBJECT: Class Deviation No. 2025-35 from the Federal Acquisition Regulation for FAR Part 17 in Support of Executive Order 14275 on Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement

FROM: Chrishaun Jones
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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 17 for purposes of implementing the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council's (the Council's) model deviation text to FAR part 17.
- 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 - Remove duplicative or outdated language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 17, concerning Special Contracting Methods, has been streamlined. The revisions can be characterized by three overarching themes: organizing information in a way that's easier to understand and use; combining related topics and removing repeated information; and making the language clearer through simpler sentences, active voice, and better formatting.

Statutory requirements retained in the RFO FAR part 17 model deviation, include, but are not limited to the following:

- 41 U.S.C. § 3903 and 10 U.S.C. § 3501, Multiyear Contracts
- 31 U.S.C. § 1341, Limitations on Expending and Obligating Amounts
- 31 U.S.C. § 1535, The Economy Act
- Pub. L. 110-417 Sec. 865, Preventing Abuse of Interagency Contracts
- Pub. L. 110-181 Sec. 801, Internal Controls for Procurements on Behalf of the Department of Defense by Certain Non-defense Agencies

The following table is not an exhaustive list but includes notable updates to FAR part 17.

Change	Description
Retained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 17.000 “Scope of Part,” is retained and expanded to provide a more complete list of the special contracting methods covered. • Subpart 17.1 “Multiyear Contracting,” is retained and restructured. This reorganization involves the deletion of some sections, the consolidation of others, and the creation of new sections to house relocated and revised content. • The “Definitions” for multiyear contracting are moved to section 17.102, and all are retained with some plain language or clarifying updates. • Subpart 17.2 “Options,” is retained and restructured. This reorganization involves the consolidation of some sections, and the creation of new sections to house relocated and revised content. • Subpart 17.3 remains reserved. • Subpart 17.5 “Interagency Acquisitions,” is updated with plain-language revisions and formatting improvements for clarity. • Subparts 17.6 and 17.7 are reordered, creating a more logical flow by placing content concerning interagency acquisitions in sequential order. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Interagency Acquisitions: Acquisitions by Non-defense Agencies on Behalf of the Department of Defense” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Previously at subpart 17.7, now at 17.6 ○ “Management and Operating Contracts” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Previously at subpart 17.6, now at 17.7 • Subparts 17.1 “Multiyear Contracting,” 17.2 “Options,” 17.7 “Management and Operating Contracts,” and 17.8 “Reverse Auctions” are reorganized to follow the stages of the acquisition lifecycle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Presolicitation ○ Evaluation and Award ○ Postaward • All clauses and provisions prescribed in this part are retained. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The following provisions have been updated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 52.217-4, Evaluation of Options Exercised at Time of Contract Award

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 52.217-5, Evaluation of Options <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Please note that the fill-ins at 52.217-8 and 52.217-9 remain the same and must still be completed by the acquisition team.
Removed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content from previous section 17.105-2 about the objectives and benefits of multiyear contracting is removed and is expected to be moved to the FAR Companion. • Content from previous sections 17.203 and 17.204 reflecting best practices for options in solicitations and contracts is expected to be moved to the FAR Companion. • Previous sections 17.107 “Options” and 17.205 “Documentation” are removed as the content was redundant and unnecessary. • Content previously at section 17.207 “Exercise of Options” is streamlined and moved to 17.204-1. • Subpart 17.4 “Leader Company Contracting,” has been significantly streamlined. The new subpart retains an explanation of the technique but the detailed procedures and best practices for this technique is expected to be moved to the FAR Companion. • Criteria for identifying management and operating contracts, previously at section 17.604 “Identifying management and operating contracts,” is removed as it is unnecessary. • Content from previous section 17.802(c) for best practices for reverse auctions is expected to be moved to the FAR Companion.

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 17 model deviation text](#) and corresponding [RFO part 52 model deviation text](#) instead of FAR parts 17 and 52 as codified at 48 CFR chapter 1. The Council’s RFO part 17 model deviation text is available at [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 17 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.