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# Millennium Challenge Corporation Contracts and Grants Management Division 1099 14th Street NW | Suite 700 | Washington, DC 20005

**MEMORANDUM** 

Date: November 14, 2025

From: Jonathan C. Hamlet

Managing Director & Senior Procurement Executive

Contracts and Grants Management Division Department of Administration and Finance

Millennium Challenge Corporation

To: MCC Contracts and Grants Management Division Staff

Subject: Class Deviation to Implement the FAR Revisions Parts 41 Acquisition of Utility

Services and 52 Solicitation Provisions and Contract Clauses Issued on September

25, 2025

# **Findings**

On April 15, 2025, President Trump signed the Executive Order (E.O.) 14275, "Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement" to reform the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR). This E.O. further advances the intent of the E.O. 14192, "Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation," signed on January 31, 2025, which established that the policy of the executive branch is to be prudent and financially responsible in the expenditure of funds and to alleviate unnecessary regulatory burdens placed on the American people.

The E.O. orders the Administrator of the Office of Federal Public Procurement Policy (OFPP), in coordination with the other members of the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council (FAR Council), the heads of agencies, and appropriate senior acquisition and procurement officials from agencies to amend the FAR to ensure that it contains only provisions that are required by statute or that are otherwise necessary to support simplicity and usability, strengthen the efficacy of the procurement system, or protect economic or national security interests. This project is referred to as the Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (RFO) initiative.

On May 2, 2025, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released its memo M-25-26 "Overhauling the Federal Acquisition Regulation" that directs all agencies to "Generally issue individual or class deviations to implement the FAR Council's deregulated coverage within 30 days after the Council releases its model deviation text. Provide copies of class deviations to the FAR Secretariat at <a href="mailto:gsaregsec@gsa.gov">gsaregsec@gsa.gov</a> for public posting on Acquisition.gov."

On September 25, 2025, the FAR Council issued completed revisions for <u>FAR Part 41</u> and <u>FAR Part 52</u> clause. The RFO FAR Part 41 model deviation text has been retained, streamlined, and improved for clarity. All subparts have been retained. Plain language edits or other updates have been made

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throughout the part to remove unnecessary information or otherwise clarify the content. All clauses and provisions are retained. Notably, the definition of "utility service" is updated. Services such as broadband internet and information technology services, which were nascent or nonexistent when the original regulation was drafted, are now explicitly carved out. This prevents agencies from incorrectly applying utility acquisition procedures. This change reduces the risk of improper sole-source justifications and promotes full and open competition in those dynamic markets.

Statutory requirements retained in the RFO FAR Part 37 model deviation include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 40 U.S.C. § 501, Services for Executive Agencies
- 42 U.S.C. § 2204, Electric Utility Contracts
- 42 U.S.C. §§ 7251 et. seq., Department of Energy Organization Act
- 42 U.S.C. § 8287, Authority to Enter into Contracts

No key changes are made.

## **Determination**

To fully comply with the President's E.O.s and the revised FAR Parts 41 and 52, MCC shall follow the RFO Part 41 model deviation text instead of FAR Part 41 as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 41 and replace the relevant RFO Part 52 model deviation clause instead of the FAR Part 52 clause as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 52. The FAR Council's RFO Parts 41 and 52 model deviation texts are available at Acquisition.gov, under the "FAR Overhaul" link.

This deviation applies to all solicitations and new contracts as of November 14, 2025. This deviation does not apply to contracts signed and executed on or before November 13, 2025

## **Approval**

In accordance with RFO FAR 1.304 *Class deviations*, MCC Contracts Operating Manual (COM) 1.305-3 *Contracts and Grants Management Division MD/SPE*, and the OMB memo M-25-26, the RFO Part 41 model deviation text and the RFO Part 52 model deviation clause are hereby approved effective as of November 14, 2025 for use by all MCC Contracting Officers until final implementation of the FAR update or rescission of this Memo by the SPE. Additional instructions related to this Memo may be issued by the Senior Procurement Executive, Deputy Managing Director, and the Supervisory Procurement Analyst of the MCC CGM Division on an *ad hoc* basis.

Jonathan C. Hamlet
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#### **Attachments**

OMB Memo M-25-26 Overhauling the Federal Acquisition Regulation