



**U.S. Department
of Transportation**

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

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

SUBJECT: Class Deviation No. 2025-06 from the Federal Acquisition Regulation for FAR Part 18 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 18 for purposes of implementing the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council's (the Council's) model deviation text to FAR part 18.
- 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- Remove duplicative or outdated language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 18, Emergency Acquisitions, has been updated to streamline the acquisition flexibilities available for emergency acquisitions, and to retain increased thresholds, commercial procedures, and award preferences during an emergency.

Statutory requirements retained in the RFO FAR part 18 deviation include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 41 U.S.C. § 1903, Special Emergency Procurement Authority
- 42 U.S.C. Ch. 68, Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act
- 10 U.S.C. § 101(a)(13), Contingency Operation
- 22 U.S.C. § 2292b, International Disaster Assistance
- 46 U.S.C. § 55305, Cargo Preference Act of 1954
- 41 U.S.C. § 153, Contract in Support of Humanitarian or Peacekeeping Operation

General acquisition flexibilities that support emergency procurement have been removed and are now located at <https://www.acquisition.gov/emergency-procurement>.

The following table is not an exhaustive list but includes notable updates to FAR part 18.

Change	Description
Retained	• Increased thresholds for: ○ Contingency operations ○ Defense or recovery from certain events, to include cyber, nuclear, biological, chemical, or radiological attacks ○ International disaster assistance ○ Emergency or major disaster response ○ Humanitarian or peacekeeping operations • Statutory requirements related to: ○ Emergency declarations and major disaster declarations ○ Humanitarian or peacekeeping operations ○ Award preference for local organizations • Waiver of provisions for ocean transportation by U.S. flag vessels.
Removed	• General acquisition flexibilities covered in other sections of the FAR that support emergency procurement are now listed at https://www.acquisition.gov/emergency-procurement. • References to resources such as the National Response Framework and Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) "Emergency Acquisitions Guide" are expected to be moved to non-regulatory guidance, as needed.

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 18 model](#)

[deviation text](#) instead of FAR part 18 as codified at 48 CFR chapter 18. The Council's RFO part 18 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 18 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.