



Office of the Chief
Acquisition Officer

Date: January 26, 2026

From: Darnese M. Wilkerson, Chief Acquisition Officer *DMW*

To: Office of the Chief Acquisition Officer (OCAO)

Subject: CLASS DEVIATION (CD) in Support of Executive Order (EO) 14275, "Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement" - Deviation to FAR Part 17, Special Contracting Methods

1. Purpose

This Class Deviation (CD) implements the FAR Council's model deviation text for FAR Part 17, Special Contracting Methods. This action aligns with Executive Order (EO) 14275, "Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement," and the Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (RFO) initiative.

The revised FAR Part 17 is streamlined by organizing information in a way that's easier to understand and use, combining related topics, removing duplicative information, and making the language clearer through simpler sentence structure and formatting.

2. Background

EO 14275, signed on April 15, 2025, established a policy that the FAR should contain only provisions required by statute or those essential for sound procurement. To implement this EO, the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) is leading the Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (RFO) initiative, supported by the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council. The initiative aims to eliminate unnecessary regulations and policies across all levels of the federal government.

Further guidance was provided by OMB Memorandum M-25-26, "Overhauling the Federal Acquisition Regulation," issued on May 2, 2025.

FAR Streamlining

As part of the RFO, the FAR will be streamlined to include only statutory requirements. Non-statutory content moved to new buying guides, collectively known as the Strategic Acquisition Guidance (SAG). The Council will first issue model deviation guidance by FAR part, followed by formal rulemaking through the notice and comment process. Agencies have 30 days to issue class deviations based on the model text once released.

A. Streamlining Agency Acquisition Supplements: Agencies must streamline their FAR supplements by removing regulations not based on statute or executive orders and by aligning with the FAR Council's deviation guidance. Supporting policies must also be updated to reflect

these changes. This is an excellent opportunity for NARA to formally publish a streamlined NARA FAR Supplement, ensuring consistency with the new FAR.

B. FAR Buying Guides and Supplemental Companion Guides (CG): As the FAR and agency supplements are streamlined, helpful non-regulatory content will be moved to these new FAR Buying Guides. These guides will offer practical instructions and best practices for implementing effective contracting methods, including those related to competition. The RFO Part 17 model deviation text is a plain language version that will be adhered to by all NARA contracting personnel.

3. Summary of Changes

FAR Part 17, 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 may not be 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

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 within the part. ● 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. ● The “Policy” for multiyear contracting is moved to subsection 17.103-1 and revised to include two statutory requirements for DoD when considering entering into a multiyear contract for supplies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ (b)(6): The contract must promote national security of the United States. ○ (b)(7): For contracts valued at \$500,000,000 or more, the Secretary must certify that specific conditions outlined in 10 U.S.C. § 3501 will be met. ● 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.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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 all 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 to reflect current cross-references: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 52.217-4, Evaluation of Options Exercised at Time of Contract Award ▪ 52.217-5, Evaluation of Options ○ 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.
<p>Removed</p>	<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.

This table is not an exhaustive list.

4. Instructions

- The NARA acquisition workforce shall follow the RFO Part 17 and corresponding part 52 model deviation text as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 1. The FAR Council's RFO text is available at [FAR Overhaul - FAR Part 17 - Acquisition.gov](#) and is incorporated by reference into this deviation.
- For new solicitations or contracts, when using any provisions or clauses that have been revised, utilize the RFO model deviation language at RFO FAR part 52.
- For open solicitations or awarded contracts, the contracting officer has discretion regarding the need to enforce or amend the provisions or clauses. Note that without some of the removed provisions or clauses, the contracting officer may be required to separately address certain aspects in the contract.
- Contracting activities must review templates and related standard operating procedures.

5. Applicability

The requirements in this Class Deviation (CD) apply to all solicitations and contract actions issued or awarded on or after **February 1, 2026**.

6. Authority

This class deviation is issued under the authority of Executive Order 14275 and OMB Memorandum M-25-26, 48 CFR Subpart 1.4.

7. Effective Date

This CD is effective as of the date signed and shall remain in effect until the provisions of the RFO are formally implemented in the FAR through a final rulemaking.

Darnese M. Wilkerson,
Chief Acquisition Officer

cc: NGC