33.204 Policy.

The Government’s policy is to try to resolve all contractual issues in controversy by mutual agreement at the *contracting officer*’s level. Reasonable efforts *should* be made to resolve controversies prior to the submission of a *claim*. Agencies are encouraged to use ADR procedures to the maximum extent practicable. Certain factors, however, *may* make the use of ADR inappropriate (see 5 U.S.C. 572(b)). Except for arbitration conducted pursuant to the Administrative Dispute Resolution Act (ADRA), (5 U.S.C.571, *etseq*.) agencies have authority which is separate from that provided by the ADRA to use ADR procedures to resolve issues in controversy. Agencies *may* also elect to proceed under the authority and requirements of the ADRA.

Parent topic: Subpart 33.2 - Disputes and Appeals