

**CLASS DEVIATION
FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION
FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION (FAR) PART 53 – FORMS**

Findings

1. The objective of this class deviation is to implement the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council's model deviation text to the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 53 – Forms, and applicable section of FAR Part 52 - Solicitation Provisions and Contract Clauses.
2. On April 15, 2025, President Donald J. Trump issued Executive Order (E.O.) 14275, *Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement*. Section 2 of the E.O. established 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.”
3. On May 2, 2025, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued memorandum M-25-26, *Overhauling the Federal Acquisition Regulation*, initiating a major overhaul of the FAR (Revolutionary FAR Overhaul, or “RFO”). The memorandum tasked the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) with leading the RFO, in coordination with the other members of the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council – i.e., the General Services Administration (GSA), the Department of Defense (DOD), and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and federal buying agencies. The goal is refocusing the FAR on its statutory roots. To that end, 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 - Remove duplicative or outdated language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

The OMB memorandum M-25-26 established a two phased approach to implementing enterprise deregulation as follows: Phase one, FAR Council deviation guidance, and phase two, formal rulemaking. Phase one involves the FAR Council issuing guidance on a rolling basis with clear, plain language model deviation text organized by FAR part. The goal is streamlining the regulation by aligning it more closely to its statutory base. According to the memorandum, agencies should adopt this model deviation text within 30 days by issuing either individual or class deviations.

4. On May 2, 2025, the FAR Council issued further implementing guidance in a memorandum titled *Deviation Guidance to Support the Overhaul of the Federal Acquisition Regulation*. Pursuant to the FAR Council's memorandum, “agencies that adopt the Council’s RFO class deviation text without change or require different text only to address statutory direction unique to the agency, do not need to coordinate with the Council.”

5. On September 30, 2025, the FAR Council issued model deviation text for FAR Part 53. FAR part 53, Forms, has been streamlined and modernized. Rather than maintaining a list of forms in the Part text, it directs users to a centralized website for all acquisition related forms. The "Forms List" referenced in the new 53.101(b) identifies forms and their citations for prescribed use throughout the FAR. The clause 52.253-1, Computer Generated Forms, is retained and updated. The update deletes a reference to the FAR prescriptions, in paragraph (a). This Part does not directly implement any statutory requirements.

Determination

In accordance with RFO 1.304 Class deviations and Department of Energy Acquisition Regulation (DEAR) 901.404 Class deviations, to fully comply with the requirement of E.O. 14275 and the revised FAR Parts 53 and 52, it is hereby determined that a class deviation is appropriate pursuant to OMB memorandum M-25-26 (Attachment 1) and the FAR Council memorandum (Attachment 2) issued on May 2, 2025, using the RFO model deviation text for Part 53 and applicable sections of Part 52 (Attachment 3). Specifically, DOE/NNSA will use the RFO model deviation text for Part 53 in lieu of 48 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 53, and the RFO model deviation text for 48 CFR 52.253-1 in lieu of the existing clause at 48 CFR 52.253-1. Once approved, the Department will share the deviation widely among its workforce to ensure full awareness of and compliance with the revisions to the affected regulations. This class deviation is on the date of issuance and will remain effective until cancelled or incorporated into the FAR.

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Attachments:

OMB Memorandum M-25-26, *Overhauling the Federal Acquisition Regulation*
FAR Council Memorandum, *Deviation Guidance to Support the Overhaul of the Federal Acquisition Regulation*
RFO Parts 52 and 53