

U.S. Department of Justice

Justice Management Division

Washington, D.C. 20530

MEMORANDUM FOR BUREAU PROCUREMENT CHIEFS

FROM: William N. Taylor II

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SUBJECT: Class Deviation from the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 32 in

support of Executive Order 14275 on Restoring Common Sense to Federal

Procurement

1. PURPOSE

This memorandum approves a class deviation to Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 32 for purposes of implementing the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council's (the Council's) model deviation text to FAR Part 32 available at acquisition.gov/far-overhaul/far-part-deviation-guide/far-overhaul-part-32.

2. <u>BACKGROUND</u>

Executive Order (E.O.) 14275, Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement, signed April 15, 2025, mandates a comprehensive review and simplification of the FAR. The FAR is being updated to:

- Eliminate non-statutory language
- Remove redundant or obsolete language
- Enhance clarity through plain language
- Align with the new FAR framework
- Preserve essential governmentwide acquisition standards

This project is referred to as the Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (RFO) initiative. This initiative will make the FAR more concise, understandable, and focused on core procurement requirements.

3. <u>SUMMARY OF CHANGES</u>

FAR Part 32, Contract Financing, has been updated to simplify the Part, remove outdated information, and add a new subpart (and corresponding clause) for Fast Payment Procedures (previously at subpart 13.4) for smaller dollar purchases.

Statutory requirements retained in the RFO FAR part 32 model deviation include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- 10 U.S.C. §§ 3801 et seq and 41 U.S.C. §§ 4501 et seq, Contract Financing
- 31 U.S.C. § 1341, Anti-Deficiency Act
- 31 U.S.C. § 3324, Advances
- 31 U.S.C. § 3711, Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996
- 31 U.S.C. § 3727 and 41 U.S.C. § 6305, Assignment of Claims Act of 1940
- 31 U.S.C. §§ 3901 et seq, Prompt Payment Act
- 50 U.S.C. §§ 4501 et seq, Defense Production Act of 1950
- Pub. L. 102-190 Sec 806 as amended (10 U.S.C. § 4601 note prec.), Governmentwide Application of Payment Protections for Subcontractors and Suppliers

The following items are retained (or remain reserved) with no changes:

- Section 32.001, "Definitions" is retained with plain language updates.
- Most provisions and clauses are retained (or remain reserved). Exceptions are noted in the "Moved / Updated" section below.

The following items are moved/updated:

- Section 32.000, "Scope of Part," is updated to include the statutory references for the Part.
 - This section adds "(k) Fast payment procedures" to correspond with the newly introduced Subpart 32.12.
- Section 32.002, "Applicability of subparts," adds reference to "Subpart 32.12, Fast Payment Procedure."
- Subpart 32.12, "Fast Payment Procedure," formerly at subpart 13.4 is added to the Part. This procedure is a method for expediting payments on certain small-dollar supply contracts where traditional receiving and acceptance processes are impractical. Moving the procedure to Part 32 enhances acquisition agility.
- The following clauses are updated for clarity, to mirror updates made throughout the Part, and/or to update cross-references or remove outdated content:
 - o 52.232-3 (Clause), Payments Under Personal Services Contracts
 - o 52.232-12 (Clause), Advance Payments
 - Including "Advance Payments Without Special Account"
 - o 52.232-16 (Clause), Progress Payments
 - o 52.232-20 (Clause), Limitation of Cost
 - o 52.232-22 (Clause), Limitation of Funds
 - o 52.232-36 (Clause), Payment by Third Party

- The following clause is added to the Part:
 - o 52.232-90 (Clause), Fast Payment Procedure (previously at 52.213-1)
- The FAR Companion is expected to contain best practices and guidance on the following:
 - Contract Financing Payments
 - o Advance Payments for Other Than Commercial Acquisitions
 - o Deferment of Collection
 - Limitation of Cost

The following items have been removed:

- Paragraph (d) under section 32.102, "Description of contract financing methods" is deleted and marked reserved. The content was largely explanatory, as the requirement to pay for accepted partial deliveries is a standard payment method governed by Prompt Payment rules in Subpart 32.9 and standard payment clauses, not a form of contract financing. See the FAR Companion for best practice.
- Sections 32.304 through 32.306, under subpart 32.3, "Loan Guarantees for Defense Production," are deleted and marked reserved. These sections and associated subsections provided extensive procedural details for the loan guarantee program. While the program's authority remains in sections 32.302 and 32.303, the responsibility for implementation procedures is with the individual guaranteeing agencies and does not need to be spelled out in detail in the FAR.
- Section 32.403 "Applicability," under subpart 32.4, "Advance Payments for Other Than Commercial Acquisitions," is deleted and marked reserved. The language provided a detailed list in paragraphs (a) through (h), of eight specific categories where advance payments might be appropriate. This served as illustrative guidance and a non-exhaustive checklist that is not based on statute or required in the FAR. See the FAR Companion for best practice.

Note: The above is not an exhaustive list.

4. <u>AUTHORITY</u>

This class deviation is issued under the authority of <u>E.O. 14275</u>, <u>OMB M-32-26</u>, and RFO FAR 1.304.

5. <u>DEVIATION</u>

The DOJ acquisition workforce must follow the RFO Part 32 model deviation text instead of FAR Parts 32 and 52 as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 1. The Council's RFO Part 32 model deviation text is available at acquisition.gov/far-overhaul/far-part-deviation-guide/far-overhaul-part-32.

Where applicable, include the revised Part 32 provision and clause deviations, at https://www.acquisition.gov/far-overhaul/far-part-deviation-guide/far-overhaul-part-52 in lieu of the standard versions. For open solicitations or awarded contracts, the Contracting Officer has discretion regarding the need to enforce or amend the provisions and 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.

Bureaus must review templates and related standard operating procedures to align with this class deviation and remove unnecessary processes and steps.

6. **EFFECTIVE DATE AND EXPIRATION**

This class deviation is effective immediately and remains in effect until rescinded or incorporated into the FAR.

7. <u>SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY</u>

This class deviation applies to all DOJ procurements.

8. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions, please contact DOJAcquisitionPolicy@usdoj.gov.

9. <u>ATTACHMENTS</u>

None.