



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
2415 Eisenhower Avenue ▪ Alexandria, VA 22314

July 15, 2025

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** National Science Foundation, Division of Acquisition and Cooperative Support  
National Science Foundation Acquisition Workforce

**FROM:** Patrick K. Breen  
Senior Procurement Executive

**SUBJECT:** FAR Class Deviation for FAR Part 43 in Support of Executive Order 14275 on Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement

**PURPOSE:** This memorandum approves a class deviation to Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) part 43 for purposes of implementing the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council's (Council's) model deviation text to FAR part 43.

**BACKGROUND:** On April 15, 2025, the [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- Remove duplicative or outdated language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.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES: FAR part 43, Contract Modifications, has been streamlined to provide the essential contract modification standards for the workforce to limit risk to the public and government.

Statutory requirements retained in the RFO FAR part 43 model deviation include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 31 U.S.C. § 1501, Documentary Evidence Requirement for Government Obligations
- 31 U.S.C. § 1341, Anti-Deficiency Act
- 41 U.S.C. §§ 7101-7109, Contract Disputes Act of 1978

Change	Description
Retained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-statutory definitions and procedures for contract modifications are retained to maintain uniformity across Government.</li> <li>• Instructions for documenting and definitizing change orders are retained and clarified.</li> </ul>
Removed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain language edits have been made throughout, resulting in a 300-word decrease.</li> </ul>

This table is not an exhaustive list

**INSTRUCTIONS:** The GSA acquisition workforce shall follow the RFO part 43 model deviation text instead of FAR part 43 as codified at 48 CFR chapter 43. The Council's RFO part 43 model deviation text is available at [Acquisition.gov](https://www.acquisition.gov), under the "FAR Overhaul" link, and is incorporated into this class deviation.

Review templates and related standard operating procedures to align with this deviation and remove unnecessary processes or steps.

**APPLICABILITY:** This class deviation applies to all NSF procurement actions.

**REQUIRED ACTIONS:** The NSF acquisition workforce shall follow the RFO part 43 model deviation text instead of FAR part 43 as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 1. The Council's RFO part 1 model deviation text is available at [Acquisition.gov/far-overhaul/far-part-43](https://www.acquisition.gov/far-overhaul/far-part-43) and is incorporated into this class deviation.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This deviation is effective as dated and shall remain in effect until it is incorporated into the FAR, or until this class deviation is rescinded, extended, or amended.

**POINT OF CONTACT:** Contact Raymond McCollum at 703-292-4225 or [rmccollu@nsf.gov](mailto:rmccollu@nsf.gov) .