



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
2415 Eisenhower Avenue ▪ Alexandria, VA 22314

August 7, 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 50 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 50 for purposes of implementing the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council's (the Council's) model deviation text to FAR Part 50.

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- Remove duplicative or outdated language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
- 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 focus on core procurement requirements.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES: FAR part 50, Extraordinary Contractual Actions and the Support Anti-Terrorism by Fostering Effective Technologies (SAFETY) Act has been

updated for clarity and practical use.

Statutory requirements retained in the RFO FAR part 50 model deviation include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 50 U.S.C. § 1431, ET SEQ National Defense Contracts
- 6 U.S.C. § 441, Support Anti-Terrorism by Fostering Effect Technologies
- E.O. 10789, Contracting Authority in Connection With National-Defense Functions

Change	Description
Retained	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All subparts and sections throughout the part are retained.• All provisions and clauses are retained, specifically:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Clause 52.250-1, Indemnification Under Public Law 85-804○ Provision 52.250-2, SAFETY Act Coverage Not Applicable○ Provision 52.250-3, SAFETY Act Block Designation/Certification○ Provision 52.250-2, SAFETY Act Pre-qualification Designation Notice○ Clause 52.250-1, SAFETY Act – Equitable Adjustment.<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ This clause was updated with plain language edits.
Removed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plain language edits were made throughout to enhance readability and remove redundant, unclear, or non-essential language, decreasing the word count by more than 500 words.

This table is not an exhaustive list.

INSTRUCTIONS: The NSF acquisition workforce shall follow the RFO part 50 and corresponding 52 model deviation instead of FAR part 50 and 52 as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 1. The Council's RFO part 50 model deviation text is available at [Acquisition.gov/far-overhaul](https://www.acquisition.gov/far-overhaul), and is incorporated into this class deviation.

When using any provisions or clauses that have been revised, utilize the RFO model deviation language at [RFO FAR part 52](#).

Review templates and related standard operating procedures to remove unnecessary process steps.

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

AUTHORITY: This class deviation is issued under the authority of EO 14275, [OMB Memo M-25-26](#), 48 CFR 1.4, and RFO FAR 1.304.

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.