

FAR System Response to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

#	Date	Entity	Document	Covers	Comments	File (PDF)
1	4/1/1984	48 CFR	FAR Part 18: Emergency Acquisitions	Identifies acquisition flexibilities that are available for emergency acquisitions. These flexibilities are specific techniques or procedures that may be used to streamline the standard acquisition process.	Not exempt from the requirements and limitations set forth in FAR Part 3, Improper Business Practices and Personal Conflicts of Interest.	
2	4/1/1984	48 CFR	FAR Subpart 26.2: Disaster or Emergency Assistance Activities.	Implements the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, which provides a preference for local organizations, firms, and individuals when contracting for major disaster or emergency assistance activities.	Local area preference, Local area set-aside, Evaluation preference, Transition of work, Justification for expenditures to other than local firms, Disaster Response Registry and Solicitation provision and contract clauses.	
3	1/14/2011	OFPP	OFPP Memorandum: Emergency Acquisition Guide	Highlights pre-emergency planning, considerations when awarding or administering contracts supporting emergencies, and acquisition flexibilities to improve the agility of the acquisition workforce during these critical situations.	Intended to supplement agency specific guidance, and should be read in conjunction with Parts 18 and 26 of the FAR and the National Response Framework documents published by FEMA.	
4	9/27/2011	GSA	Acquisition Letter MV-2011-07: Emergency Warrant Authority	To establish GSA-wide expedited processes to modify or issue new warrants for personnel deployed to support Presidential emergency declarations, major disaster declarations, or other emergency responses.	Guidance for HCAs and Regional Emergency Coordinators on ensuring effective contracting support during emergency response and recovery.	

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5	6/29/2017	GSA	OAS 4200.1B: GSA Order, Management and Use of the GSA SmartPay Purchase Card	Policy, standards, instructions and procedures governing the management and use of the purchase card.	Applies to GSA employees who perform any function in the purchase card program and to the Office of Inspector General.	
6	1/31/2020		Public Health Emergency Declared			
7	3/9/2020	OMB	M-20-11: Administrative Relief for Recipients and Applicants of Federal Financial Assistance Directly Impacted by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)	Agency actions to relieve short term administrative, financial management and audit requirements under 2 CFR 200, without compromising Federal financial assistance accountability requirements.	Time limited and are only applicable for those awards that support the continued research and services necessary to carry out the emergency response related to COVID-19 during the period formally declared by HHS through the 90 Day Public Health Emergency Declaration.	
8	3/12/2020	OMB	M-20-13: Updated Guidance on Telework Flexibilities in Response to Coronavirus	All Federal Executive Branch departments and agencies are encouraged to maximize telework flexibilities to eligible workers within those populations that the CDC has identified as being at higher risk.	In determining their telework and leave decisions, agencies should consider the mission-critical nature of their work.	

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9	3/12/2020	GSA	SPE-2020-06: Preparing for Potential Acquisition Performance Impacts Due to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)	Provides guidance on managing potential contract administration issues related to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Bottom-line: direct contractors to reach out to contracting officers if they believe performance of the contract is in conflict with guidance from the CDC.	A new Public Health Emergencies topic page has been added to the Acquisition Portal. It will be regularly updated to provide guidance to the workforce.	
10	3/13/2020	President	Proclamation on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak	Find and proclaim that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a national emergency, beginning March 1, 2020.		
11	3/14/2020	OMB	M-20-14: Updated Federal Travel Guidance in Response to Coronavirus	Ensure that agency travel attendance policies adapt accordingly in order to prioritize the health and safety of the workforce - and of Americans broadly.	Only mission-critical travel is recommended.	

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12	3/14/2020	GSA	SPE-2020-07: Emergency Acquisition Flexibilities for Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)	GSA anticipates being part of the response operation. Many GSA contracting officers may be called on to aid in response efforts. Information is provided to assist the HCAs and Contracting Officers actively responding to the Coronavirus.	Micropurchase threshold is increased to \$20,000 in the U.S. \$30,000 outside the U.S. Simplified Acquisition Threshold increased to \$750,000 in the U.S. \$1.5 million outside the U.S. The threshold for simplified procedures for certain commercial items is increased to \$13 million. The additional flexibilities of FAR subpart 18.2 cannot be used for any other acquisition. The Davis-Bacon and Service Contract Act thresholds are not changed. A new National Interest Action (NIA) code has been established (P20C) from 3/13/2020 - 7/1/2020.	
13	3/15/2020	OMB	M-20-15: Updated Guidance for the National Capital Region on Telework Flexibilities in Response to Coronavirus.	To ensure that department and agency leaders assertively safeguard the health and safety of their workforce while remaining open to serve the American people and conduct mission critical functions.	Agency heads should develop an operational plan that maximizes resources and functional areas to most safely and efficiently deliver mission-critical functions and other Government services.	

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14	3/17/2020	OMB	M-20-16: Federal Agency Operational Alignment to Slow the Spread of Coronavirus COVID-19.	The Government must thoughtfully manage all our resources in a way that aligns with our desired outcome of slowing the transmission of COVID-19.		
15	3/19/2020	OMB	M-20-17: Administrative Relief for Recipients and Applicants of Federal Financial Assistance Directly Impacted by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) due to Loss of Operations.	Provides similar administrative relief listed in M-20-11 to an expanded scope of recipients affected by the loss of operational capacity and increased costs due to the COVID-19 crisis.		
16	3/20/2020	OMB	M-20-18: Managing Federal Contract Performance Issues Associated with the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).	Identifies steps to help ensure contractor safety while maintaining continued contract performance in support of agency missions.	Contains a Question and Answer portion intended to provide additional guidance and further assist the acquisition workforce as it addresses impacts due to COVID-19.	
17	3/22/2020	OMB	M-20-19: Harnessing Technology to Support Mission Continuity	The Administration directs that agencies utilize technology to the greatest extent practicable to support mission continuity.	Contains a Question and Answer portion intended to provide additional guidance and further assist the IT workforce as it addresses impacts due to COVID-19.	

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18	3/26/2020	GSA	SPE-2020-08: Guidance Regarding Acquisitions and Contracts for GSA Essential Critical Infrastructure Activities and Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)	Provides guidance on what constitutes essential critical infrastructure activities and provides direction both for assisted acquisition and for GSA contracts and task orders.	Permits HCAs to issue letters to GSA contractors, attesting to the activities that are determined to be in support of essential critical infrastructure activities.	
19	4/3/2020	GSA	SPE-2020-11: Class D&F, Buying for America - Exception for Non-availability for Trade Agreements and Buy American Statute Clauses.	Determination for purpose of application of the trade agreements that certain supplies are temporarily unavailable in sufficient quantity or satisfactory quality. Also making the exception under the Buy American statute.	N95 masks, Sodium Hypochlorite, Disinfectants includes, cleaners, sprays, and wipes, Cleaners including sanitizing surface and floor cleaners, and Hand Sanitizers, soaps and dispensers.	
20	4/4/2020	GSA	CAAC Letter 2020-02: Class Deviation from the Federal Acquisition Regulation to provide for accelerated payments to small business contractors and subcontractors.	Letter serves as consultation allowing agencies to authorize a class deviation to implement a section of the NDAA for FY 2020 to provide for accelerated payments to contractors that are small businesses, and to small business subcontractors by accelerating payments to their prime contractors.	It is recommended that this deviation be made effective until the FAR is amended by the FAR case.	
21	4/6/2020	GSA	CD-2020-05: FAR and GSAR Class Deviation - Flexibilities for Signatures and Seals on Bonds.	This class deviation will allow vendors and sureties the use of electronic signatures in lieu of a manual signature and eliminates the requirement for any seal when a bid bond, performance or payment bond, or an individual surety is required.	The deviation is effective immediately and remains in effect until rescinded or incorporated into the FAR and GSAR.	

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22	4/8/2020	GSA	CD-2020-06: FAR and GSAR Class Deviation - Congressional Notification of Noncompetitive Procurement Determination in Response to a Public Health Emergency.	This class deviation implements Section 15003 of the CARES Act. It sets a different timeline for GSA to notify Congress of not less than 3 days before a contract award, rather than the general time frame of not less than 30 days before a contract	The deviation is effective immediately and remains in effect until rescinded or incorporated into the FAR and GSAR.	
23	4/9/2020	OMB	M-20-20: Repurposing Existing Federal Financial Assistance Programs and Awards to Support the Emergency Response to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)	The Administration directs all Federal departments and agencies to marshal all legally available federal resources to combat the crisis. OMB is issuing a class exception that allows Federal awarding agencies to repurpose their federal assistance awards to support the COVID-19 response, as consistent with applicable laws.	Federal awarding agencies and recipients must maintain appropriate records and documentation of these exceptions. There is no guarantee additional funds will be available should the donations or repurposing of funds result in any type of	
24	4/10/2020	OMB	M-20-21: Implementation Guidance for Supplemental Funding Provided in Response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)	Directs agencies to leverage and continue to employ existing financial transparency and accountability mechanisms wherever possible. In balancing speed with transparency, agencies are to consider the three core principles, (1) Mission achievement, (2) Expediency and (3) Transparency and accountability.		

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25	4/10/2020	GSA	CD-2020-08: FAR Class Deviation - Accelerated Payments to Small Business Contractors and Subcontractors.	Approves a class deviation from the Federal Acquisition Regulation to allow GSA to provide accelerated payments to small business contractors, with a goal of 15 days after receipt of a proper invoice.	Intended to implement section 873 of the NDAA for FY 2020.	
26	4/15/2020	GSA	CAAC Letter 2020-03: Class Deviation from the FAR Regarding Customary Progress Payment Rates Based on Costs.	Letter serves as consultation allowing agencies to authorize a class deviation in response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) national emergency to increase the progress payment rate to 90 percent for large business concerns, and 95 percent for small business concerns.	It is recommended that the deviation be made effective immediately. Agencies should consider whether to cancel the deviation after the COVID-19 emergency passes.	
27	4/17/2020	OMB	M-20-22: Preserving the Resilience of the Federal Contracting Base in the Fight against the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)	Supplements Memo M-20-18 with guidance for the implementation of section 3610 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Section 3610 provides agencies an additional discretionary authority to reimburse costs of paid leave to federal contractors and subcontractors, subject to conditions.	Section 3610 restricts the circumstances under which reimbursement may be made, and the amount of reimbursement allowed.	

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28	4/20/2020	OMB	M-20-23: Aligning Federal Agency Operations with the National Guidelines for Opening Up America Again.	Guidance describes a process for agency heads and leaders to make decisions for their workforce operations while utilizing the different telework postures implemented during the outset of the COVID-19 response.		
29	4/21/2020	GSA	CD-2020-12: GSAR Class Deviation - CARES Act Section 3610 Implementation	Approves a class deviation from the DSAR to provide guidance to implement Section 3610 of the CARES Act regarding paid leave reimbursement authority to contractors for COVID-19.	Prescribes a contract clause which implements controls. Effective immediately. The authority may only be used for leave that a contractor has provided during the period of March 27, 2020 through September 30, 2020.	
30	4/22/2020	GSA	CD-2020-07: FAR and GSAR Class Deviation - Suspension and Debarment Action Meetings.	Approves a class deviation from the FAR and GSAR to permit alternative ways of conducting in-person meetings for suspension and proposed debarment actions.	The deviation is effective immediately and remains in effect until rescinded or incorporated into the FAR and GSAR.	
31	5/13/2020	GSA	MV-20-07 Supplement 1: Temporary Policy for Contractor Onboarding During Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)	Supplements Acquisition Letter MV-20-07 to notify the GSA acquisition workforce that GSA IT has currently obtained sufficient resources to be able to supply GSA contractors with IT equipment.	Effective immediately	