

# Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (RFO) for Y-O-U



**Jeffrey Koses**  
Senior Procurement Executive



U.S. General Services  
Administration

# RFO for Y-O-U

Redstone Edge 2026

Jeff Koses, Senior Procurement Executive

September 2026

# FAR Overhaul Phase 1: Genesis and Foundations

## EO 14275: Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement

- The FAR is too big, too complicated – keeps companies from doing business with the US Government.
  - Strip out non-statutory requirements.
- Make the changes now and implement via deviations.
- Rewrite agency supplements to the FAR.

## GSA's Action

- Setup [FAR Overhaul site](#) on Acquisition.gov to be a single “home” for resources, information, and communications.
- Developed feedback mechanism, so we could receive and consider reactions.

# 7 Common Themes

01

## Economy

Reduce prices, reduce administrative costs.

02

## Speed

Emphasis on the value of time.

03

## Waste & Fraud

Reduce waste, duplication, and risk of fraud.

04

## Buy Commercial

Follow commercial practices and methods.

05

## Fixed Price

Encourage fixed price contracts.

06

## Competition

Increase competition and encourage new entrants.

07

## Bid Protests

Reduce bid protests.

# FAR Overhaul Phase 2: Development



## FAR Rewrite Sprint

Sprint from May 2025 to September 2025 to rewrite the FAR.



## 49 Master Deviations

FAR Council iteratively issued 49 master deviations.



## GSA as a Model

GSA implemented master deviations first as a model for government.



## Guidance & Practitioner Albums

Created FAR Companion (non-regulatory resource for the Acquisition Workforce) and 49 practitioner albums (one per FAR Part) to help explain changes.



## Completion Milestones

Completed in September 2025 for the FAR, and September 2026 for the GSAR.

# FAR Overhaul - Key Accomplishments

We removed:



**484** pages



**230,000** words



**114** provisions  
and clauses



**28%** of “shall”  
and “must”

# FAR Overhaul Phase 3: Workforce Enablement



## Long-Term Focus

Cultural Transformation

Focus on cultural change. We'll remain in this phase for at least the next few years. Unlearning old and learning new approaches to acquisition.



## Diverse Methodologies

Tools & Learning Journey

We have to use a wide variety of methodologies to learn, master, and grow comfortable with the new tools and techniques. We need the entire community on that journey.



## Collective Ownership

Shared Responsibility

It takes all of us to change the culture.

# FAR Overhaul Phase 4: Rulemaking & Institutionalization



## **Formal Codification**

Regulatory Process

Rule-making and institutionalization means codifying the FAR. Because this is a regulatory process, it is slower and more formal.



## **Extended Analysis**

Feedback & Documentation

We're addressing your feedback and complex issues requiring longer analysis, alongside required process steps (e.g., regulatory impact analysis, flexibility analysis, preamble, etc.).



## **Initial Rule Release**

Public Comment

The first 4 rules went out for public comment in June, encompassing FAR parts covering administrative requirements, cybersecurity, and acquisition planning.

# FAR Overhaul: What's next?

## Public Comment

- The second batch of cases has been officially released for public comment.
- As with the first batch, there is a 30-day comment period. Comments due October 19.

## Core Contracting

- This batch includes parts dealing with the “nuts and bolts” of contracting.
  - Part 12 for commercial acquisition.
  - Part 15 for negotiation.
  - Part 16 for types of contracts.
  - Part 27 for intellectual property.

## Final Set of Rules

- Final set of rules remain under review in OMB.
- Final set include FAR parts dealing with:
  - Public policy.
  - Contract Administration.
  - Cost Accounting.
  - Cost Principles.

# Small Business and the RFO

Everyone focuses on Part 19, but there's much more to the story. The RFO has a small business friendly complete reorganization.



## Plain Language Standard

Clear & Accessible

The FAR now uses plain language throughout all sections.

**Key Benefit:** Reduces ambiguity and legal complexity, enabling small businesses to navigate contracting requirements more effectively.



## Acquisition Life Cycle

Logical Sequential Structure

Now intuitively organized by acquisition phase:

1. **Pre-Solicitation Activities**
2. **Issuance of Solicitation → Award**
3. **Post-Award Activities**

# Key Small Business Considerations by FAR Part

## FAR Part 4 | Administrative and Information Matters

- **Streamlined SAM Registration:** Eliminated **half** of SAM registration requirements to reduce administrative burden on small businesses.

## FAR Part 6 | Competition Requirements

- **SBIR Support:** Clarifies that Phase III awards are sole-source authorized by statute, protecting small business innovation pathways.

## FAR Part 7 & 10 | Acquisition Planning & Market Research

- **Living Plans:** Treats acquisition plans as living documents, encouraging Oral Plans.
- **Market Research:** Folds Part 10 into Part 7 to emphasize continuous market research.
- **Beyond RFIs:** Promotes modern engagement techniques beneficial to small businesses.

## FAR Part 8 | Required Sources & Schedules

- **Reorganization:** Moves schedule ordering procedures under GSA.
- **Major Streamlining:** Schedule ordering procedures cut from 9,500 to 2,400 words.
- **Simplified Process:** Clarified FAR 15 rules don't apply; discretionary set-asides preserved.
- **Flexibility:** Addresses open market items via Order-Level Materials (OLM) SIN.

# Key Small Business Considerations by FAR Part

## **FAR Part 12** | Acquisition of Commercial Products and Services

- **Major Reduction in Complexity:** Clauses and provisions reduced by 30%.
- **Greatly Simplified Procedures:** Enabling faster awards, reducing carrying costs.

## **FAR Part 15** | Contracting by Negotiation

- **Emphasized negotiation:** Reduces a lot of process demands, giving COs the authority to really negotiate.
- **Replaces the “Late is Late” Rule:** Allows for more CO discretion.

## **FAR Part 16** | Types of Contracts

- **BPA On-Ramps:** Pairs introduction of BPAs with onramps.
- **Schedule Success:** BPAs show great success on the schedules program.
- **Continuous SB Growth:** GSA regularly adds new SBs without needing on-ramps for big business.

## **FAR Part 19** | Small Business

- **Rule of Two:** Maintained for contracts above the SAT as essential to sound procurement.
- **Order Set-Asides:** Encourages COs to set aside orders above the SAT using clearer language.
- **8(a) Program:** COs are now encouraged to use competitive vehicles, within peer groups, first.

# Other Acquisition Related EOs



## Contract Consolidation

Executive Order 14240

Directs GSA to take a more central approach both in establishing government-wide contract vehicles and in centralizing common contracts which will then be shared across agencies.



## Commercial Contracting

Executive Order 14271

Tells the acquisition community to buy commercial solutions, and requires SPE approval to use a non-commercial solution.



## Truthful Advertising

Executive Order 14392

Ensures transparency and accuracy in federal contractor representation.



## Fraud Task Force

Executive Order 14395

Expect contracts where the Government relies on contractor representations, certifications, eligibility claims, and other compliance requirements to receive particular attention.

# Summary



## Our Approach

Offered some insights into how GSA approached the RFO, particularly in light of the 50+ EOs impacting federal acquisition.



## Guiding Principles

Hit the guiding principles – particularly mission first and value of time.

These were the lodestars for us, as we hope they will be for the community.



## Current State

Explained that we're in the "messy middle."

---

**Questions?**