

4401.303

through internal FEMA issuances such as manuals, standard operating procedures, directives or instructions.

4401.303 Codification and public participation.

If subject matter in FAR requires no implementation, the FEMAAR will not contain a corresponding part, subpart, section, or subsection number. FAR subject matter governs.

Subpart 4401.4—Deviations From the FAR

4401.403 Individual deviations.

The Director, Office of Acquisition Management, must authorize individual deviations in advance. Requests for authorization must:

- (a) Cite the specific parts of the FAR or FEMAAR from which it is desired to deviate;
- (b) Describe the deviation fully;
- (c) Indicate the circumstances which require the deviation;
- (d) Give reasons supporting the action requested; and
- (e) Give reasons why the action is in the best interest of the Government.

4401.404 Class deviations.

The Director, Office of Acquisition Management, must authorize class deviations in advance.

4401.405 Deviations pertaining to treaties and executive agreements.

The Director, Office of Acquisition Management, is the central control point for all deviations including those pertaining to treaties and executive agreements.

Subpart 4401.6—Contracting Authority and Responsibilities

4401.600–70 Scope of subpart.

This subpart deals with the placement of contracting authority and responsibility within the agency, the selection and designation of contracting officers, and the authority of contracting officers.

4401.601 General.

The Director, Office of Acquisition Management, is designated the head of

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contracting activities and FEMA's procurement executive. The Director, Office of Acquisition Management, shall establish policy throughout the agency; monitor the overall effectiveness and efficiency of the agency's contracting offices; establish controls to assure compliance with laws, regulations, and procedures; and delegate contracting officer authority. The Director, Office of Acquisition Management, shall exercise the authority delegated under 44 CFR 2.67 FEMA Organization, Functions and Delegations.

4401.603 Selection, appointment, and termination of appointment.

4401.603–2 Selection.

In the areas of experience, training, and education, the following shall be required unless contracting authority is limited to a simplified purchase procedures. Waiver of any of these criteria shall be in writing:

(a) An individual contracting officer or an individual appointed to a position having contracting officer authority shall have a minimum of two years experience performing contracting, procurement, or purchasing functions in a Government or commercial contracting office. Additionally, where a contracting officer will work in a specialized field, experience in the field shall be a criterion for the appointment.

(b) An individual contracting officer or an individual appointed to a position having contracting officer authority shall have the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or institution with major studies in business administration, law, accounting, or related fields. The appointing official may waive this requirement when a candidate is otherwise qualified by virtue of extensive contract-related experience and training, business acumen, judgment, character, reputation, and ethics.

(c) An individual contracting officer or an individual appointed to a position having contracting authority shall have successfully completed training courses in both Government basic procurement and Government contract administration, each of not less than 80 class hours. Incumbents not meeting

the special training requirements shall be given 24 months to meet the minimum qualification standards.

4401.603-3 Appointment.

Except for disaster-related activities and unusual circumstances as determined by the head of the contracting activity, it is policy to delegate contracting officer authority to individuals rather than to positions. The head of the contracting activity is the appointing authority. Except where the delegation of authority specifically includes the authority for further redelegation, no other delegations or redelegations may be made. Delegations of contracting officer authority shall include a clear statement of such authority and its responsibilities and limitations.

Subpart 4401.7—Determinations and Findings

4401.707-70 Signature authority.

The head of the contracting activity shall sign all class Determination and Findings (D & F's) not otherwise reserved to the agency head.

Subpart 4401.70—Procurement Contracts Versus Assistance Instruments

4401.7000 Scope of subpart.

This subpart describes the situations appropriate for the use of procurement contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements and provides examples of each.

4401.7001 Procurement contracts.

4401.7000-1 Situations for use.

Procurement contracts are to be used whenever the principal purpose of the instrument is acquisition by purchase, lease, or barter of property or services for the direct benefit or use of the Federal Government.

4401.7001-2 Examples.

Procurement contracts normally will be used when the principal purpose of the relationship is:

(a) Evaluation (including research if an evaluation character) of the performance of Government program,

projects, or grantee activity initiated by FEMA.

(b) Projects funded by administrative funds.

(c) Technical assistance rendered on behalf of the Government to any third party including those receiving grants or cooperative agreements.

(d) Surveys, studies, and research which provide specific information desired by the Government for its direct activities or for dissemination to the public.

(e) Consulting or professional services of all kinds if provided to the Government or, on behalf of the Government, to any third party.

(f) Planning for Government use.

(g) Conferences conducted in behalf of the Government.

(h) Production of publications or audiovisual materials required primarily for the conduct of the direct operations of the Government.

(i) Design or development of items for Government use or pursuant to agency definition or specifications.

(j) Generation of management information or other data for Government use.

4401.7002 Assistance.

Assistance may take the form of either grants or cooperative agreements and include:

(a) General financial assistance (stimulation or support) to eligible recipients under specific legislation authorizing such assistance.

(b) Financial assistance (stimulation or support) to a specific program activity eligible for such assistance under specific legislation authorizing such assistance.

4401.7002-1 Grants.

Grants are to be used whenever the principal purpose of the relationship is to transfer money, property, services, or anything else of value to a recipient to accomplish a public purpose. The support or stimulation to be accomplished by this transfer must be authorized by Federal statute and substantial involvement is not anticipated.