



(b) In the looseleaf version, the month, year, and number of FMR amendments appear at the bottom of each page.

§102-2.50 How do I number my agency's implementing regulations?

The first three-digit number represents the chapter number assigned to your agency in Title 41 of the CFR. The part and section numbers correspond to FMR material. For example, if your agency is assigned Chapter 130 in Title 41 of the CFR and you are implementing §102-2.60 of the FMR, your implementing section would be numbered §130-2.60.

§102-2.55 How do I number my agency's supplementing regulations?

Since there is no corresponding FMR material, number the supplementing material "601" or higher. For example, your agency's supplementing regulations governing special services to states might start with §130-601.5.

DEVIATIONS

§102-2.60 What is a deviation from the FMR?

A deviation from the FMR is an agency action or policy that is inconsistent with the regulation. (The deviation policy for the FPMR is in 41 CFR part 101-1.)

§102-2.65 When may agencies deviate from the FMR?

Because, it consists primarily of set policies and mandatory requirements, deviation from the FMR should occur infrequently. However, to address unique circumstances or to test the effectiveness of potential policy changes, agencies may be able to deviate from the FMR after following the steps described in §102-2.80.

§102-2.70 What are individual and class deviations?

An individual deviation is intended to affect only one action. A class deviation is intended to affect more than one action (e.g., multiple actions, the actions of more than one agency, or individual agency actions that are expected to recur).

§102-2.75 What timeframes apply to deviations?

Timeframes vary based on the nature of the deviation. However, deviations cannot be open-ended. When consulting with GSA about using an individual or class deviation, you must set a timeframe for the deviation's duration.

§102-2.80 What steps must an agency take to deviate from the FMR?

(a) Consult informally with appropriate GSA program personnel to learn more about how your agency can work within the FMR's requirements instead of deviating from them. The consultation process may also highlight reasons why an agency would not be permitted to deviate from the FMR; e.g., statutory constraints.

(b) Formally request a deviation, if consultations indicate that your agency needs one. The head of your agency or a designated official should write to GSA's Regulatory Secretariat to the attention of a GSA official in the program office that is likely to consider the deviation. (See the FMR bulletin that lists contacts in GSA's program offices and §102-2.90.) The written request must fully explain the reasons for the deviation, including the benefits that the agency expects to achieve.

§102-2.85 What are the reasons for writing to GSA about FMR deviations?

The reasons for writing are to:

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(a) Explain your agency's rationale for the deviation. Before it can adequately comment on a potential deviation from the FMR, GSA must know why it is needed. GSA will compare your need against the applicable policies and regulations.

(b) Obtain clarification from GSA as to whether statutes, Executive orders, or other controlling policies, which may not be evident in the regulation, preclude deviating from the FMR for the reasons stated.

(c) Establish a timeframe for using a deviation.

(d) Identify potential changes to the FMR.

(e) Identify the benefits and other results that the agency expects to achieve.

§ 102-2.90 Where should my agency send its correspondence on an FMR deviation?

Send correspondence to: General Services Administration, Regulatory Secretariat (MVRs), Office of Governmentwide Policy, 1800 F Street, NW, Washington, DC 20405.

§ 102-2.95 What information must agencies include in their deviation letters to GSA?

Agencies must include:

(a) The title and citation of the FMR provision from which the agency wishes to deviate;

(b) The name and telephone number of an agency contact who can discuss the reason for the deviation;

(c) The reason for the deviation;

(d) A statement about the expected benefits of using the deviation (to the extent possible, expected benefits should be stated in measurable terms);

(e) A statement about possible use of the deviation in other agencies or Governmentwide; and

(f) The duration of the deviation.

§ 102-2.100 Must agencies provide GSA with a follow-up analysis of their experience in deviating from the FMR?

Yes, agencies that deviate from the FMR must also write to the relevant GSA program office at the Regulatory Secretariat's address (see § 102-2.90) to describe their experiences in using a deviation.

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§ 102-2.105 What information must agencies include in their follow-up analysis?

In your follow-up analysis, provide information that may include, but should not be limited to, specific actions taken or not taken as a result of the deviation, outcomes, impacts, anticipated versus actual results, and the advantages and disadvantages of taking an alternative course of action.

§ 102-2.110 When must agencies provide their follow-up letters?

(a) For an individual deviation, once the action is complete.

(b) For a class deviation, at the end of each twelve-month period from the time you first took the deviation and at the end of the deviation period.

NON-REGULATORY MATERIAL

§ 102-2.115 What kinds of non-regulatory material does GSA publish outside of the FMR?

As GSA converts the FPMR to the FMR, non-regulatory materials in the FPMR, such as guidance, procedures, standards, and information, that describe how to do business with GSA, will become available in separate documents. These documents may include customer service guides, handbooks, brochures, Internet websites, and FMR bulletins. GSA will eliminate non-regulatory material that is no longer needed.

§ 102-2.120 How do I know whom to contact to discuss the regulatory requirements of programs addressed in the FMR?

Periodically, GSA will issue for your reference an FMR bulletin that lists program contacts with whom agencies can discuss regulatory requirements. At a minimum, the list will contain organization names and telephone numbers for each program addressed in the FMR.

§ 102-2.125 What source of information can my agency use to identify materials that describe how to do business with GSA?

The FMR establishes policy; it does not specify procedures for the acquisition of GSA services. However, as a service to users during the transition