

Federal Property Management Regulations

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for the executive branch of the Government in the interest of lower prices, improved quality, and service or standardization when:

(a) The Administrator of General Services has determined, based upon the factors listed in §101-25.202, that a selected executive agency is best equipped to perform certain purchasing and contracting functions, and the Administrator of General Services has issued appropriate regulations designating the categories of articles or services complying with paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of §101-25.203 that are to be purchased exclusively by the named executive agency under authority delegated by the Administrator of General Services; and

(b) The head of the designated executive agency has issued appropriate instructions, or a Federal Supply Schedule, under authority as delegated by and in the form approved by the Administrator, specifically designating the item or item groups of articles or services that are thereafter to be purchased exclusively for all executive agencies, or with specified limited exceptions, by the designated executive agency.

§ 101-25.205 Arrangement for performance of purchasing functions other than centralized.

(a) Upon request, GSA will make purchases and contracts for any of the items or item groups of articles or services authorized to be purchased independently by executive agencies. GSA will also arrange, on a basis mutually agreeable, with any executive agency to perform its purchase and contracting functions on a continuing basis, if requested in writing to do so by the agency head, provided the arrangements agreed upon will result in lowered cost or improved service either to the individual agency or to the Government as a whole.

(b) In those instances where lowered cost or improved service, either to an individual agency or to the Government as a whole will result, GSA will arrange, on a basis mutually agreeable to the agencies involved, to assign all or a portion of the purchase and contracting functions of one executive

agency to another executive agency on a continuing basis.

§ 101-25.206 Independent purchases by executive agencies.

Items or groups of items of articles or services may be purchased independently by executive agencies, in accordance with regulations of GSA otherwise applicable, when:

(a) Not otherwise prescribed in current regulations, or included in mandatory Federal Supply Schedules, issued by GSA or by another executive agency designated by the Administrator of General Services.

(b) For emergency requirements when time does not permit purchasing through the authorized central purchasing agency. A record shall be maintained of such transactions and be made available to the responsible central purchasing agency upon request.

(c) By consultation between GSA and agencies concerned, it is determined that interagency purchase assignment would adversely affect the national security or military operations.

(d) The purchases cannot be publicly disclosed in the interest of national security.

Subpart 101-25.3—Use Standards

§ 101-25.301 General.

(a) This subpart prescribes minimum use standards for certain Government-owned personal property which shall be applied by all executive agencies. Additional criteria above these minimum standards shall be established by each executive agency, limiting its property to the minimum requirements necessary for the efficient functioning of the particular office concerned. This subpart does not apply to automatic data processing equipment (ADPE) which is covered in the Federal Information Resources Management Regulation (FIRMR) (41 CFR Chapter 201).

(b) Additional use standards should be established by all executive agencies for other Government-owned property under their control whenever use standards will effect economy and efficiency in the use of such property.

(c) All items of property, determined to be excess to the needs of an agency as a result of the application of use

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standards, shall be promptly reported in accordance with part 101-43.

[29 FR 15993, Dec. 1, 1964, as amended at 61 FR 14978, Apr. 4, 1996]

§ 101-25.302 Office furniture, furnishings, and equipment.

(a) Each executive agency shall establish criteria for the use of office furniture, furnishings, and equipment. Such criteria shall be in consonance with the provisions of §101-25.104 pertaining to office furniture and office machines and shall be limited to the minimum essential requirements as established by the agency head for authorized functions and programs which will, beyond a reasonable doubt, be in operation within the following 6 months.

(b) In developing such criteria, a distinction shall be made between the requirements of organizational elements concerned with purely administrative functions, and those of a technical, scientific, or specialized nature.

(c) Items of office equipment, used only occasionally, should be pooled within an agency and made available to activities of the agency when and as necessary.

[29 FR 15993, Dec. 1, 1964, as amended at 42 FR 1031, Jan. 5, 1977]

§ 101-25.302-1 [Reserved]

§ 101-25.302-2 Filing cabinets.

Executive agencies shall make every effort to effect maximum use of filing cabinets and to limit the purchase of new equipment. Filing cabinets should be replaced only in accordance with the standards in subpart 101-25.4. Maximum utilization of equipment should be obtained by:

(a) Disposing of all records that have been authorized for disposition by the Congress or, where such authorization has not been obtained, through the preparation and obtaining of authorized disposal schedules with the assistance of the National Archives and Records Administration.

(b) Removing office supplies, publications, and other nonrecord material from filing cabinets to more suitable storage equipment, except where the quantity of such material is small (as a rule, less than half a cabinet).

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(c) Transferring to Federal Records Centers or approved agency records centers (to the extent that facilities are made available) inactive records not needed in daily business but not yet ready for disposal, when filing equipment can be released by such action.

(d) Shifting less active files, not transferable to approved records centers, to fiberboard storage boxes, using filing cabinets only when files are constantly used.

(e) Using filing cabinets with locks only when required by special needs that cannot be satisfied less expensively.

(f) Using letter-size filing cabinets instead of legal-size whenever possible.

(g) Using 5-drawer filing cabinets whenever available in lieu of 4-drawer cabinets.

[29 FR 15993, Dec. 1, 1964, as amended at 53 FR 11848, Apr. 11, 1988; 61 FR 14978, Apr. 4, 1996]

§§ 101-25.302-3—101-25.302-4 [Reserved]

§ 101-25.302-5 Carpeting.

(a) Carpeting is authorized for use where it can be justified over other types of floor covering on the basis of cost, safety, insulation, acoustical control, the degree of interior decoration required, or the need to maintain an environment commensurate with the purpose for which the space is allocated.

(b) In connection with new construction or alteration of space, if it is known that the area will eventually require carpeting, then resilient floor covering should be omitted and the carpeting installed initially.

[43 FR 18673, May 2, 1978, as amended at 49 FR 48546, Dec. 13, 1984]

§ 101-25.302-6 [Reserved]

§ 101-25.302-7 Draperies.

Draperies are authorized for use where justified over other types of window coverings on the basis of cost, insulation, acoustical control, or maintenance of an environment commensurate with the purpose for which the space is allocated. Determining whether the use of draperies is justified is a