

FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION

Emergency Acquisition Flexibilities for Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Based upon the following findings and determination, the FAR micro-purchase threshold and simplified acquisition threshold are increased in support of the pandemic recovery operations as described below, effective immediately and continuing for as long as the associated emergency declaration is in effect.

Findings

1. The Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) was declared an emergency by the President on March 13, 2020. COVID-19 has also been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020 (see the [WHO webpage](#)), and public health emergency by the Secretary of Health and Human Services on January 31, 2020 (see the [Public Health Emergency webpage](#)). Accordingly, the emergency acquisition flexibilities listed in FAR Subpart 18.2 are available for use.
2. DOE anticipates being part of the response operation. Many DOE contracting officers may be called on to aid in response efforts.
3. Increases in the micro-purchase threshold and simplified acquisition threshold will facilitate DOE contracting offices' support of the emergency response efforts in the affected areas declared by the President to be emergency assistance areas.

Determination

Based upon the above findings, I have determined that supplies and/or services procured in support of the emergency relief efforts will facilitate recovery from the COVID-19 emergency.

Accordingly, for direct purposes of this response:

- The micropurchase threshold is increased to:
 - \$20,000 in the case of any contract to be awarded and performed, or purchase to be made, inside the United States, including the acquisition of leasehold interests in real property; and
 - \$30,000 in the case of any contract to be awarded and performed, or purchase to be made, outside the United States, including the acquisition of leasehold interests in real property.
- The simplified acquisition threshold (SAT) is increased to:
 - \$750,000 or any contract to be awarded and performed, or purchase to be made, inside the United States, including the acquisition of leasehold interests in real property; and

- \$1.5 million for any contract to be awarded and performed, or purchase to be made, outside the United States, including the acquisition of leasehold interests in real property.
- The threshold for simplified procedures for certain commercial items, is increased to \$13 million (see FAR 13.500(c) and 18.202(d)).
- The additional flexibilities of FAR subpart 18.2 cannot be used for any other Acquisitions, but are specific only to direct response to this emergency.
- The Davis-Bacon and Service Contract Act (SCA) thresholds are not changed by the use of any of these flexibilities.

This determination shall remain in effect as long as the associated emergency declaration identified herein is in effect.

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