

Subpart 209.2 - QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENTS

Parent topic: [Part 209 - CONTRACTOR QUALIFICATIONS](#)

209.202 Policy.

(a)(1) Except for aviation or ship critical safety items, obtain approval in accordance with PGI 209.202 (a)(1) when establishing qualification requirements. See [209.270](#) for approval of qualification requirements for aviation or ship critical safety items.

209.270 Aviation and ship critical safety items.

209.270-1 Scope.

This section—

(a) Implements—

- (1) Section 802 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004 (Pub. L. 108-136); and
- (2) Section 130 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 (Pub. L. 109-364); and

(b) Prescribes policy and procedures for qualification requirements in the procurement of aviation and ship critical safety items and the modification, repair, and overhaul of those items.

209.270-2 Definitions.

As used in this section—

“Aviation critical safety item” means a part, an assembly, installation equipment, launch equipment, recovery equipment, or support equipment for an aircraft or aviation weapon system if the part, assembly, or equipment contains a characteristic any failure, malfunction, or absence of which could cause—

- (1) A catastrophic or critical failure resulting in the loss of or serious damage to the aircraft or weapon system;
- (2) An unacceptable risk of personal injury or loss of life; or
- (3) An uncommanded engine shutdown that jeopardizes safety.

“Design control activity”—

- (1) With respect to an aviation critical safety item, means the systems command of a military department that is specifically responsible for ensuring the air worthiness of an aviation system or equipment in which an aviation critical safety item is to be used; and
- (2) With respect to a ship critical safety item, means the systems command of a military department that is specifically responsible for ensuring the seaworthiness of a ship or ship equipment in which a ship critical safety item is to be used.

“Ship critical safety item” means any ship part, assembly, or support equipment containing a characteristic the failure, malfunction, or absence of which could cause—

- (1) A catastrophic or critical failure resulting in loss of or serious damage to the ship; or
- (2) An unacceptable risk of personal injury or loss of life.

209.270-3 Policy.

- (a) The head of the contracting activity responsible for procuring an aviation or ship critical safety item may enter into a contract for the procurement, modification, repair, or overhaul of such an item only with a source approved by the head of the design control activity.
- (b) The approval authorities specified in this section apply instead of those otherwise specified in FAR 9.202(a)(1), 9.202(c), or 9.206-1(c), for the procurement, modification, repair, and overhaul of aviation or ship critical safety items.

209.270-4 Procedures.

- (a) The head of the design control activity shall—
 - (1) Identify items that meet the criteria for designation as aviation or ship critical safety items. See additional information at PGI [209.270-4](#) ;
 - (2) Approve qualification requirements in accordance with procedures established by the design control activity; and
 - (3) Qualify and identify aviation and ship critical safety item suppliers and products.
- (b) The contracting officer shall—
 - (1) Ensure that the head of the design control activity has determined that a prospective contractor or its product meets or can meet the established qualification standards before the date specified for award of the contract;
 - (2) Refer any offers received from an unapproved source to the head of the design control activity for approval. The head of the design control activity will determine whether the offeror or its product meets or can meet the established qualification standards before the date specified for award of the contract; and
 - (3) Refer any requests for qualification to the design control activity.

(c) See [246.407](#) (S-70) and [246.504](#) for quality assurance requirements.

209.270-5 Contract clause.

The contracting officer shall insert the clause at [252.209-7010](#) , Critical Safety Items, in solicitations and contracts when the acquisition includes one or more items designated by the design control activity as critical safety items.