



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
2415 Eisenhower Avenue • Alexandria, VA 22314

FAR Deviation from FAR 2.101 “Micro-Purchase Threshold” and “Simplified Acquisition Threshold” definitions for the National Science Foundation

This Determination and Findings document supports the decision for the National Science Foundation to deviate from certain Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) thresholds defined in FAR 2.101 for the Micro-Purchase Threshold and the Simplified Acquisition Threshold to the new thresholds provided for in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal year 2018 (Pub. L. 115-91) for Civilian Agencies.

Findings

Public Law 115-91 changed the Micro-Purchase Threshold and the Simplified Acquisition Threshold as defined at FAR 2.101 (Sections 805 and 806) and was effective on 12/12/2017.

Effective immediately, NSF Purchase Card holders and Contracting Officers shall adhere to the new thresholds established in Public Law 115-91 as follows –

“Micro-purchase threshold” means **\$10,000**, except it means—

(1) For acquisitions of construction subject to 40 U.S.C. chapter 31, subchapter IV, Wage Rate Requirements (Construction), \$2,000;

(2) For acquisitions of services subject to 41 U.S.C. chapter 67, Service Contract Labor Standards, \$2,500; and

(3) For acquisitions of supplies or services that, as determined by the head of the agency, are to be used to support a contingency operation; to facilitate defense against or recovery from cyber, nuclear, biological, chemical or radiological attack; to support a request from the Secretary of State or the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to facilitate provision of international disaster assistance pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2292 et seq.; or to support response to an emergency or major disaster (42 U.S.C. 5122), as described in 13.201(g)(1), except for construction subject to 40 U.S.C. chapter 31, subchapter IV, Wage Rate Requirements (Construction) (41 U.S.C. 1903)—

(i) \$20,000 in the case of any contract to be awarded and performed, or purchase to be made, inside the United States; and

(ii) \$30,000 in the case of any contract to be awarded and performed, or purchase to be made, outside the United States.[: and]

(4) For acquisitions of supplies or services from institutions of higher education (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)) or related or affiliated nonprofit entities, or from nonprofit research organizations or independent research institutes—

(i) \$10,000; or

(ii) A higher threshold, as determined appropriate by the head of the agency and consistent with clean audit findings under 31 U.S.C. chapter 75, Requirements for Single Audits; an internal institutional risk assessment; or State law.

“Simplified acquisition threshold” means **\$250,000** (41 U.S.C. 134), except for—

(1) Acquisitions of supplies or services that, as determined by the head of the agency, are to be used to support a contingency operation; to facilitate defense against or recovery from cyber, nuclear, biological, chemical, or radiological attack; to support a request from the Secretary of State or the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to facilitate provision of international disaster assistance pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2292 et seq.; or to support response to an emergency or major disaster (42 U.S.C. 5122), (41 U.S.C. 1903), the term means—

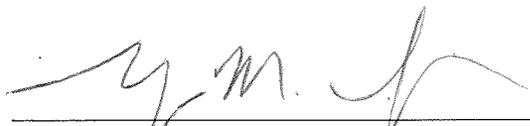
(i) \$750,000 for any contract to be awarded and performed, or purchase to be made, inside the United States; and

(ii) \$1.5 million for any contract to be awarded and performed, or purchase to be made, outside the United States; and

(2) Acquisitions of supplies or services that, as determined by the head of the agency, are to be used to support a humanitarian or peacekeeping operation (10 U.S.C. 2302), the term means \$500,000 for any contract to be awarded and performed, or purchase to be made, outside the United States.

Determination

In accordance with FAR 1.404, I hereby issue the FAR class deviation, implementing the use of the revised Micro-Purchase and Simplified Acquisition Thresholds described herein.



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National Science Foundation

3/5/18
Date