

# Subpart 18.2 - Emergency Acquisition Flexibilities

**Parent topic:** [Part 18 - Emergency Acquisitions](#)

## 18.201 Contingency operation.

(a) *Contingency operation* is defined in [2.101](#).

(b) *Micro-purchase threshold*. The threshold increases when the *head of the agency* determines the *supplies* or services are to be used to support a *contingency operation*. (See [2.101](#) and [13.201\(g\)](#).)

(c) *Simplified acquisition threshold*. The threshold increases when the *head of the agency* determines the *supplies* or services are to be used to support a *contingency operation*. (See [2.101](#).)

(d) [SF 44](#), *Purchase Order-Invoice-Voucher*. The normal threshold for the use of the [SF 44](#) is at or below the *micro-purchase threshold*. Agencies may, however, establish higher dollar limitations for purchases made to support a *contingency operation*. (See [13.306](#).)

(e) *Simplified procedures for certain commercial products and commercial services*. The threshold limits authorized for use of this authority may be increased for *acquisitions* to support a *contingency operation*. (See [13.500\(c\)](#).)

## 18.202 Defense or recovery from certain events.

(a) *Micro-purchase threshold*. The threshold increases when the *head of the agency* determines the *supplies* or services are to be used to facilitate defense against or recovery from cyber, nuclear, biological, chemical, or radiological attack; to facilitate provision of international disaster assistance; or to support response to an *emergency* or *major disaster*. (See [2.101](#).)

(b) *Simplified acquisition threshold*. The threshold increases when the *head of the agency* determines the *supplies* or services are to be used to facilitate defense against or recovery from cyber, nuclear, biological, chemical, or radiological attack; to facilitate provision of international disaster assistance; or to support response to an *emergency* or *major disaster*. (See [2.101](#).)

(c) *Commercial product or commercial service treatment*. Contracting officers may treat any *acquisition* of *supplies* or services as an *acquisition* of *commercial products* or *commercial services* if the *head of the agency* determines the *acquisition* is to be used to facilitate the defense against or recovery from cyber, nuclear, biological, chemical, or radiological attack. (See [12.102\(f\)\(1\)](#) and [13.500\(c\)](#).)

(d) *Simplified procedures for certain commercial products and commercial services*. The threshold limits authorized for use of this authority may be increased when it is determined the *acquisition* is to facilitate defense against or recovery from cyber, nuclear, biological, chemical, or radiological attack; to facilitate provision of international disaster assistance; or to support response to an *emergency* or *major disaster*. (See [13.500\(c\)](#).)

(e) *Sustainable products and services*. Contracting officers are encouraged, but not required, to procure *sustainable products and services* if the *head of the agency* determines the *supplies* or services are to be used to facilitate defense against or recovery from cyber, nuclear, biological, chemical, or radiological attack; to facilitate provision of international disaster assistance; or to support response to an *emergency* or *major disaster* (see [23.106\(c\)](#)).

## **18.203 Emergency declaration or major disaster declaration.**

(a) Disaster or *emergency* assistance activities. Preference will be given to local organizations, firms, and individuals when *contracting* for *major disaster* or *emergency* assistance activities when the President has made a declaration under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and *Emergency* Assistance Act. Preference *may* take the form of local area set-asides or an evaluation preference. (See [6.208](#) and [subpart 26.2](#).)

(b) Ocean transportation by U.S. flag vessels. The provisions of the Cargo Preference Act of 1954 *may* be waived in *emergency* situations. (See [47.502\(c\)](#).)

## **18.204 Humanitarian or peacekeeping operation.**

(a) A *humanitarian or peacekeeping operation* is defined in [2.101](#).

(b) *Simplified acquisition threshold*. The threshold increases when the *head of the agency* determines the *supplies* or services are to be used to support a *humanitarian or peacekeeping operation*. (See [2.101](#).)

## **18.205 Resources.**

(a) *National Response Framework*. The National Response Framework (NRF) is a guide to how the Nation conducts all-hazards response. This key document establishes a comprehensive, national, all-hazards approach to domestic incident response. The Framework identifies the key response principles, roles and structures that organize national response. It describes how communities, States, the Federal Government, the private-sector, and nongovernmental partners apply these principles for a coordinated, effective national response. It also describes special circumstances where the Federal Government exercises a larger role, including incidents where Federal interests are involved and catastrophic incidents where a State would require significant support. The NRF is available at <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/117791>.

(b) *OFPP Guidelines*. The Office of Federal *Procurement* Policy (OFPP) "*Emergency Acquisitions Guide*" is available at [https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/legacy\\_drupal\\_files/omb/assets/procurement\\_guides/emergency\\_acquisitions\\_guide.pdf](https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/legacy_drupal_files/omb/assets/procurement_guides/emergency_acquisitions_guide.pdf).