



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

November 6, 2020

ACQUISITION ALERT 2021-01

TO: Heads of Contracting Activities
Office of Finance and Operations/Contracts and Acquisitions Management
Federal Student Aid/Federal Student Aid Acquisitions
Executive Officers

FROM: Phillip R. Juengst
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Grants Administration
Senior Procurement Executive

SUBJECT: Class Deviation – To Remove an Obsolete Security Systems Requirement from the Education Acquisition Regulation (EDAR)

1. **Purpose:** To implement a class deviation and to notify contracting officers to cease use of EDAR clause 3452.239-73, Federal Desktop Core Configuration (FDCC) Compatibility (MAR 2011).
2. **Deviated language:** The following citations are deleted:
 - a. 3439.703 Federal desktop core configuration (FDCC) compatibility
 - b. 3452.239-73 Federal desktop core configuration (FDCC) compatibility (*pre-amble and clause*)
3. **Effective Date:** This class deviation is effective immediately.
4. **Expiration Date:** Effective until incorporated into the EDAR or otherwise rescinded.
5. **Background:** EDAR 3439.703 prescribes the use of EDAR clause 3452.239-73, Federal Desktop Core Configuration (FDCC) Compatibility in all solicitations and contracts where software will be developed or operated on any system using the FDCC. The clause is obsolete as the FDCC has been replaced with the United States Government Configuration Baseline (USGCB).

The requirement to comply with the USGCB is included in EDAR clause 3452.239–72, Department Security Requirements (DEVIATION) which was the subject of Acquisition Alert 2020-01, as amended.
6. **Guidance:** Contracting officers shall remove the subject clause from all currently issued solicitations and shall no longer include the clause in any contracts awarded on or after the approval of this class deviation.

7. **Additional Information:** Strategic Acquisition Management Initiatives Division;
SAMI_Policy@ed.gov
8. **Attachment:** Determination and Findings, Class Deviation, signed and dated October 27, 2020.