

# VA Acquisition Procedures, Guidance, and Instructions

## Procedures Guidance and Instructions (PGI) M818—Emergency Acquisitions

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### PGI M818.2—Emergency Acquisition Flexibilities

#### PGI M818.270 VA Emergency Acquisition Thresholds

(a) When authorized in a declared emergency (see FAR 2.101), the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency [disaster declaration page](#), the emergency acquisition flexibilities (see FAR 18.001) found at FAR subparts 18.1 and 18.2, are hereby invoked. Additionally, the following thresholds are increased for VA acquisitions, only for the effective period established in support of the declared emergency—

(1) Micro-purchase threshold is increased in accordance with FAR [13.201\(g\)\(1\)\(i\)](#) for goods and services purchased in the United States (see FAR 18.202(a)).

(2) Simplified acquisition threshold (SAT) is increased in accordance with FAR [2.101](#) for any contract to be awarded and performed in the United States (see FAR 18.202(b)).

(3) The threshold for simplified procedures for certain commercial items is increased in accordance with FAR [13.500\(c\)](#) and 18.202(d)).

(4) Purchases outside the United States will be approved on a case by case basis. All request should be sent to [va.procurement.policy@va.gov](mailto:va.procurement.policy@va.gov) with subject line “Acquisition Emergency Flexibilities Purchase Outside US.

(b) Contracting officers should consider the applicability of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (the Stafford Act), 41. U.S.C. 5121-5207), (see [FAR subpart 26.2](#)), when appropriate, along with applying other emergency acquisition flexibilities.

(c) Contracting officers should also use the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Guidelines - “[Emergency Acquisitions Guide](#)” for additional information and guidance.

#### PGI M818.271 National Interest Exemptions and National Interest Action Values

(a) Upon declaration of a major disaster (see FAR 2.101) or emergency (see FAR 2.101), contracting officers shall use the Department of Labor (DOL), National Interest Exemptions (NIEs) for the declared disaster or emergency, when applicable, an Acquisition Flash will be issued for notification purposes. Contracting officers shall make only the changes to clauses provided in the DOL, NIE exemption letter for the declared

major disaster or emergency and shall use the exemptions only for the effective period established by DOL. The DOL, NIE letters may be found at the [OFCCP NIE webpage](#).

(b) Upon declaration of a major disaster (see FAR 2.101) or emergency (see FAR 2.101), contracting officers shall use the published National Interest Action (NIA) value to track relief contracts in the Federal Procurement Data System-Next Generation (FPDS-NG), when applicable, an Acquisition Flash will be issued for notification purposes. NIA values are found at the FPDS-NG [NIA Value Code webpage](#), and shall be used only for the period of time established for the value. Contracting officers are reminded to check the [FPDS-NG NIA Value Code](#) page for value code extensions.