

VA ACQUISITION POLICY

- 1. REASON FOR ISSUE.** To establish and identify that Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) acquisition policy is updated and maintained outside VA's Directive Management system.
- 2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS/MAJOR CHANGES.** This directive directs all inquiries regarding VA acquisition policy to include, but are not limited to, procurement policy matters; updates to the VA Acquisition Regulation (VAAR); issuance of guidance and information; and development of a VA Acquisition Manual (VAAM).
- 3. RESPONSIBLE OFFICE.** Office of Acquisition, Logistics, and Construction (003).
- 4. RELATED HANDBOOK.** None.
- 5. RESCISSION.** None.

CERTIFIED BY:

**BY DIRECTION OF THE SECRETARY
OF VETERANS AFFAIRS:**

/s/
Melissa S. Glynn, Ph.D.
Assistant Secretary for
Enterprise Integration

/s/
Phillip W. Christy
Acting Principal Executive Director
Office of Acquisition, Logistics, and
Construction
and Acting Chief Acquisition Officer

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1. **PURPOSE.** This directive provides information on the availability and location of VA acquisition and procurement policy.

2. POLICY.

a. VA acquisition and procurement policies are maintained at: <https://www.va.gov/oal/business/pps/policy.asp> and are categorized as the VA Acquisition Regulation (VAAR), Regulatory Deviations, Procurement Policy Memoranda, Acquisition Policy Flash, Acquisition Information Letters, and the proposed VA Acquisition Manual (in development).

b. VA Administrations and Staff Offices may ask questions regarding VA acquisition or procurement policy or provide comments and suggestions at: va.procurement.policy@va.gov.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES.

a. **The Principal Executive Director, Office of Acquisition, Logistics, and Construction (PED OALC).** In accordance with Chief Acquisition Officer delegated authority, the PED OALC shall:

(1) Advise and assist the Secretary and other VA officials in ensuring that acquisition activities contribute to achieving VA's mission;

(2) Develop, update and maintain effective and efficient VA acquisition and procurement policies and procedures, consistent with all applicable laws, regulations, and policies;

(3) Provide acquisition policy guidance to all Administrations, Staff Offices, and Other Key VA Officials in interpreting VA acquisition policies, including appropriate training and communications, as needed to ensure the policies are consistently implemented;

(4) Provide clear lines of authority, accountability, and responsibility for VA's acquisition decisions, while managing the direction of VA acquisition policy to through implementation; and

(5) Ensure VA acquisition policies are available and accessible to all VA users and stakeholders in an electronic repository.

b. **Under Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries, and Other Key Officials.** Under Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries, and Other Key Officials shall comply with all VA

acquisition policies and procedures and assist PED OALC with continuously improving these policies.

b. Numbering. The numbering and structure of VA acquisition policy documents share a similar numbering scheme that identifies corresponding acquisition topics across both the VA Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) and Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR). The VA Acquisition Manual, in development, will also incorporate VAAR numbering scheme.

c. Assessment. The PED OALC rigorously and routinely assesses the effectiveness and efficiency of VA acquisition policies and ensures updates to VA policy in accordance with public rule-making procedures. VA performs additional assessment of individual VA acquisition and procurement topics through interpreting and implementing various policies established through the Code of Federal Regulation, FAR, and Office of Federal Procurement Policy updates; Federal Acquisition Circulars; Government Accountability Office recommendations and decisions; VA Office of Inspector General Audits and Reviews; and VA internal controls.

d. Senior Procurement Executive (SPE) and Deputy Senior Procurement Executive (DSPE). The SPE and DSPE are responsible for management direction of the VA procurement system, including implementation of unique procurement policies, regulations, and standards. They assist PED OALC with oversight of the Office of Procurement Policy and Warrant Management Service which is responsible for the management, update, issuance, and accessibility of acquisition guidance and information.

e. Other Pertinent References. Questions or comments should be directed to Procurement Policy and Warrant Management Services via email at vacovaproc@va.gov or via telephone at (202) 632-5288.

4. REFERENCES

a. Section 1421 of Services Acquisition Reform Act, Public Law 108-136, Title 41, Chapter 7, Section 414, et seq.

b. Federal Acquisition Regulation.