

**53.000 Scope of part.**

This part (a) prescribes standard forms (SF's) and references optional forms (OF's) and agency-prescribed forms for use in acquisition; and (b) contains requirements and information generally applicable to the forms.

[48 FR 42637, Sept. 19, 1983, as amended at 83 FR 42576, Aug. 22, 2018]

**53.001 Definitions.**

*Exception*, as used in this part, means an approved departure from the established design, content, printing specifications, or conditions for use of any standard form.

**Subpart 53.1—General****53.100 Scope of subpart.**

This subpart contains requirements and information generally applicable to the forms prescribed in this regulation.

**53.101 Requirements for use of forms.**

The requirements for use of the forms prescribed or referenced in this part are contained in parts 1 through 52, where the subject matter applicable to each form is addressed. The specific location of each requirement is identified in subpart 53.2.

[48 FR 42637, Sept. 19, 1983, as amended at 63 FR 34080, June 22, 1998]

**53.102 Current editions.**

The form prescriptions in subpart 53.2 and the FAR forms located at <https://www.gsa.gov/forms> contain current edition dates. Contracting officers shall use the current editions unless otherwise authorized under this regulation.

[83 FR 42576, Aug. 22, 2018]

**53.103 Exceptions.**

Agencies shall not (a) alter a standard form prescribed by this regulation, or (b) use for the same purpose any form other than the standard form prescribed by this regulation without receiving in advance an exception to the form.

[53 FR 43395, Oct. 26, 1988, as amended at 62 FR 40239, July 25, 1997]

**53.104 Overprinting.**

Standard and optional forms (obtained as required by 53.107) may be overprinted with names, addresses, and other uniform entries that are consistent with the purpose of the form and that do not alter the form in any way. Exception approval for overprinting is not needed.

**53.105 Computer generation.**

(a) The forms prescribed by this part may be computer generated—without exception approval (see 53.103), provided—

(1) There is no change to the name, content, or sequence of the data elements, and the form carries the Standard or Optional Form number and edition date (see 53.111); or

(2) The form is in an electronic format covered by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) X12 Standards published by the Accredited Standards Committee X12 on Electronic Data Interchange or a format that can be translated into one of those standards.

(b) The standards listed in paragraph (a)(2) of this section may also be used for submission of data set forth in other parts for which specific forms have not been prescribed.

[77 FR 44065, July 26, 2012]

**53.106 Special construction and printing.**

Contracting offices may request exceptions (see 53.103) to standard forms for special construction and printing. Examples of common exceptions are as follows:

Standard Forms	Special Construction and Printing
(a) SF 18— .....	(1) With vertical lines omitted (for listing of supplies and services, unit, etc.); (2) As reproducible masters; and/or (3) In carbon interleaved pads or sets.
(b) SF's 26,30,33,1447—	As die-cut stencils or reproducible masters.
(c) SF 44— .....	(1) With serial numbers and contracting office name and address; and/or (2) On special weight of paper and with the type of construction, number of sets per book, and number of parts per set as specified by the contracting officer. (Executive agencies may supplement the administrative instructions on the inside front cover of the book.)
(d) SF 1442— .....	(1) As die-cut stencils or reproducible masters; and/or