

**ANNOUNCEMENT FROM  
DEFENSE PRICING AND CONTRACTING,  
OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (ACQUISITION & SUSTAINMENT)**

## **Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Emergency Acquisition Flexibilities – Contingency Operation**

1. Earlier this month, the U.S. Army approved a Mobilization Order calling to order Military Reservists under section 12302 of title 10, United States Code, to support the COVID-19 national emergency. This mobilization meets the definition of “contingency operation” at FAR 2.101 because it calls Military Reservists to order in response to a national emergency declared by the President under section 12302 of title 10, United States Code.
2. The national emergency, as determined by the President under the Stafford Act on March 13, 2020, still exists. This announcement does not restrict heads of contracting activities from utilizing authorities available for acquisitions determined to support COVID-19 emergency assistance activities that Defense Pricing and Contracting (DPC) previously announced. There are, however, other emergency acquisition flexibilities for acquisitions of supplies or services that, as determined by the head of the contracting activity, may be used support a contingency operation. The flexibilities available for acquisitions that support a contingency operation include those found in FAR 18.201 and DFARS 218.201, and are not limited to use by just the Department of the Army.
3. The emergency acquisition flexibilities, to include elevated contracting thresholds, outlined in the DPC Information Release entitled “Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Emergency Acquisition Flexibilities” at <https://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/pacc/cc/docs/covid-19/COVID-19%20Emergency%20Acquisition%20Flexibilities%20and%20NIA%20Code,%20as%20of%20March%202013,%202020.pdf> , remain unchanged and in effect. Contracting officers should continue to leverage these flexibilities to the maximum extent practicable while also considering the emergency flexibilities available specifically for contingency operations, to include those flexibilities listed at FAR 18.201 and DFARS 218.201, to further enable rapid acquisition support of Department of Defense COVID-19 response activities.
4. The National Interest Action (NIA) Code P20C remains unchanged and shall continue to be used to track acquisition costs for COVID-19 related assistance activities in the Federal Procurement Data System-Next Generation (FPDS-NG).
5. Visit the DPC COVID-19 page to view COVID-related material for the contracting community, including this announcement, at: <https://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/pacc/cc/COVID-19.html>. The DPC point of contact for this announcement is Lt Col Bryan Lamb who can be reached at [bryan.d.lamb.mil@mail.mil](mailto:bryan.d.lamb.mil@mail.mil).