Federal Acquisition Regulation

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.


53.104 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) Agencies may computer-generate the Standard and Optional Forms prescribed in the FAR without exception approval (see 53.103), provided—
(1) The form is in an electronic format that complies with Federal Information Processing Standard Number 161; or
(2) 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.
(b) The forms prescribed by this part may be computer generated by the public. Unless prohibited by agency regulations, forms prescribed by agency FAR supplements may also be computer generated by the public. Computer generated forms shall either comply with Federal Information Processing Standard Number 161 or shall retain the name, content, or sequence of the data elements, and shall carry the Standard or Optional Form or agency number and edition date (see 53.111).

[50 FR 34741, July 3, 1995]

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:

53.107 Obtaining forms.
(a) Executive agencies shall obtain standard and optional forms from the General Services Administration (GSA) by using GSA Supply Catalog - Office Products (see 41 CFR 101–26.302). Standard forms adapted for computer preparation (see 53.105) or with special construction and printing (see 53.106) that are not available from GSA may be ordered directly from the Government Printing Office (GPO).
(b) Contractors and other parties may obtain standard and optional forms from the Superintendent of Documents, GPO, Washington, DC 20402. Standard and optional forms not available from the Superintendent of Documents may be obtained from the prescribing agency.
(c) Agency forms may be obtained from the prescribing agency.

53.108 Recommendations concerning forms.
Users of this regulation may recommend new forms or the revision, elimination, or consolidation of the forms prescribed or referenced in this regulation. Recommendations from within an executive agency shall be submitted to the cognizant council in accordance with agency procedures.