

**VOLUME 3, CHAPTER 12: POLICIES AND PROCEDURES GOVERNING THE USE  
OF THE “FEED AND FORAGE” AUTHORITY OF SECTION 3732, REVISED  
STATUTES (41 U.S.C. 11)”**

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES**

Changes are identified in this table and also denoted by **blue font**.

Substantive revisions are denoted by an (\*) symbol preceding the section, paragraph, table, or figure that includes the revision.

Unless otherwise noted, chapters referenced are contained in this volume.

Hyperlinks are denoted by **bold, italic, blue and underlined font**.

The previous version dated **July 2010** is archived.

| <b>PARAGRAPH</b>      | <b>EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION</b>                         | <b>PURPOSE</b> |
|-----------------------|---|----------------|
| Overall               | Date Refresh  | Refresh        |
| 2.1<br>(120201)       | Deleted “, above,   | Deletion       |
| 2.3<br>(120203)       | Added “-“ in over-obligation                                  | Addition       |
| 2.4<br>(120204)       | Added “-“ in over-obligations and adds “-“ in Anti-deficiency | Addition       |
|                       | Deleted “above,   | Deletion       |
| 2.5<br>(120205)       | Added “-“ in over-obligation                                  | Addition       |
| 2.5.2.<br>(120205 B.) | Added “-“ in over-obligation                                  | Addition       |
| 2.6<br>(120206)       | Added “-“ in over-obligations                                 | Addition       |
| 2.8<br>(120208)       | Added a space in “USD (Comptroller).”                         | Addition       |

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## CHAPTER 12

**POLICIES AND PROCEDURES GOVERNING THE USE OF THE “FEED AND FORAGE” AUTHORITY OF SECTION 3732, REVISED STATUTES (41 U.S.C. 11)**

## 1.0 OVERVIEW (1201)

## 1.1 Purpose (120101)

This chapter establishes departmental policy and basic procedures to be followed with respect to the use of the authority of Section 3732, Revised Statutes (41 U.S.C. 11). That statute authorizes the Military Departments to incur obligations for specific purposes in excess of appropriations available.

## 1.2 General (120102)

1.2.1. Title 41, United States Code, section 11, authorizes the Military Departments to incur obligations in excess of available appropriations in procuring or furnishing clothing, subsistence, forage, fuel, quarters, transportation, or medical and hospital supplies not to exceed the necessities of the current fiscal year.

1.2.2. Title 10, United States Code, section 2204, requires the Secretary of Defense to approve scheduled rates of obligations of funds appropriated to the Department for the purpose of restricting obligations and expenditures as may be necessary to prevent overdrafts and deficiencies in any fiscal year for which appropriations are made. Section 2204 does not prohibit the Department from incurring a deficiency as separately authorized by law.

1.2.3. Volume 14 (which implements 31 U.S.C. 1517(a)) establishes the basic system of controls and other fundamental requirements for the administration of appropriations and funds. The system of administrative controls was designed to (1) restrict obligations and expenditures against appropriations and funds to the amounts available therein or to the amounts apportioned, and (2) enable officials to fix responsibility in the officers and employees of the Department who may violate any provision of the law or regulation.

## 2.0 POLICY AND PROCEDURES (1202)

## 2.1 Urgent Circumstance (120201)

The Department shall limit its use of the authority in 41 U.S.C. 11 to emergency circumstances. The exigencies of those circumstances must be such that immediate action is imperative and action cannot be delayed long enough to obtain sufficient funds to cover the procurement or furnishing of those items in paragraph 120102.A needed for the current fiscal year. In determining the urgency of the circumstances, due consideration shall be given in each specific case to the feasibility of obtaining funds by use of telephones, facsimile machines, or other electronic means. The authority of 41 U.S.C. 11 shall not be used to circumvent the provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1517(a).

## 2.2 Condition and Circumstance (120202)

It is not considered practicable to define specifically the conditions and circumstances which conceivably could constitute an emergency. Each instance in which the authority of 41 U.S.C. 11 is to be used must be determined on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the policy guidelines in this chapter.

## 2.3 Administering Funds (120203)

Funds shall be administered in accordance with the system of administrative controls established by Volume 14 of this Regulation in such a manner that officials, responsible for administering each appropriation, allocation, allotment, and other fund subdivisions, may take timely action to prevent **over-obligation** of any fund subdivision, notwithstanding 41 U.S.C. 11.

## 2.4 Over-obligation (120204)

**Over-obligation** of any appropriation or fund subject to apportionment, or any subdivision thereof for procurement or furnishing of those items in paragraph **120102.A**, shall be deemed to be a violation of the **Anti-deficiency** Act. There are two exceptions: (a) If the over-obligation was made in emergency circumstances in accordance with the spirit and intent of provisions set forth above, and (b) if such procurements are not in excess of the necessities to relieve the period of emergency. However, for the second exception, the necessities for such period cannot exceed the necessities of the current fiscal year.

## 2.5 Valid Requirements (120205)

Proposed or anticipated use of 41 U.S.C. 11 authority to incur obligations shall be reported, in advance when feasible, through financial management channels. When it is necessary to create or authorize an **over-obligation** for the purposes set forth in 41 U.S.C. 11, the individual responsible shall determine, and so certify in writing, that all three of the following circumstances existed:

2.5.1. An emergency existed within the spirit and intent of this section (**1202**).

2.5.2. The purpose for which the **over-obligation** was created or authorized was to meet other necessities of the period involved.

2.5.3. It was not feasible to obtain in advance sufficient funds to cover such necessities.

## 2.6 Certification of Over-obligation (120206)

Such certification shall indicate the amount of the over-obligation and shall be filed with the supporting records of the appropriation, allocation, or allotment involved. The **over-obligation** shall be disclosed fully in the fiscal reports to the next higher level of command, indicating that the over-obligation was incurred under authority of 41 U.S.C. 11.

## 2.7 Authorization (120207)

Having exercised the authority of 41 U.S.C. 11 pursuant to this chapter, the individual responsible shall advise the next higher level of command immediately and take appropriate steps to obtain additional funds.

## 2.8 Reporting Procedures (120208)

All obligations incurred under authority of 41 U.S.C. 11 shall be reported through command channels to the applicable Military Department Comptrollers who shall provide a draft 41 U.S.C. 11(b) congressional report to the Office of [USD \(Comptroller\)](#).