§ 32.33 Federally-owned and exempt property.

(a) Federally-owned property. (1) Title to federally-owned property remains vested in the Federal Government. Recipients shall submit annually an inventory listing of federally-owned property in their custody to the DoD Component that made the award. Upon completion of the award or when the property is no longer needed, the recipient shall report the property to the DoD Component for further Federal agency utilization.

(b) Exempt property. (1) When statutory authority exists, a DoD Component may vest title to property acquired with Federal funds in the recipient without further obligation to the Federal Government and under conditions the DoD Component considers appropriate. For example, under 31 U.S.C. 6306, DoD Components may so vest title to tangible personal property
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under a grant or cooperative agreement for basic or applied research in a nonprofit institution of higher education or a nonprofit organization whose primary purpose is conducting scientific research. Such property is “exempt property.”

(2) As a matter of policy, DoD Components shall make maximum use of the authority of 31 U.S.C. 6306 to vest title to exempt property in institutions of higher education, without further obligation to the Government, to enhance the university infrastructure for future performance of defense research and related, science and engineering education.

(3) DoD Components may establish conditions, in regulation or in award terms and conditions, for vesting title to exempt property. Should a DoD Component not establish conditions, title to exempt property upon acquisition shall vest in the recipient without further obligation to the Federal Government.

§ 32.34 Equipment.

(a) Title to equipment acquired by a recipient with Federal funds shall vest in the recipient, subject to conditions of this section.

(b) The recipient shall not use equipment acquired with Federal funds to provide services to non-Federal outside organizations for a fee that is less than private companies charge for equivalent services, unless specifically authorized by Federal statute, for as long as the Federal Government retains an interest in the equipment.

(c) The recipient shall use the equipment in the project or program for which it was acquired as long as needed, whether or not the project or program continues to be supported by Federal funds and shall not encumber the property without approval of the DoD Component that made the award. When no longer needed for the original project or program, the recipient shall use the equipment in connection with its other federally-sponsored activities, in the following order of priority:

(1) First, activities sponsored by the DoD Component that funded the original project.
(2) Second, activities sponsored by other DoD Components.
(3) Then, activities sponsored by other Federal agencies.

(d) During the time that equipment is used on the project or program for which it was acquired, the recipient shall make it available for use on other projects or programs if such other use will not interfere with the work on the project or program for which the equipment was originally acquired. First preference for such other use shall be given to other projects or programs sponsored by the DoD Component that financed the equipment; second preference shall be given to projects or programs sponsored by other DoD Components; and third preference shall be given to projects or programs sponsored by other Federal agencies. If the property is owned by the Federal Government, use on other activities not sponsored by the Federal Government, in order of priority shall be to projects or programs sponsored by other Federal agencies.

(e) When acquiring replacement equipment, the recipient may use the equipment to be replaced as trade-in or sell the equipment and use the proceeds to offset the costs of the replacement equipment subject to the approval of the DoD Component that financed the equipment.

(f) The recipient’s property management standards for equipment acquired with Federal funds and federally-owned property shall include all of the following:

(1) Records for equipment and federally-owned property shall be maintained accurately and shall include the following information:

(i) A description of the equipment or federally-owned property.
(ii) Manufacturer’s serial number, model number, Federal stock number, national stock number, or other identification number.
(iii) Source of the equipment or federally-owned property, including the award number.
(iv) Whether title vests in the recipient or the Federal Government.
(v) Acquisition date (or date received, if the property was furnished by the Federal Government) and cost.

(vi) Information from which one can calculate the percentage of Federal