

Grants Workgroup Quarterly Newsletter

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Grants Workgroup Contact Information

Finance and Administration— Division of Accounts

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Grants Information Sharing Website:

Grants information and grant job aids posted on this website: Click <u>here</u>.

Grants Related Article/Links:

Grants.gov has created a help chatbot to assist in answering frequently asked questions (click here).

Grants Updates



Grants Workgroup Updates

- The following updates have been made to the Grants Information Sharing website:
 - The June newsletter was added to the Newsletter section.

Click here to access the site.

Beta.SAM.Gov Updates



The Federal Procurement Data system (FPDS) is moving to beta.SAM.gov and will be completed by October 17th, 2020. The FPDS reports module will retire and beta.SAM.gov will be the only place to create and run reports on contract data.

Unique Entity Identifier Updates



Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) Update: The IAE (Integrated Award Environment) has shifted the UEI transition date from December 2020 to a date to be determined in the future. Click here to see the UEI update.

2020 Compliance Supplement



U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has published the Compliance Supplement (CS). The Compliance Supplement contains information that can also be useful to the auditee. Click here to access the 2020 CS.

Final Rule Implementing Changes to the Uniform Guidance



OMB published the final rule implementing changes to the Uniform Guidance.

This revision reflects the foundational shift outlined in the President's Management Agenda (PMA):

For new Federal grant applicants, Grants.gov has posted an article with helpful resources that can walk an applicant through the process. Click here to read the article.

To view information on spending data from the Federal government's response to Covid-19, click <u>here</u> to access USAspending.gov.

GASB has created an emergency "toolbox" to help assist various stakeholders in quickly identifying the GASB's authoritative guidance relevant to the current circumstances. Click here for additional information.

To provide feedback about the federal government's Coronavirus response and the use of federal recovery funds, click here to complete the form created by the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee.

Important Dates:

September 11, 2020 – Submit Supplementary Information Schedule (SIS) to the Division of Accounts and primary state agencies.

September 18, 2020 – Submit Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) to the Division of Accounts.

Next issue:

The next issue of our Newsletter will be in December 2020.

- 1. To set the stage for enhanced result-oriented accountability for grants.
- Administration's focus on improved stewardship and ensuring that the American people are receiving value for funds spent on grant programs.
- Detailed changes are below:
 - Effective date for this guidance will be November 12, 2020 except for sections 200.216 and 200.340 which are effective on August 13, 2020.
 - 2. Subpart C has two new sections:
 - a. Section 200.202 Program planning and design: Federal awarding agencies must design a program and create an assistance listing before announcing the Notice of Funding Opportunity.
 - Section 200.215 Never contract with the enemy. This section provides guidance to Federal awarding agencies on the implementation of the Never Contract with the Enemy requirements applicable to certain grants and cooperative agreements.
 - 3. Subpart D added two new sections:
 - a. Section 200.322 Domestic preferences for procurements: the non-Federal entity should, to the greatest extent practicable under a Federal award, provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States.
 - Section 200.340(b) A Federal awarding agency (pass-through entity) should clearly specify termination provisions applicable to each Federal award.
 - 4. Subpart E added one new section:
 - Section 200.471 Telecommunication costs and video surveillance costs. This section addresses allowability for costs incurred for phone, internet, video surveillance, and cloud servers.
 - 5. Subpart F and Appendixes have no additional sections.

Click <u>here</u> for additional changes to the Uniform Guidance.

Tips on SEFA (Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards) & SIS (Supplementary Information Schedule) Reporting



COVID related federal funding is required to be reported separately on the SEFA. If the same grant contains both non-COVID and COVID funding, the expenditures will need to be differentiated in separate lines. Please consult the FY20 instructions (located under Grants Accounting) for more information.

Reconciliations should show how the final SEFA amount was determined from the supporting documentation. Differences in the Edison GL and Projects module queries should be explained. COVID funding should also be shown on the reconciliation separately to support the differentiation in the Shell file.

All program names and grantor names manually entered in the SEFA shell should be spelled out. Using official names over shortened or common names helps with consistency across the state entity. If the name extends beyond the column width, the formula bar can be used to review spelling.

COVID-19 Updates



There have been more updates on COVID–19 funding from various Federal agencies.

- CARES Act and M-20-21 FAQ published on June 24, 2020.
- On July 31, 2020, the U.S. Department of Treasury Office of Inspector General issued a memo to supplement a previous memorandum regarding a prime recipient's quarterly reporting requirements. This memo instructs each prime recipient to report on the use of Coronavirus Relief Fund payments and Covid-19 related costs incurred during the covered period. For Tennessee, the Department of Finance and Administration is completing this reporting.

President Trump signed three memoranda and one executive order related to COVID-19. The Congressional Research Service (CRS) has prepared a summary <u>analysis</u> on these executive actions by President Trump. The timing and implementation of

these policies is not clear, but details on the four actions include the following:

- Memorandum on Authorizing the Other Needs
 Assistance Program for Major Disaster Declarations
 Related to Coronavirus Disease 2019: In order to
 provide financial assistance to those who have lost
 employment as a result of the pandemic, \$44
 billion from the Disaster Relief Fund will be made
 available for lost wages assistance to eligible
 applicants (equal to \$300 per week).
- Memorandum on Deferring Payroll Tax Obligations in Light of the Ongoing COVID-19 Disaster: Defer the withholding, deposit, and payment of the payroll tax on wages or compensation (less than \$4,000 on a bi-weekly pay period), paid during the period of September 1 through December 31.
- Memorandum on Continued Student Loan Payment Relief During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Temporary cessation of payments and the waiver of all interest on student loans held by the Department of Education until December 31.
- Executive Order on Fighting the Spread of COVID-19 by Providing Assistance to Renters and Homeowners: Consider whether temporarily halting residential evictions of any tenants for failure to pay rent are reasonably necessary to prevent the further spread of COVID-19.

Beta Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (eCFR)



The eCFR provides a way of exploring the code of Federal regulations (e.g. Uniform Guidance) which is the codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the various department or agencies of the Federal government. Recently, a new beta eCFR site has been made available (Click here). A Help button has been added to the bottom right of this page for users to ask questions or provide feedback.

This beta eCFR site provides users a new way to access information.

- Change views allow the user to compare changes in the eCFR content for different time periods.
- 2. Users can set the dates to compare data.

3. Users can search the results.

Training Opportunities



Grants Workshop - SEFA & SIS Reporting

A Grants Workshop-SEFA & SIS Reporting will be held on August 27th. This Workshop will provide an opportunity for attendees to bring any questions and issues identified while preparing the SEFA & SIS schedules. We will also cover questions that were submitted through email.

• Thursday, August 27, 2020: 9:30-10:30 AM.

Method: WebEx.