Welcome

Please help yourself to breakfast.
Agenda

8:00 - 8:45am  Registration and Breakfast
8:45 - 8:55am  Welcome
9:25 - 9:55am  Q&A and Discussion
9:55 - 10:00am Closing
Emerging Priorities in Federal Grants Management: Pages that Follow from the Uniform Guidance

Grants Management Breakfast Forum

September 7, 2016
Increase in Federal Grants Activity

Nearly 2,000 Federal grant programs are listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.
What does this funding support?
What is the Uniform Guidance?

- Guidance for Federal financial assistance that implement regulations delivered on the Obama Administration’s first-term directives
- Goal: Better target financial risks and better direct resources to achieve better program outcomes
- Published in December, 2013 → Effective in December, 2014
Grants Reform Timeline

- **February 2011:** Presidential Memo
- **October 2011:** COFAR established
- **February 2012:** Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
- **December 2013:** Uniform Guidance Published
- **February 2013:** Notice of Proposed Guidance
Grants Reform Timeline

**December 18, 2014:** 28 Agencies Adopted the Guidance, Technical Corrections, Metrics

**UG IS EFFECTIVE**

**2015-2016:** Agency Final Rules, Collection of Second Set of Metrics

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**Spring/Summer 2014:** Training Webcasts, Publish 2014 Single Audit Compliance Supplement

**Spring/Summer 2015:** 2014 Baseline Metrics, Additional Technical Corrections, FAPIIS, Outreach, Updated FAQs
Eliminating Duplicative and Conflicting Guidance

Then:

- State, Local & Tribes
  - A-102
  - A-87
- Universities
  - A-110
  - A-21
- Nonprofits
  - A-110
  - A-122

Major Policy Reforms

- Eliminates duplicative and conflicting guidance
- Focuses on performance over compliance for accountability
- Encourages efficient use of information technology and shared services
- Provides for consistent and transparent treatment of costs
- Limits allowable costs to make best use of Federal resources
Major Policy Reforms

• Setting standard business processes using data definitions
• Encourages non-Federal entities to have family friendly policies
• Strengthens oversight
• Targets audit requirements on risk of waste, fraud, and abuse
Where are we nearly 2 years later?

December 26, 2013: Uniform Guidance published

December 2014: Uniform Guidance is EFFECTIVE

Fall 2014: Metrics, Additional FAQs and Webcasts

2015-2016: Agency Final Rules, Collection of Second Set of Metrics
PART 1327—UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS, COST PRINCIPLES, AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

Contents
§1327.101 Adoption of 2 CFR Part 200.


SOURCE: 79 FR 76050, Dec. 19, 2014, unless otherwise noted.

§1327.101 Adoption of 2 CFR Part 200.

Under the authority listed above, the Department of Commerce adopts the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidance in 2 CFR part 200. Thus, this part gives regulatory effect to the OMB guidance and supplements the guidance as needed for the Department.
Tools and Training

  • Agency codifications and exceptions
  • FAQs
  • Training webcasts
  • Metrics
• Federal Grants Management 101 (Feds only) – https://grants101.usalearning.net
• Resources/tools from professional organizations: NCURA, NGMA, AICPA, ECivis
Exploring Areas of Best Practice

• Training
  • See previous slide for further details!
• Pre-Award
• Post-Award
  • Internal controls
• Audit

Webcast recording to check out:
https://cfo.gov/2016/07/05/july-2016-uniform-guidance-promising-practices-in-implementation/
Uniform Guidance Metrics

1. Number of OMB-approved information collections
2. Number of new fixed awards issued
3. Number of agency exceptions to Indirect Cost Rate agreements by CFDA
4. Number of ICR agreements issued by agencies
5. Extensions of ICR agreements issued
6. New awards issued between fiscal years
Current Priorities

• Future changes to Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations
• COFAR priorities
• DATA Act implementation and Section 5 Pilot
• New statutory requirements
  – FAPIIS
  – Never Contract with the Enemy
What’s ahead?

- Metrics
- Workforce
- Leverage IT
- Streamlined reporting
- Innovative program designs
- Single audit analytics

- Implementation
- Standardized business processes and data
- Performance over compliance

Uniform Guidance
Workforce Development

Challenge

• Lack of consistent standards for qualifying people to perform the grants management function
• No government-wide core training required of people performing the grants management function

Opportunity

• A stronger workforce would address current management challenges, help manage risk, help ensure consistent interpretation and application of governmentwide guidance, and increase knowledge regarding innovative program designs the focus on performance over compliance
Efficient use of Information Technology

**Challenge**

- Lack of standardized business processes and shared solutions for Federal grants management
- No central post-award reporting portal or interface for recipients

**Opportunity**

- Efficient use of information technology may improve data standardization, alleviate recipient burden, and allow agencies to share information across portfolios to develop innovative program designs
Focus on Performance over Compliance

**Challenge**

- Focus on outputs rather than outcomes
- Requirements associated with awards may be burdensome and limit recipients’ ability to innovate
- Hesitancy to adopt flexibilities allowed in the Uniform Guidance
- Grants are often administered in a silo when there may be opportunities to coordinate across programs

**Opportunity**

- Increased focus on performance over compliance may reduce burden, allow recipients to innovate and course correct as appropriate, and result in better program outcomes
Resources

• The COFAR website is available at: https://cfo.gov/cofar/
  – Agency codifications and exceptions
  – FAQs
  – Training webcasts
  – Metrics

• Resources/tools from professional organizations: NCURA, NGMA, AICPA, ECivils
For more Information visit:
CFO.gov/COFAR

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Thank you!