Federal Grants 101: Managing Assistance Agreements

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Recipient Responsibilities

- Understand the requirements of the award
- Comply with the laws, regulations, policies, terms and conditions
- Maintain separate financial and programmatic records of your work on the project
- Submit timely cost reimbursement requests
- Submit timely progress reports
- Notify the EPA if any changes occur/issues arise

Complying with Federal Regulations

Applicability	EPA Specific Regulation	Title 2 CFR Citation/ OMB Administrative Requirements Circular Guidance	OMB Cost Principles (also located in Title 2 CFR)
Universities, Hospitals	Title 40 CFR Part 30	Title 2 CFR Part 215 (Formerly OMB Circular A-110)	Title 2 CFR Part 220 (Formerly OMB Circular A-21)
Nonprofits	Title 40 CFR Part 30	Title 2 CFR Part 215 (Formerly OMB Circular A-110)	Title 2 CFR Part 230 (Formerly OMB Circular A-122)
States, Local Government' s and Tribes	Title 40 CFR Part 31	OMB Circular A-102	Title 2 CFR Part 225 (Formerly OMB Circular A-87)
Future Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Regs.	Title 40 CFR Part 33		
Research and Demonstration Grants *	Title 40 CFR Part 40		
Training Grants **	Title 40 CFR Part 45		
Fellowships	Title 40 CFR Part 46		

Definitions:

- CFR- <u>C</u>ode of <u>F</u>ederal <u>R</u>egulations
- OMB- Office of Management and Budget

Managing Your Budget

- Your budget is a financial expression of your project.
- Review project costs to ensure costs are necessary, reasonable, and allowable.
- Cost Categories include:
 - Personnel, Fringe Benefits, Travel, Equipment, Supplies, Contracts, Construction, Other, Indirect Costs, Cost Share (Match)

Personnel Costs

- Timesheets must be signed and dated
- Reflect actual time worked on the project
- Records must cover payroll period

Note: Consultant pay should be recorded under the "Contract" section of your budget.

Other Direct Costs

- Common items in this category include:
 - <u>Communications</u> Mailings, postage, express mail, faxes, long distance charges
 - <u>Participant Support Costs</u> (Other than travel) stipends for trainees, registration fees for training conferences, and light refreshments*.
 - Facility Fees rental space used for project
 - <u>Speaker Fees</u> Provide information on the speaker and a description of their services
 - *If light refreshments/meals are included in your budget,
 explain how they contribute to the project.

Unallowable Costs

- Alcohol
- Entertainment
- Food that does not contribute towards mission/goals of project
- Fund Raising
- Bad Debts

Tribal IDC Policy

Recipients must submit an IDC proposal to their cognizant Federal agency (Department of Interior, DOI) within 90 days of receiving an award.

Option 1: Tribes may use a negotiated IDC rate that is up to three (3 years old)

- Option 2: Tribe may charge a flat IDC rate of 10% of salaries and wages.
- Option 3: Tribe may use a current provisional/final IDC rate from an existing grant with DOI.

Non Profit IDC Policy

Recipients must submit an IDC proposal to their cognizant Federal agency within 90 days of receiving an award.

Option 1: Recipient may charge a flat IDC rate of 10% of salaries and wages. (proposal submission not necessary)

Option 2: Recipient may use a current provisional/final IDC rate from an existing grant with their Federal cognizant agency.

Non-Compliance Remedies

- If a recipient fails to comply with the terms and conditions of their agreement, the EPA may:
 - Impose additional requirements
 - Withhold cash payments pending corrective action
 - Disallow costs
 - Wholly or partly suspend current award
 - Withhold future awards

The EPA will always provide recipients ample opportunity to respond to requirements and appeal decisions Finding Other Funding Opportunities

- WWW.Grants.Gov
- WWW.CFDA.Gov
- Federal Register Notices
- Agency or Program Websites

Benefits of Sustainability

- Will this project continue to benefit your organization after it is completed?
- How can this project serve as a model?
- How will you share your results?
- Will this project build organizational or community infrastructure and capacity?
- Is the project self-sustaining?
- Future partnership possibilities?

Remember ...

- Grants are not giveaways they are investments
- Ask questions when necessary
- Communicate with your Project Officer and your Grant Specialist early and often
- Be clear about your project expectations
- Focus on being a partner and have fun!!!

Questions???

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