

#### **Grant Administration**

Keys to Knowing and Understanding Compliance Requirements

## **Speakers**







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# Today's Topics





- ► Grant Management Overview
- Identifying Compliance Requirements Using Federal and State Guidance
- Grant Risks and Common Pitfalls
- Designing Effective Internal Controls for Compliance

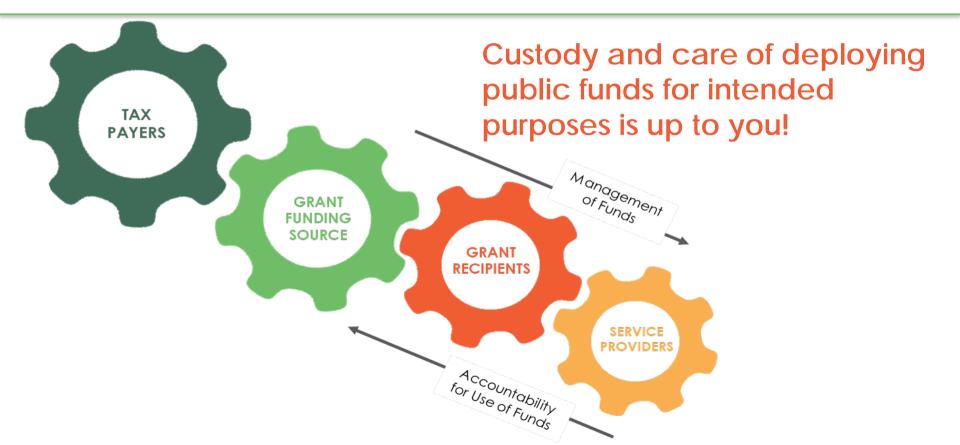
#### **Overview**



- Effective grant management is a collaborative approach to managing and administering grants enabling all stakeholders involved to:
  - » Meet the **mission** of the grant and organizations
  - » Efficiently and effectively use grant funds, while maintaining **compliance** with grant requirements
  - » Establish **accountability** for the use of grant funds
  - » Provide **assurance** funds are deployed appropriately
- Grant management can be centralized or decentralized, but coordination with all parties is key for compliance

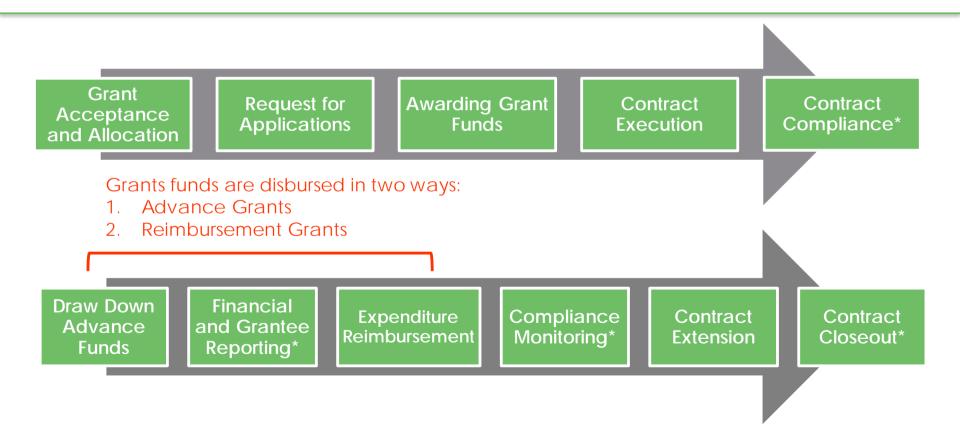
#### **Grant Stakeholders**





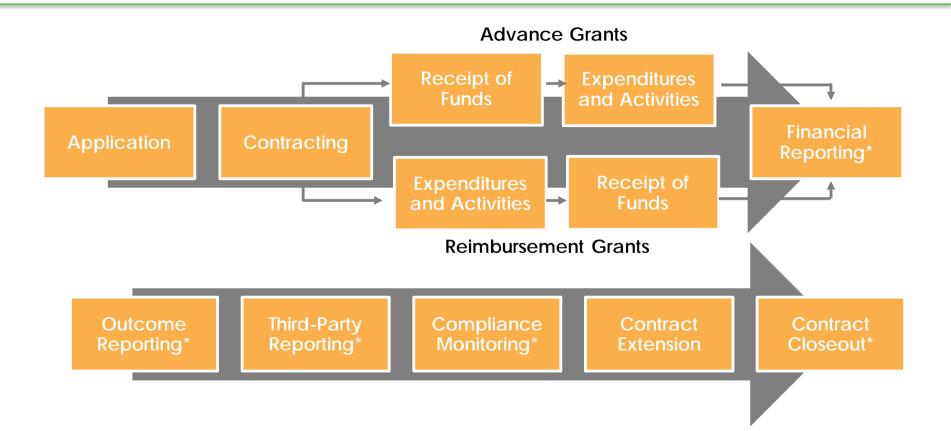
#### The Grant Cycle (Grantor)





#### The Grant Cycle (Grantee)





### The Grant Cycle (Compliance)





\* Compliance \*



### KNOWING YOUR COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS



### **Determining Your Criteria**



Each grant is unique, and each contract has its own terms, conditions and requirements.



#### Identify and know the following:

- » Contract amount and terms
- » Scope of work
- » Key contacts
- » Allowable vs. unallowable costs
- Funding sources and applicable guidance
- » Reporting requirements

#### **Compliance Standards**



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#### **Federal Standard**

Uniform Grant Guidance 2 CFR 200 (Super Circular)

- Streamlines grant administration by creating uniform regulations for cost principles and audit requirements
- » Focuses on performance over compliance



#### State Standard

#### **Uniform Grant Management Standards**

- » Adopted June 2004
- Revised March 2016 (Updated State Single Audit Threshold to \$750,000)

#### **Uniform Guidance: Six Sections**



#### **Subpart** Acronyms and Definitions

» Terms and definitions that apply to all non-federal entities

#### Subpart R

#### **General Provisions**

» Establishes uniform administration requirements, cost principles, and audit requirements for federal awarding agencies

#### Pre Federal Award Requirements

- Subpart » Requirement to define grant award methods
  - Sets requirements for application evaluation for granting agencies
    - » Defines eligibility requirements

#### **Uniform Guidance: Six Sections**



Subpart

#### Post Federal Award Requirements

- » Establishes standards and requirements for all areas of the grant
- » Financial and program management, performance reporting, monitoring and reporting, etc.



#### **Cost Principles**

- » Defines cost requirements for direct and indirect costs
- Sets standard indirect cost rates and requirements for pass through entities

#### Subpart Audit Requirements

- » Prescribes single audit thresholds for programs
- » Defines criteria for low and high risk programs
- » Describes reporting requirements



- Issued by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
- Identifies important compliance requirements of the Federal Government expected to be considered as part of an audit
- Provides an efficient and cost-effective approach to performing research on individual programs





- ► Source of information to understand:
  - » Federal program's objectives, procedures, and compliance requirements **relevant** to the audit
  - » Audit objectives and suggested audit procedures for determining compliance
- Updates and changes issued April 2018
- A full Supplement was not issued for 2018; the 2017 and 2018 Supplements must be used together
  - » A new matrix is not included in the 2018 update
  - » Matrices in Parts 4 and 5 must be used together





- Part 1: Background, Purpose and Applicability
- ► Part 2: Compliance Requirements Matrix
- ► Part 3: Compliance Requirements
- Part 4: Individual Compliance Requirements (for each CFDA, by department)





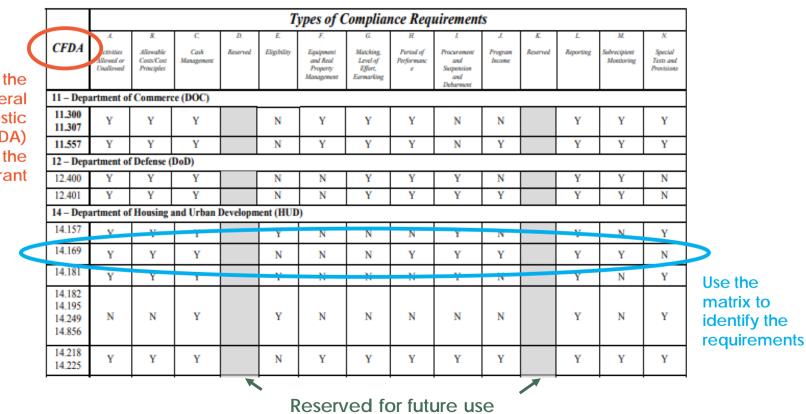
- ► Part 5: Clusters of Programs
- ► Part 6: Internal Control
- Part 7: Guidance for Auditing Programs Not Included in the Compliance Supplement
- ► Appendix 5: List of Changes



#### Part 2: Compliance Matrix



Identify the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number of the grant



#### Part 3: Compliance Requirements weaver



A. <u>Activities Allowed or</u> <u>Unallowed</u> Specifies activities that can or cannot be funded under a specific program	B. <u>Allowable Costs/</u> <u>Cost Principles</u> Specifies costs that can or cannot be funded under a program	C. <u>Cash Management</u> - Reimbursements & advances are properly supported & managed -Interest earned on advances is remitted to grantor	E. <u>Eligibility</u> Participants meet program criteria to receive grant funding
F. <u>Equipment &amp; Real</u> <u>Property Mgmt</u> Management, use & disposal of equipment and real property	G. <u>Matching, Level of Effort,</u> <u>Earmarking</u> M - required cost share LOE – required participation from period to period EM – setting aside funds for a purpose	H. <u>Period of Performance</u> Expenditures are within the granting period	I. <u>Procurement &amp;</u> <u>Suspension/Debarment</u> - Comply with federal & state procurement laws - Vendors not suspended and debarred
J. <u>Program Income</u> Income generated by federal funds used for program expenses	<b>L. R<u>eporting</u></b> - Performance - Financial -Special	<b>M. <u>Subrecipient Monitoring</u></b> Monitoring pass-through funding	N. <u>Special Tests and</u> <u>Provisions</u> Unique requirements of individual grants

### Part 7: Missing CFDA #s



- Not all federal financial assistance programs are included in the OMB Compliance Supplement
- Federal programs not included in Part 4 compliance requirements can be found in:



- Grant agreement, grant application or notice of grant award
- Process documentation or other internally prepared information related to operation and requirements of the grant
- Communication from grantor regarding requirements
- Review program specific websites

### **Compliance Reporting**



#### Financial Reporting

- » Grant recipients must prepare appropriate financial statements, including Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA)
- Reports must be submitted within 30 calendar days of receiving auditor's report, or within 9 months after the end of the audit period

#### Financial Status Reports (FSRs)

- » FSRs must include all costs to be reimbursed by the grant funds
- » Must be submitted at least quarterly, but not more frequent than monthly
- » Failure to submit reports timely may result in unreimbursed costs

### **Compliance Reporting**



#### Programmatic Reporting

- Individual grants have different programmatic reporting requirements, based on the grant contract
- Careful review of the grant contract to identify compliance requirements will identify reporting requirements
- State Criminal Justice and Homeland Security Division grants must report programmatic progress through the Public Policy Research Institute (PPRI) at Texas A&M

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#### **State Single Audits**



State Single Audits are performed in accordance with the State of Texas Uniform Grant Management Standards (UGMS)



- Single Audit is required if entity expends
   \$750,000 or more in State Awards changed from \$500,000
- Amount to distinguish between Major and Non-major Programs = \$300,000
- Compliance requirements mirror Uniform Guidance requirements

# Local Awards



- ► No specific requirements to be audited
- An individual local agency may require a program specific audit in addition to the financial statement audit
- If a program specific audit is required, verify (and verify again) that the local agency is not a pass-through from a state or federal agency





# GRANT RISK CONSIDERATIONS



#### **Risk Considerations**



The primary risks associated with grants and ineffective grant management include:

- Misuse of grant funds
- Failing to achieve the grant objectives
- Violating laws, regulations, or grant conditions
- Misrepresentation of grant results
- Reputational damage from grant misuse



These risks affect each phase of the grant, including pre-award, award, and post-award processes.

- Corruption: bribery or other improper uses of entrusted power for personal gain
  - » Ex: utilization of grant resources for kickbacks or bribes
- Fraud: party to the transaction is dishonest and seeks opportunities to profit from the transaction
  - » Ex: misrepresentation of results or theft of grant resources







# Key Risk Types



- Moral Hazard: a party to a transaction has not entered into a contract in good faith; has provided misleading information about its assets, liabilities, or credit capacity, or has an incentive to take unusual risks at the expense of the grantor
  - » Ex: accepting a grant knowing it cannot be performed as requested



- Reputation: negative public perception related to the unsuccessful achievement of grant goals
  - and/or poor grant governance
     Ex: headline news, awarding aid to parties that are unprepared to successfully meet the goals of the grant
- Performance: unable to complete a project successfully, or unable to organize resources in a way that will successfully fulfill the objectives established by the grantor
  - » Ex: intended beneficiaries failing to receive the expected goods or services due to weak governance and management









#### **Common Pitfalls and Audit Issues**



#### Missing or incomplete supporting documentation

- » Expenditures
- » Cost Allocations
- » Indirect Costs

- » Budget Amendments
- » Budget Transfers
- » Program Changes
- Lack of appropriate approvals of expenses, reports, etc.



- Untimely reporting to the Grantor
- Inappropriate or unallowable expenditures
- Lack of achievement of performance metrics

#### Audit Issues: Common Causes



- Lack of established policies and procedures
- ► Lack of coordination in a decentralized grant management function
- Limited understanding of reporting/compliance requirements
- Internal control deficiencies:
  - » Oversight and Authorization
  - » Purchasing (including cost coding) and Disbursements
  - » Program Operations
  - » Information Technology
- Lack of management coordination oversight of grant amounts, usage, and administration
- Lack of internal reviews or audits of grant files

### **Avoiding Pitfalls**



- Understand your grant administration processes
- ► Ask the following questions:
  - » How many grants do we have?
  - » What are the funding sources?
  - » Who is responsible managing the grants?
  - » What are our grant requirements?
  - » What have been our past issues?
  - » Does adequate documentation exist?
  - » Are the current controls adequate?



## **Avoiding Pitfalls**

- Identify weaknesses and control gaps
  - » Involve Internal Audit
  - » Coordinate with program managers
  - » Policies and procedures
  - » Remember your funding agency for assistance
- Determine appropriate remediation steps and timelines
- Focus on high risk areas and compliance







# GRANT MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND INTERNAL CONTROLS



#### **Management Systems**



Organizations are expected to have systems, policies and procedures in place for managing funds and activities.



### **Effective Management Systems**



- Effective management systems include the following:
  - » Clear delineation of roles and responsibilities
  - » Written policies and procedures
  - » Training
  - » Internal controls
  - » Effective oversight
  - » Information sharing
- Systems must provide reliable and current information
- Management systems should be driven by policy rather than process



#### **Control Considerations**



## Effective internal controls ensure successful grant management, administration, and compliance.

- Defined and communicated objectives
- Defined and disseminated policies and procedures
- Project management and grant training
- Senior management approval on the application and utilization of grants
- Effective IT systems to track grant fund usage
- Management oversight and approval of grant reports
- Centralized and electronic documentation of grant support
- Tracking of grant timelines and milestones
- Timely and accurate reconciliations



#### **Effective Internal Controls**



Controls

Organizations must establish and maintain effective internal controls over grant awards to provide reasonable assurance that awards are managed in compliance with laws and regulations.

- ► Internal controls should align with either:
  - » Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government (Comptroller General of the United States) or State Government (State of Texas Comptroller)
  - Internal Controls Integrated Framework (Committee of Sponsoring Organization of the Treadway Commission [COSO])
     Policies and procedures must be in writing
- Policies and procedures must be in writing (IT included)
- Management must exercise judgment in determining the most appropriate and cost effective internal control in a given circumstance

#### **Internal Controls: Examples**



- Written policies/procedures
- Segregation of duties
- Approval and authorization
- Verification
- Physical restrictions
- Documentation
- Monitoring and reporting



#### Internal Controls for Compliance weaver



Funds are provided to grantees, processed and accounted through their internal controls. Key areas where risk should be considered include:

- Management Control Design
- Accounting Information Systems and Access
- Purchasing and Accounts Payable
- Expenditures
- Human Resources and Payroll
- Cash and Treasury Management
- Asset Inventory/Property Management
- Preparation of Journal Entries
- **Financial Close**
- **Financial Reporting**



#### **Risk and Control Identification**



Analysis of risks and controls helps to identify potential risks and mitigating internal controls.

Risk Scenario Category	Risk	Impact (L – M – H)	Likelihood ( L – M – H)	Control	Residual Risk (L – M – H)
Reputational	Negative publicity on grant use	Н	М	<ul> <li>Policies and Procedures</li> <li>Governance</li> <li>Management Oversight</li> </ul>	Μ

#### **Internal Control Areas of Focus**



- 1. Management Control Design
- 2. Accounting Information Systems and Access
- 3. Purchasing and Accounts Payable
- 4. Expenditures
- 5. Human Resources and Payroll
- 6. Cash and Treasury Management
- 7. Asset Inventory and Property Management
- 8. Preparation of Journal Entries
- 9. Financial Close
- 10. Financial Reporting



#### **Management Control Design**



Issues	Risks	Prevention
Segregation of duties is not feasible due to the size of the accounting department, and compensating controls are not instituted.	Inappropriate system access creates endless opportunities for errors and fraud, including creating fictitious vendors and grant recipients, creating fictitious payments, concealing theft, posting erroneous transactions, and beyond.	Institute <b>review</b> and <b>authorization</b> procedures when segregation of duties is not possible.
<b>Access</b> to data and transaction files is not appropriately restricted.	Ability by one person to <b>generate transactions</b> and set up or <b>change the data</b> related to the entities involved in the transactions allows transactions involving fictitious entities and incorrect amounts to be processed fraudulently or erroneously.	<b>Segregate</b> maintenance of data from access to transaction files.
The Delegation of Authority Matrix does not exist, is outdated, or is poorly- documented.	Transactions may not be reviewed and approved by the appropriate supervisory personnel, resulting in numerous potential control issues.	Establish a formal process for <b>periodically reviewing</b> the Delegation of Authority Matrix to ensure effectiveness.
Matching funds reported as dedicated to grant-funded projects are not used for those projects.	Grantees are in <b>violation</b> of grant policies and could lose funding.	Establish these funds as restricted and require supervisor review of coding.

# Accounting Information Systems and Access



Issues	Risks		Prevention	
The <b>preparer</b> of journal entries has the ability to <b>post</b> the entries.	Fictitious or erroneous journal er are recorded and not detected ti resulting in financial statement e	mely, rrors	<b>Configure</b> the system to prohibit access to both functions by a single user. <b>Risks</b>	Prevention
with <b>unrestricted access</b> for	The <b>system administrator</b> is a member of the <b>accounting</b>	endless fraud, ir	priate system access creates opportunities for errors and ncluding creating fictitious	The accounting system administrator should be independent of any accounting functions.
Roles or groups assigned to individuals are not commensurate with their	is <b>not reviewed</b> despite	vendors and grant recipients, creating ms fictitious payments, concealing theft, posting erroneous transactions, and beyond.		Create a formal process for <b>periodically reviewing</b> user access to critical systems.
functions within the company.		the wro	ent and erroneous postings in ng periods may cause cut-off resulting in reporting errors.	<b>Configure</b> the system and accounting processes to <b>prohibit</b> posts to closed periods.

#### Purchasing and AP



Issues	Risks	Prevention	
Credit memos are not reviewed for accurate and complete processing.	These transactions are often not processed accurately and complete	Create a formal process for processing and reviewing credit memos.	
Vendor set up and editing functions are <b>not segregated</b> from the accounts payable	Employees can create and pay	Separate vendor master file access from the accounts	
function.	Issues	Risks	Prevention
Accrual entries are <b>not</b> reversed.	Use of vendors does <b>not</b> <b>require</b> formal <b>review</b> and <b>authorization</b> .	Payment to fictitious vendors or other transactions and payments that are not in the organization's best interest could occur.	Institute a formal vendor
	Vendor information changes, continued existence, and conflicts of interest <b>are not</b> <b>monitored</b> .	Payment to fictitious vendors or other transactions and payments that are not in the organization's best interest could occur.	Establish a formal process for periodically <b>monitoring</b> the <b>vendor database</b> for validity and relation to the organization and its employees.

#### Expenditures



Issues	Risks	Prevention
Direct administrative costs (DAC) are charged to the <b>wrong</b> funding streams.	Expenses charged to projects do not accurately reflect the expenses incurred by the projects, allowing for errors and manipulation of costs.	Require <b>recording</b> of administrative time spent throughout the day, and attach this <b>documentation</b> to DAC expense journal entries. Require <b>reviews</b> of entries and supporting documentation.
Expenses are <b>coded</b> to the <b>incorrect</b> general ledger account.	Unallowable expenses or costs associated with other funding streams could be included on invoices.	Ensure effective <b>review</b> and <b>authorization</b> and reconciliation controls are in place to prevent incorrect coding.
Expenditure rates are <b>not checked</b> against funding stream expenses.	An inappropriate expenditure rate may be used.	Institute procedures to <b>track</b> funding stream expenses against pro rata use and <b>compare</b> the results to expenditure rates used.
Expenses for traditional contractors are <b>erroneously coded</b> to the subcontractor line item on the request for reimbursement.	Incorrect information is reported, in violation of contract policy.	Review contract definitions and require <b>supervisor review</b> of coding, checking for this issue in particular.

#### **Human Resources and Payroll**



Issues	Risks	Prevention	
New hire procedures are not	Undetected drug use oriminal Issues	Risks	Prevention
formally documented, and activities such as performance of background checks, drug testing, and granting of	cre sys streams <b>does not match</b> time studies.	Expenses charged to projects do not accurately reflect the expenses incurred by the projects, allowing for errors and manipulation of costs.	Conduct regular <b>time studies</b> and <b>allocate</b> payroll charges accordingly. If system automation is not used, institute <b>reviews</b> .
system access <b>cannot be</b> <b>verified</b> .	the Editing of <b>employee master</b> ac <b>files</b> is <b>not segregated</b> from Eri payroll processing.	Employees may increase pay or initiate supplemental pay without detection.	Segregate human resources activities related to employee master file changes from payroll processing.
Access to payroll data is not periodically reviewed for appropriateness.	exi Als performed. ap dif dif col that access to critical systems was removed upon termination.	Continued access by terminated personnel to critical applications enables them to create and perpetuate errors and fraud.	Establish <b>termination</b> <b>procedures</b> and <b>checklists</b> that include <b>evidencing removal</b> of terminated employees from critical systems and review of that evidence.

#### **Cash and Treasury Management**



Issues	Risks	Prevention
Access to check stock is not appropriately restricted.	Employees could created passable checks to themselves or, with proper access, could create official checks to themselves.	Use physical controls, such as <b>locked cabinets</b> . Ensure access to the keys is also limited.
Responsibilities for receipt of cash, logging of receipts, and preparing bank deposits are often <b>not segregated</b> .	Erroneous transactions and theft could go undetected.	Segregate cash receipts from logging of receipts and preparing bank deposits.
Check pre-lists are <b>not</b> compared to printed checks.	Unauthorized disbursements may be made.	Establish a formal process for creating check <b>pre-lists</b> and <b>comparing</b> them to printed checks.
Bank reconciliations are not formally reviewed and approved by supervisory personnel on a timely basis.	Erroneous or fraudulent activity is not detected timely.	Establish <b>deadlines</b> for supervisory personnel to review and approve bank reconciliations.

#### Asset Inventory and Property Management



Issues	Risks	Prevention
Asset <b>inventory</b> is <b>not</b> appropriately <b>tracked</b> in accordance with contractual requirements.		<b>Tag</b> and <b>track</b> assets in accordance with contractual requirements.
Access to the asset physical inventory listing is not appropriately restricted.	Theft of assets may increase and remain undetected.	Segregate access to the physical asset listing from performance of the physical inventory and custody of the assets. Establish procedures to
Physical inventory is <b>not taken</b> annually.		conduct physical asset inventory <b>annually.</b>
	Depreciation expense is inaccurately calculated, and fixed asset values are misstated.	Establish policies and procedures for determination of asset classification and useful lives and reviews to ensure they are followed.

#### **Preparation of Journal Entries**



Issues	Risks	Prevention
Preparation and posting of journal entries is not segregated.	Fictitious or erroneous journal entries	Segregate preparation and posting of journal entries.
Journal entries are <b>not</b> <b>compared</b> to supporting documentation prior to posting.	are recorded and not detected timely, resulting in financial statement errors and undetected fraud.	Require supervisor <b>review</b> and <b>approval</b> of journal entries, including review of supporting documentation.
Reconciliation of general ledger accounts is <b>not</b> segregated from the posting of journal entries.	Errors and fraud may not be detected, resulting in increased asset misappropriation and financial statement errors.	<b>Segregate</b> reconciliation of general ledger accounts from the posting of journal entries.

#### **Financial Close**



lssues	Risks	Prevention
Asset and liability accounts are <b>not reconciled</b> monthly.	Errors and fraud may not be detected, resulting in increased asset misappropriation and financial statement errors.	Establish procedures for asset and <b>liability account</b> reconciliation, requiring supervisory review and approval.
General ledger account reconciliations are <b>not</b> <b>reviewed</b> and <b>approved</b> by appropriate supervisory personnel.	Errors and fraud may not be detected, resulting in increased asset misappropriation and financial statement errors.	Establish <b>deadlines</b> for supervisory personnel to <b>review</b> and <b>approve</b> general ledger account reconciliations.
There is not a formal general ledger <b>cut-off.</b>	May create cut-off errors and prevent timely closing of the books.	Create a formal general ledger cut-off calendar and institute system controls that prohibit posting to closed periods.
A formal <b>walkforward</b> of general ledger accounts is <b>not performed.</b>	General ledger errors may not be detected.	Perform a <b>walkforward</b> , adding the <b>period balances</b> of each GL billed to grant and <b>reconcil</b> e that to the latest billing report.

#### **Financial Reporting**



lssues	Risks	Prevention
Financial and progress reports are <b>not submitted</b> to grantor <b>timely.</b>	Grantees are in <b>violation</b> of grant policies and could lose funding.	Establish general ledger closing and other <b>deadlines</b> and <b>review</b> <b>progress</b> to ensure the final deadlines are met.
Financial statements and trial balances are <b>not reviewed</b> by appropriate supervisory personnel.	Errors and fraud may not be detected, resulting in increased asset misappropriation and financial statement errors.	Establish procedures for supervisory personnel to <b>review</b> and <b>approve</b> financial statements and trial balances, prohibiting continuation of processes without evidence of approval.
There is not a <b>formal schedule</b> detailing the <b>accrued expenses</b> included on the billing.	Goods and services are <b>not properly</b> <b>accrued</b> when they are received, causing errors in billings and liabilities.	Create an <b>accrual schedule</b> for each billing which identifies all services and goods which have been received but for which the invoice has not been received.

### **Preparation for Grant Monitoring**



Stay on target by adequately preparing for your financial and performance monitoring review.



- Ensure all policies and procedures are up-to-date and address all requirements for the grant
- All supporting documentation is complete
- Grant staff are available to answer questions and provide information on transaction details
- Cooperate with the third party reviewers or the grantor by providing documentation and answering questions timely

### **Engage Internal Audit**



Internal Audit can provide assistance throughout the Grant Activity phases



#### GRANT ADMINISTRATION

The Internal Audit function can provide assistance to ensure effective grant management and successful compliance reviews:

- » Internal Control evaluations or internal audits of the Grant Management processes
- » Consultative assistance at meetings with grantors (or grantees)
- » Assistance with crafting management **responses to audit findings**
- » **Training** to improve the grant management programs

#### **Ensuring Grant Compliance**



Grant compliance can be complicated, but it is a critically important to the achievement of the goals of many organizations. Understanding the steps necessary to meet grant requirements is the first step to avoiding common pitfalls and achieving compliance.

- Use the appropriate guidance to understand and communicate grant requirements throughout your organization
- Work with the granting agency often to ensure compliance with requirements and meeting expectations
- Avoid common pitfalls by establishing effective internal controls for grant management and compliance
- Leverage internal audit to assist in managing compliance and during grant monitoring reviews



### Questions?