

Grant Workgroup Contact Information

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Introducing...

In the midst of the pressures and demands of your daily schedule, it can be a challenge to remain current on federal regulations. The release of the Uniform Guidance and the upcoming release of the DATA Act have added even more compliance requirements to the already extensive list. The Division of Accounts recognizes the need to distribute vital information related to federal grants in a way that is manageable and easy to use. The Grants Workgroup has been created to spearhead this initiative.

Objective

Our objective is to promote awareness throughout state government that grants normally come with significant requirements, and to provide guidance that will assist in maximizing the benefits of grants while minimizing risk. Our primary strategy in achieving this objective will be to assist state agencies and departments in understanding and applying new and existing federal, state, and other guidance by:

- Developing job aids to summarize compliance requirements set forth in Federal publications.
- Providing learning opportunities on job aids and grants processing.
- Serving as consultants on requirements related to federal compliance and grants processing.
- Distributing Quarterly Newsletter.

A little bit about our Workgroup...

Carrie Dawson – Director

I have been with the State of Tennessee since July 2013. During my tenure with the State, I have worked on the Statewide Cost Allocation Plan, Treasury State Agreement, and the Cash Management Improvement Act Annual Report as well as manage the statewide merchant services contract. Most recently, I have been given responsibility related to grants processing and also overseeing the formation of the Grants Workgroup.

Prior to joining the State, I worked at a local public accounting firm for seven years specializing in small business, non-profit, and governmental audits.

Jeong Robinson – Accountant 3

I have been with the State of Tennessee since August 2015. My current responsibilities include the development of job aids related to federal guidelines, tracking of programs covered by the Cash Management Improvement Act, and compiling information for the Single Audit Corrective Action Plan.

Prior to joining the State, I worked as an accountant, auditor, supervisor, and senior audit associate at public accounting firms for seven years in Rochester, NY, Saint Paul, MN, and San Francisco, CA.

Website link:

Job aids posted on F&A website under Grant – Reference Guides:
<http://www.tn.gov/finance/article/fa-accfin-swa>

Grant Related Article:

Below is a link to a recent report issued by GAO on the DATA Act.

Direct link to the GAO Report:
<http://www.gao.gov/assets/680/674878.pdf>

Next issue:

The next issue of our Newsletter we will introduce a job aid on “Allowable Costs”.

Mary (Lou) Goins – Accounting manager

With the exception of existing state employees, I was the first person hired for the Edison project in October 2005. As a part of the Edison financials team, I assisted with the creation, testing, and implementation of the portion of system used for grant processing. Six years later, I became a part of Division of Accounts serving as a consultant to state agencies on entering and processing of grants within Edison.

My prior work history includes managing and consulting elderly/handicap apartment complexes, office manager/DJ at an AM radio station, local newspaper reporter, and bookkeeper with a clothing manufacturer.

Using the “Inventory of Compliance Requirements” Tool (ICR Tool)Website to ICR Tool:

F&A website under Grant – Reference Guides:

<http://www.tn.gov/finance/article/fa-accfin-swa>

ICR Tool is a MS Excel workbook, using 2 C.F.R. 200 Uniform Guidance issued by OMB with Federal awarding agencies as source material. The ICR Tool contains valuable information about Federal grant requirements as well as links to other helpful resources.

The ICR Tool is unique in that it allows users to efficiently search for grant topics. It contains all the sources related to grant requirements not only for Federal but also for the State of Tennessee. It is designed to help users save time and effort when researching their questions related to federal requirements.



Navigating the ICR Tool may be a bit challenging at first because of all the information it contains. Coming in **April 2016**, the workgroup will be holding a workshop on how the tool can be used most efficiently and effectively. Information on how to register will be sent out soon.

Grant Manual and Edison Upgrade

