White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans

Federal Contract and Grant Administration

Blanca Rosa Rodriguez

U.S. Department of Education

blanca.rodriguez@ed.gov

Financial Monitoring: Grants Administration

- Awards to Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI) received from the U.S. Department of Education

- Excessive Drawdowns

- Large Available Balances

- Appropriation Monitoring

- Reporting Requirements

- Grant Closeouts

Department of Education Awards FY 2006
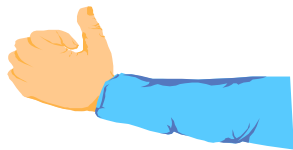
FY 2006 - All ED Awards

- 832 Awards
- $306,628,279

FY 2006 - Strengthening Institutions

- 94 Awards
- $94,843,623

ED's Drawdown Policy

❖ **Draw down only enough cash to meet grant's immediate need**

❖ **Minimize time between drawdown and pay out of funds**

Rule of thumb:

Rate of drawdown must be commensurate with approved scope of work and milestones

4

Large Available Balances

- ⌘ Within 90 days, "flags" grants with *70% or more* of funds remaining

- ⌘ Clarification required before issuing continuation award

Appropriation Monitoring

31 U.S.C. 1552(a)

- Account available for a definite period canceled Sept. 30 five fiscal years after its availability for federal obligation ends

- Remaining balances in the account revert to Treasury the following day, Oct. 1

  - $2,143,404 *(as of 4/02/2007)*

Reporting Requirements

Annual Performance Report

- Substantial Progress

Final Performance Report

- Closeout

⇨ 225 Awards

⇨ $5,975,605

Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA)

- President signed bill on Sept. 26, 2006
- Searchable website for public to search funding by data elements
  - Be able to ascertain amount of federal funding awarded to an entity
  - Be able to download results of search

FFATA References

- S.2590 online:

http://thomas.loc.gov/

- Congressional Budget Office estimate:

http://www.cbo.gov/showdoc.cfm?index=7483

- OMB Watch

http://www.fedspending.org

On-line Grantee Training

Grants Management Training and Resources

- ➔ Begin Training
- ➔ Access Resources
- ➔ Learn About This Site

Partnerships between grantees and the Department of Education.

Who ~ <u>new</u> project <u>directors</u> and <u>business</u> <u>officers</u>

~ <u>refresher</u> for experienced staff

What ~ training materials – **resources/pubs** – ED grant office home page links

When ~

Where ~ wherever you have computer access

Why ~ responsible/effective project management -- avoid costly mistakes

10

On-line Grantee Training

- Grantee's major <u>responsibilities</u>

- <u>Monitoring</u> <u>activities</u> to evaluate grantee's performance

  - when performance <u>conferences</u> will take place

  - performance <u>reports</u> and when to submit them

- Site visits – <u>compliance</u> **and** technical <u>assistance</u>

- <u>Fiscal</u> management and recordkeeping

- Four <u>administrative</u> <u>actions</u> permitted via "expanded authority"

http://www.humtech.com/DOED/Grants/