



U.S. Department of
Transportation
Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

Memorandum

Subject: **INFORMATION:** OMB Issuance of Grant Management Policies. Date: **SEP 4 2003**

From: *Mari Barr Santangelo*
Mari Barr Santangelo
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration

To: Heads of Operating Administrations
Departmental Officers

Reply to
Attn. of:

The purpose of this memorandum is to make you aware of several grant management policies that have been recently issued by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) as a result of various on-going Federal grant streamlining initiatives mandated by the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1999 (P.L. 106-107). Final policy notices can be accessed at OMB's website at: www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants/grants. A summary of each policy is provided below.

Revision of OMB Circular A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations"

- Revision of OMB Circular A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations," was published in the Federal Register on June 27, 2003 [FR 38401]. The revised Circular provides a new definition of oversight agency, which is effective July 28, 2003. In addition, the Circular increases the threshold for audit from \$300,000 to \$500,000 per year; increases the threshold for cognizant agency for audit from \$25 million to \$50 million; and makes related technical changes. Revisions to OMB Circular A-133 are effective for Fiscal years ending after December 31, 2003.

New OMB Policy Re: Use of a Standard Format for Announcing Federal Funding Opportunities

- The new OMB policy requiring agencies to use a standard format for announcing Federal funding opportunities for discretionary programs was published on June 23, 2003 [FR 37370]. This policy is effective as of July 23, 2003. All implementing actions other than regulatory revisions must be completed by Executive departments and agencies within 3 months of the effective date. Regulatory revisions must be completed within 12 months of the effective date.

New OMB Policy Re: Use of a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System on Any Applications for Federal Grants or Cooperative Agreements

- The new OMB Policy requiring use of a Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number on any application for Federal grants or cooperative agreements was published on June 27, 2003 [68 FR 38402]. This policy applies to all applications for Federal grant or cooperative agreements on or after October 1, 2003.

Please ensure that the members of your staff who are responsible for administering grant awards are aware of the revisions to OMB Circular A-133, in addition to the new OMB grant policy requirements. In the meantime, in concert with OMB's issuance of new grant policies and modification, the Office of the Senior Procurement Executive (OSPE) will work toward updating the DOT Order 4600.17A, Financial Assistance Management Requirements, in addition to applicable changes required under the Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments under 49 CFR part 18; and the Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Non-Profit Organizations under part 19.

Questions regarding the aforementioned policies should be directed to Ann Fisher, at (202) 366-4288, or Ladd Hakes at (202) 366-4268, OSPE.



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Memorandum

Subject: INFORMATION: OMB Issuance of Grant Management
Policy on the Use of Grants.Gov FIND

Date:

NOV 21 2003

From:

Mari Barr Santangelo
Mari Barr Santangelo
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration

Reply to
Attn. of:

To: Heads of Operating Administrations
Departmental Officers

The purpose of this memorandum is to make you aware of the latest grant management policy issued by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) as part of the continuing Federal grant streamlining efforts mandated by the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1999 (P.L. 106-107). Final grant policy notices can be accessed at OMB's website at: www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants/grants. A summary of the policy is provided below:

OMB Issuance of Federal Financial Management Policy Directive on Use of Grants.Gov FIND

- The Office of Federal Financial Management issued a final policy directive in the Federal Register on October 8, 2003 (FR 58146) establishing a government-wide requirement for all Federal grant-making agencies to use the Grants.Gov FIND module to electronically post synopses of funding opportunities under Federal financial assistance programs that award discretionary grants and cooperative agreements. The government-wide data elements and standard format used for posting synopses at <http://www.Grants.gov> were attached with the policy. This requirement is effective as of November 7, 2003. Agencies are responsible for ensuring that synopses posted at the Grants.gov FIND Module include full instructions regarding where to obtain the full announcement for the funding opportunity, if for example, full announcements are also posted in the Federal register to satisfy statutory, regulatory, or other agency policy requirements that may apply.

Please ensure that the members of your staff who are responsible for administering grant programs are aware of the requirement for posting funding announcements at Grants.Gov FIND.

Questions regarding the above policy should be directed to Ann Fisher, at (202) 366-4288, or Ladd Hakes at (202) 366-4268, Office of the Senior Procurement Executive.