



ARRA Update

February 26, 2010

COMPLIANCE SPOTLIGHT

Fraud, Waste, and Abuse

Governor Brewer is committed to ensuring the prudent fiscal and programmatic management of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 funds that have been entrusted to our state and strongly encourages all agencies to implement suitable fraud, waste and abuse prevention and detection programs to ensure that these funds are invested properly.

Arizona has been ahead of the curve in getting the appropriate systems and processes in place to effectively implement ARRA. As we move forward, Governor Brewer has directed our office to work hard to ensure that we are leaders in several critical oversight areas, as well. To that end, we have been proactive in taking a number of steps to minimize fraud, waste and abuse of stimulus funds.

First of all, attached to this electronic newsletter is a fraud, waste, and abuse resource flyer which is designed for you to display at your offices and to provide to your sub-recipients for them to display at all ARRA project locations. Secondly, we are finalizing **A Resource for Departments to Combat Fraud, Waste and Abuse**. This document, which will be released shortly, will provide practical tools to help prevent, identify, and combat fraud, waste, and abuse.

The Recovery Act could not have come at a more appropriate time – it is our responsibility to the people of Arizona to ensure that all of the funds are spent in a suitable manner. Governor Brewer invites you to join us in making sure that we continue to lead the nation in this critical area.

1512 REPORTING

Continuous QA/Edit Process

From February 2, to March 15, FederalReporting.gov will be available to recipients and federal agencies to perform Quality Assurance (QA) checks and to correct errors identified during the QA activities. **The Continuous QA/Edit process works as follows:**

- On February 2, all recipient reports submitted in January were unlocked and available for recipients and federal agencies for Continuous QA/Edit.
- Federal agencies can identify errors in recipient reports and add comments addressing those errors. FederalReporting.gov will notify the OER of the federal agency's comments. OER will then forward these comments to the appropriate agency representative. Recipients are also encouraged to conduct their own QA to identify errors.
- Agencies can correct errors using the existing Stimulus 360 processes. Agencies must notify OER when any changes are made in Stimulus 360 so that this data can be reported to FederalReporting.gov. OER will forward verification of the re-submission to the appropriate agency contact once complete. FederalReporting.gov will notify the federal agencies when corrections are made.

The updated data will be posted to Recovery.gov every other Wednesday. The data posted to Recovery.gov is a data set as of 11:59 P.M. E.S.T. Monday of the posting week. Federal agencies and the Office of Management and Budget will have Tuesday to identify any problem records – for example, extremely large increases in job numbers or inaccurate changes to award amounts. The final data set for this reporting period will be published on Recovery.gov on Wednesday, **March 17**.

Link to Continuous Edit QA Process: https://www.federalreporting.gov/federalreporting/documentation/timeline_qa.pdf. If you have any questions about this process please contact Ryan Sommers at goer_reporting@az.gov.

FOCUS ON THE RECOVERY

On February 12, Governor Jan Brewer announced the State of Arizona had been awarded \$9,377,000 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act of 2009 (the HITECH Act) through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. The funds will be used to facilitate and expand the secure, electronic movement and use of health information among organizations according to nationally recognized standards.

The cooperative agreement will focus on developing the statewide policy, governance, technical infrastructure and business practices needed to support the delivery of Health Information Exchange (HIE) services. Arizona joins 40 other states in receiving Health Information Exchange awards. Studies have shown that electronic medical records help reduce medical errors and improve the quality of patient care.

Recovery Today is a bi-weekly e-publication of the Arizona Office of Economic Recovery. For comments or questions regarding this issue, contact OER at: azrecovery@az.gov.