

**Notice Regarding OMB Memorandum M-11-34,
Accelerating Spending of Remaining Funds from the American Recovery and
Reinvestment Act for Discretionary Grant Programs**

[OMB Memorandum M-11-34](#) , issued September 15, 2011, directs agencies to assure ARRA funds are spent by September 30, 2013, and to “revise the terms of Recovery Act discretionary grant agreements, to the extent permitted by law, to provide for reclamation of funds that remain unspent after September 30, 2013, absent a waiver issued by OMB pursuant to this memorandum.”

On December 28, 2011, ONC issued [ONC-GMA-2011-02, Use of Unobligated Balances Supplemental Guidance](#), providing notice that all awards that are scheduled to end prior to September 30, 2013 (per the project end dates in the Notice of Grant Award) **will not** be approved for no cost extensions that would extend the project end date beyond September 30, 2013. The programs in which the project period ends prior to September 30, 2013, are Competency Examination Program, Curriculum Development Centers, Community College Consortiums, University Based Training, and Beacon. SHARP, State HIE, and the Regional Extension Center programs do not have end dates prior to September 30, 2013.

Immediate Actions:

1. ONC will not grant any no-cost extensions that extend the project period of any Recovery Act awards beyond September 30, 2013.
2. If you are requesting a no-cost extension that ends prior to September 30, 2013, please follow the established process per ONC-GMA-2011-02, Use of Unobligated Balances. This is only applicable to the Competency Examination Program, Curriculum Development Centers, Community College Consortiums, Beacon, and University Based Training.
3. You must continue to meet all requirements of your current grant award. All program milestones and objectives must be met and adherence to all grant requirements is mandated. This email notice does not obviate any requirements of your grant award. This email does not change the approved project period for ONC awards.
4. At this time HHS has not determined the need for waiver request submissions to OMB for any HHS programs. ONC has three programs directly impacted by a potential waiver request. REC, State HIE, and SHARP have project end dates after September 30, 2013. The awardees in these programs are to implement according to their approved Ops Plans/Workplans. No submission of additional documents is required at this time (unless you have been specifically asked to do so by your program manager). We will provide an update in regard to this matter as we have additional information.
5. HHS continues to strongly encourage grantees to accelerate the achievement of their project goals and objectives, thereby accelerating expenditures for all active Recovery Act awards.