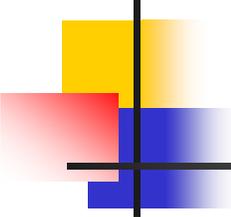


Federal Financial Assistance

A Dynamic Vista

APHIS Annual Agreements
Meeting

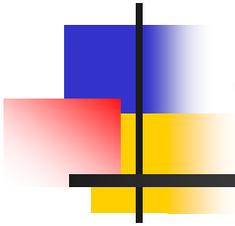
April 13, 2010



Contents

- Federal Financial Assistance: A Dynamic Process
- Cross-cutting Challenges
- USDA's Plan for Action

Federal Financial Assistance - Process?



Federal Financial Assistance - Commonly Known Process

Awareness and Application

- Congress appropriates funds
- Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA)
- Program posted to Grants.gov
- Central Contractor Registry (CCR)
- Program information on Agency Websites

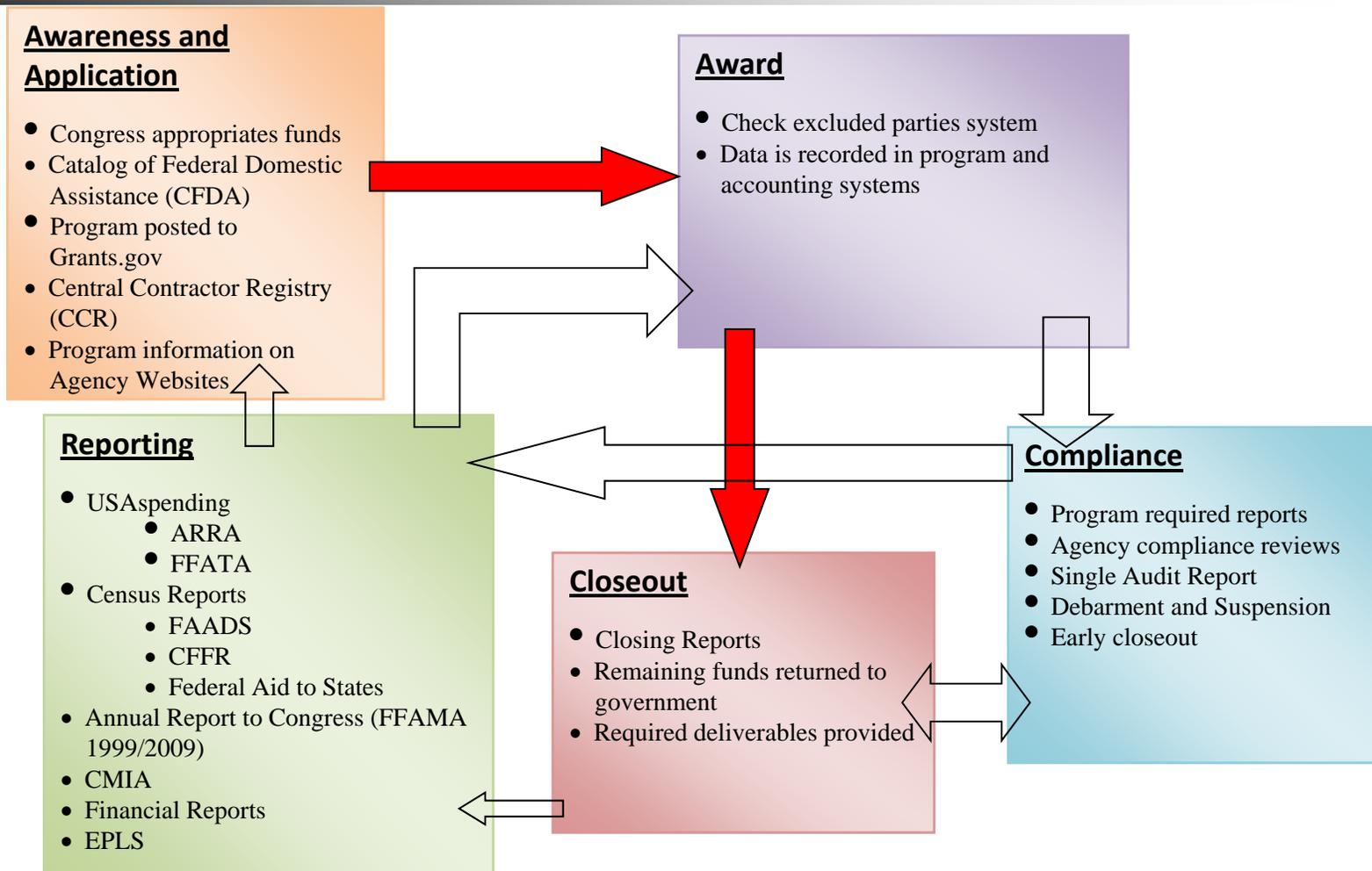
Award

- Check excluded parties system
- Data is recorded in program and accounting systems

Closeout

- Closing Reports
- Remaining funds returned to government
- Required deliverables provided

Federal Financial Assistance - Comprehensive Process?



Federal Financial Assistance

Laws/Circulars/Regs

OMB Circulars

- A-21 Cost Principles Higher Education
- A-87 Cost Principles State Local Gov & Tribal Gov
- A-89 CFDA
- A-102 Grants & Cooperative Agreements
- A-110 Higher Ed, Hospitals and Non-Profits
- A-122 Cost Principles Non-profit organizations
- A-133 Single Audit

Code of Fed Regs

- 3015 Federal Assistance
- 3016 Requirements for Grants & Cooperative Agreements
- 3017 D&S
- 3018 Restrictions on Lobbying
- 3019 Administrative Requirements
- 3021 Drug Free Workplace
- 3052 Single Audit

Workgroups

- Grants Policy Committee (GPC)
- Grants Management Line of Business (GMLoB)
- Grants Executive Board (GEB)
 - Grants.gov Users Group
- Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Users Workgroup
- Excluded Parties List System Users Workgroup
- Interagency Suspension and Debarment Committee (ISDC)
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- Lean Six Sigma Grants Process
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- CFDA Group
- Grants Policy Group
- Single Audit Group
- FAADS Group

High-level Federal Assistance Process

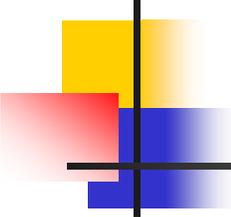
1. Legislation
2. Circulars/USDA Policy & Regs
3. Applicant Find & Apply
4. Award/Maintenance
5. Award Close Out

Federal Financial Assistance Reports

- Federal Assistance Awards Data System (FAADS)
- Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA)
- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)
- Federal Aid to States (FAS)
- Consolidated Federal Funding Report (CFFR)
- Cash Management Improvement Act Report (CMIA)
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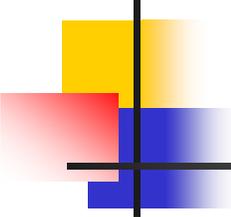
Federal Financial Assistance Systems

- Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA)
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- USASpending.gov
- Financial Management Modernization Initiative (FMMI)
- USDA FAADS, FFATA, and ARRA (NFC)



Challenges

- Reauthorization of Public Law 106-107 (S. 303)
- Address Debarment and Suspension audit findings
- Compliance with emerging A-133 Single Audit requirements
- Meet Open Government requirements
- Implement Grants Management Line of Business
- Meet emerging Training and Certification requirements for grant-awarding officials

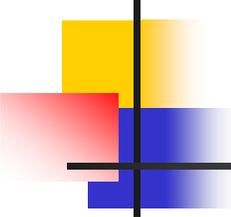


Public Law 106-107 (S. 303)

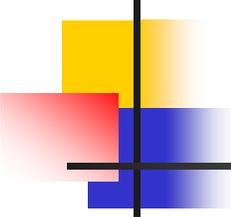
- Enacted Nov 20, 1999 (effective for 8 years).
- Senate Bill 303 (SB.303) reauthorizes and amends the Act of 1999
 - Continues to support a Federal grant Find and Apply website
 - Adds manage, track, and report to functionality of grants system
 - Requires annual reports on the status of implementing the Act to OMB and Congress
- The current Bill has been passed by both House and Senate and is in Committee for possible revisions

Debarment and Suspension

Audit

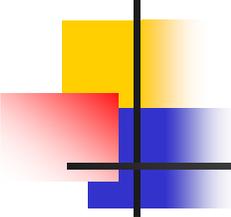


- On Nov 12, 2009 OIG released a draft report on the Effectiveness and Enforcement of Suspension and Debarment Regulations at USDA
- Procurement and nonprocurement suspension and debarment programs not fully implemented
 - Of 1,073 individuals convicted of crimes involving USDA programs only 38 were debarred. Of 42 APHIS individuals convicted of crimes, one was debarred
 - OIG is recommending that excluded APHIS programs be re-evaluated, that individual action be taken against people in excluded programs and training be provided to APHIS staff



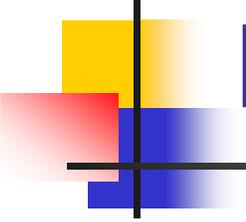
A-133 Single Audits

- Single Audit Draft Guidance from OMB
 - Expedited Review – all findings resolved in 6 months
 - Ensure corrective action plans are developed and implemented
 - More scrutiny for single audit extensions (currently no extensions for ARRA programs)
- Increased Departmental oversight to ensure timely resolution of single audit findings



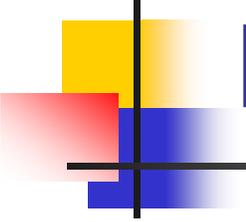
Open Government Initiative

- Executive departments are to take specific actions to implement the principles of:
 - Transparency promotes accountability by providing the public with information about what the Government is doing
 - Participation allows members of the public to contribute ideas and expertise
 - Collaboration improves the effectiveness of government by encouraging partnerships and cooperation within the Federal Government, across levels of government, and between Government and private institutions
- Initially, USDA is preparing a data quality plan for information submitted to public websites



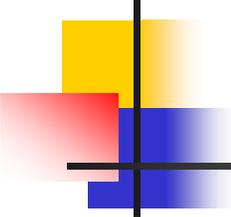
Grants Management Line of Business

- Lean Six Sigma Grants Process
 - Common process supported by a documented, streamlined, sustainable, and transparent approach
 - Development of To-Be process model from current USDA disparate processes
 - Reduce costs for managing Federal financial assistance process
- SAP Review showed a 92% fit to the To-Be process
- Current Department focus is on FMMI implementation



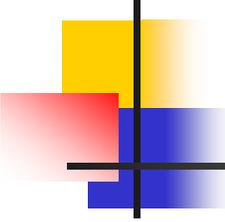
Training & Certification Requirements

- The Certification and Training Workgroup under the Grants Policy Committee (GPC) is developing:
 - Government-wide grants management core competencies series under OPM guidelines
 - Standards for a government-wide grants management training and certification program
- Grants management survey sent out to all grants management professionals



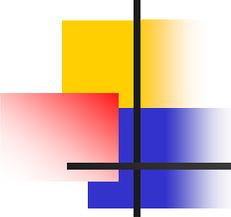
Grants Certification & Training

- The Grants Certification and Training workgroup has four subgroups:
 - Training, which researches existing grants management training curriculums within and outside of the federal government .
 - Competencies, which identifies baseline government-wide core grants management competencies
 - Certification, which researches various methodologies and best practices to implement a government-wide grants management certification programs
 - Grants Management Database, which researches opportunities for the development of a government-wide grants management professional resource database



Plan for Action

- Re-activate the Federal Financial Assistance Committee
- Create new regulation for Federal Financial Assistance including single audit, CFDA and reporting
- Create Debarment and Suspension Council
- Publish updated Debarment & Suspension Regulation to 2 CFR 417 (formerly 7 CFR 3017)
 - Emphasize debarment or suspension action on anyone convicted of a crime involving USDA programs



Federal Financial Assistance Committee

- OCFO is re-activating and re-vitalizing the Federal Financial Assistance Committee (FFAC)
 - Formerly charged with supporting Public Law 106-107 (grant streamlining, etc.)
 - In addition to PL 106-107, the committee will be charged with oversight of single audits, debarment and suspension, Grants.gov, CFDA, etc.
 - Address all Federal Financial Assistance issues
 - Focus on standardizing processes, eliminating duplicative and non-value-added activities, increasing transparency and open communication with all stakeholders

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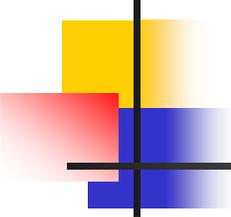
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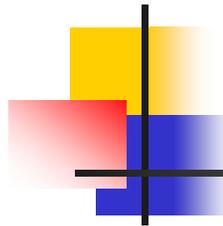
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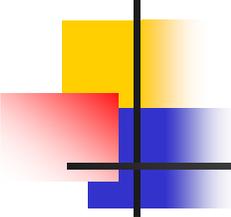


Debarment and Suspension Council

- OCFO is proposing a Debarment & Suspension Council that will:
 - Be chaired by the Chief Financial Officer, the Director of OPPM, and the General Counsel (OGC)
 - Have members at the Deputy Administrator for Management level or higher
 - Develop and issue guidance to enable the effective implementation of USDA's debarment and suspension regulations
 - Direct agencies to reevaluate their debarment and suspension processes to provide better stewardship of Federal funds
 - Emphasize that no person or entity is excluded from debarment or suspension and will include requirements for more aggressive debarment and suspension training, awareness, and monitoring of USDA programs for abuses.



Questions?



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 - (202) 720-1307