

Whenever appropriate and the output of programs or projects can be readily quantified, such quantitative data should be related to cost data for computation of unit costs.

(2) Reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate.

(3) Other pertinent information including, when appropriate, analysis and explanation of cost overruns or high unit costs.

(e) Recipients shall submit the original and two copies of performance reports.

(f) Recipients shall immediately notify the HHS awarding agency of developments that have a significant impact on the award-supported activities. Also, notification shall be given in the case of problems, delays, or adverse conditions which materially impair the ability to meet the objectives of the award. This notification shall include a statement of the action taken or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation.

(g) HHS may make site visits, as needed.

(h) The HHS awarding agency complies with the applicable report clearance requirements of 5 CFR part 1320, "Controlling Paperwork Burdens on the Public," when requesting performance data from recipients.

§ 74.52 Financial reporting.

(a) The following forms are used for obtaining financial information from recipients:

(1) SF-269 or SF-269A, Financial Status Report.

(i) The HHS awarding agency will require recipients to use either the SF-269 (long form) or SF-269A to report the status of funds for all nonconstruction projects or programs. The SF-269 shall always be used if income has been earned. The awarding agency may, however, waive the SF-269 or SF-269A requirement when the PMS-270, Request for Advance or Reimbursement, or PMS-272, Report of Federal Cash Transactions, will provide adequate information to meet its needs, except that a final SF-269 or SF-269A shall be required at the completion of the project when the PMS-270 is used only for advances.

(ii) If the HHS awarding agency requires accrual information and the recipient's accounting records are not normally kept on the accrual basis, the recipient shall not be required to convert its accounting system, but shall develop such accrual information through best estimates based on an analysis of the documentation on hand.

(iii) The HHS awarding agency will determine the frequency of the Financial Status Report for each project or program, considering the size and complexity of the particular project or program. However, the report will not be required more frequently than quarterly or less frequently than annually except under § 74.14. A final report shall be required at the completion of the agreement.

(iv) Recipients shall submit the SF-269 and SF-269A (an original and two copies) no later than 30 days after the end of each specified reporting period for quarterly and semi-annual reports, and 90 calendar days for annual and final reports. Extensions of reporting due dates may be approved by the HHS awarding agency upon request of the recipient.

(2) PMS-272, Report of Federal Cash Transactions.

(i) When funds are advanced to recipients, the HHS awarding agency requires each recipient to submit the PMS-272 and, when necessary, its continuation sheet, PMS-272A through G. The HHS awarding agency uses this report to monitor cash advanced to recipients and to obtain disbursement information for each agreement with the recipients.

(ii) The HHS awarding agency may require forecasts of Federal cash requirements in the "Remarks" section of the report.

(iii) Recipients shall submit the original and two copies of the PMS-272 15 calendar days following the end of each quarter. The HHS awarding agency may require a monthly report from those recipients receiving advances totaling \$1 million or more per year.

(iv) The HHS awarding agency may waive the requirement for submission of the PMS-272 for any one of the following reasons: (A) When monthly advances do not exceed \$25,000 per recipient, provided that such advances are

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monitored through other forms contained in this section; (B) If, in HHS' opinion, the recipient's accounting controls are adequate to minimize excessive Federal advances; or, (C) When the electronic payment mechanisms provide adequate data.

(b) When the HHS awarding agency needs additional information or more frequent reports, the following shall be observed.

(1) When additional information is needed to comply with legislative requirements, the HHS awarding agency will issue instructions to require recipients to submit that information under the "Remarks" section of the reports.

(2) When HHS determines that a recipient's accounting system does not meet the standards in § 74.21, additional pertinent information to further monitor awards may be obtained, without regard to § 74.4, upon written notice to the recipient until such time as the system is brought up to standard. In obtaining this information, the HHS awarding agencies comply with report clearance requirements of 5 CFR part 1320, "Controlling Paperwork Burdens on the Public."

(3) The HHS awarding agency may accept the identical information from a recipient in machine readable format or computer printouts or electronic outputs in lieu of prescribed formats.

(4) The HHS awarding agency may provide computer or electronic outputs to recipients when such action expedites or contributes to the accuracy of reporting.

§ 74.53 Retention and access requirements for records.

(a) This section sets forth requirements for record retention and access to records for awards to recipients.

(b) Financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and all other records pertinent to an award shall be retained for a period of three years from the date of submission of the final expenditure report or, for awards that are renewed quarterly or annually, from the date of the submission of the quarterly or annual financial report. The only exceptions are the following:

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(1) If any litigation, claim, financial management review, or audit is started before the expiration of the 3-year period, the records shall be retained until all litigation, claims or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken.

(2) Records for real property and equipment acquired with Federal funds shall be retained for 3 years after final disposition.

(3) When records are transferred to or maintained by the HHS awarding agency, the 3-year retention requirement is not applicable to the recipient.

(4) Indirect cost rate proposals, cost allocations plans, etc., as specified in § 74.53(g).

(c) Copies of original records may be substituted for the original records if authorized by the HHS awarding agency.

(d) The HHS awarding agency will request transfer of certain records to its custody from recipients when it determines that the records possess long term retention value. However, in order to avoid duplicate recordkeeping, the HHS awarding agency may make arrangements for recipients to retain any records that are continuously needed for joint use.

(e) HHS awarding agencies, the HHS Inspector General, the U.S. Comptroller General, or any of their duly authorized representatives, have the right of timely and unrestricted access to any books, documents, papers, or other records of recipients that are pertinent to the awards, in order to make audits, examinations, excerpts, transcripts and copies of such documents. This right also includes timely and reasonable access to a recipient's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion related to such documents. The rights of access in this paragraph are not limited to the required retention period, but shall last as long as records are retained.

(f) Unless required by statute, the HHS awarding agency will not place restrictions on recipients that limit public access to the records of recipients that are pertinent to an award, except when the HHS awarding agency can demonstrate that such records shall be kept confidential and would have been exempted from disclosure pursuant to