**Federal Award Compliance and Control Record**

**Audit Guidance and Testing**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of Client:** |  |
| **Year Ended:** | 2023 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Federal Award Name:** | Education Stabilization Fund:  Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) |
| **AL#:** | #84.425E – HEERF Student Aid  #84.425F – HEERF Institutional Aid  #84.425N – HEERF Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) Formula Grant  The Education Stabilization Fund HEERF section also contains the following programs; however, these are not likely to occur at most local schools. If they occur, they are not likely to be material. If you need to test one of the following programs, refer to the 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement and AOS Auditors contact CFAE using the FACCR Specialty in Spiceworks (IPAs use the [AOS Federal Inbox](mailto:aosfederal@ohioauditor.gov)).  #84.425J – HEERF Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)  #84.425K – HEERF Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs)  #84.425L – HEERF Minority Service Institutions (MSIs)  #84.425M – HEERF Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP)  #84.425P – Institutional Resilience and Expanded Postsecondary Opportunity (HEERF IREPO)  #84.425S – HEERF Supplemental Assistance to Institutions of Higher Education (SAIHE) Program  #84.425T – Supplemental Support Under American Rescue Plan (SSARP) Program |

# Important Information

**In addition to completing the control and suggested audit procedures, yellow-highlighted text indicates items that must be addressed or updated by auditors and should be deleted after the required information is added.**

*Blue italicized text indicates guidance from CFAE.*

This FACCR has been tailored for local governments and Not-For-Profits. It does not include all required references and testing for Institutes of Higher Learning or State organizations.

This FACCR only includes testing steps for the HEERF portion of this program. Should your entity have expenditures that fall under the ESSER portion of the program, please obtain and test the ESSER FACCR. In situations where expenditures have been made under both HEERF and ESSER portions, please evaluate whether the population for controls and substantive testing should be combined or separated. The AL #84.425 program will be opined on as one program (*not* a cluster). Also see guidance in [Appendix VII](OMB_Appendix_VII.pdf) of the Compliance Supplement.

If additional material requirements are identified, auditors will need to create procedures to test those requirements. If you have questions, AOS Auditors please open a Spiceworks ticket for assistance (IPAs email [AOSFederal@ohioauditor.gov](mailto:AOSFederal@ohioauditor.gov)).

**Navigation Pane**

Click on the “View” tab on the top ribbon and check the box that says “Navigation Pane” to bring up the headings on the left side of the screen. Click on the various sections within the navigation pane to go directly to that section.

**Table of Contents**

On the table of contents page, users can also click on listed sections to go directly to that section. As information is added into the FACCR, page numbering will change and the Table of Contents may need to be updated to reflect revised numbering. To update the Table of Contents, click on the word “Contents” directly above the line starting with Important Information, which brings up the icon “Update Table.” Clicking OK in the box that appears will update the page numbers on the Table of Contents to reflect any changes in the document.

**Guidance Links**

Links to guidance referenced throughout this document are included below:

* [Part 6](OMB_Part_6.pdf) (Internal Control) of the OMB Compliance Supplement
* [2013 COSO](https://www.coso.org/Shared%20Documents/Framework-Executive-Summary.pdf)
* [GAO’s 2014 Green Book](https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-14-704g.pdf)
* [2 CFR Part 200](2_CFR_Part_200.pdf) – Once opened, click on the appropriate section(s)

# Agency Adoption of the UG and Example Citations

[*Appendix II*](OMB_Appendix_II.pdf) *to the OMB Compliance Supplement provides the codified section reference of the agency adoption of the Uniform Guidance (UG) (2 CFR Part 200) and nonprocurement suspension and debarment requirements in 2 CFR Part 180, including the 2020 revisions.*

*While some Federal agencies gave regulatory effect to the Uniform Guidance as a whole, others made changes to the UG language within the agency codified sections by either adding specific requirements/exceptions or editing/modifying existing language. OMB does not maintain a complete listing of agency exceptions to the UG, but the most recent compilation of agency additions and exceptions (updated through December 2014) is provided on the* [*CFO website*](https://www.cfo.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Agency-Exceptions.pdf)*. AOS auditors should review the UG Exception Evaluation by Federal Agency spreadsheet (updated through June 2022)* [*on the Intranet*](https://ohauditor.sharepoint.com/:f:/r/sites/Intranet/Shared%20Documents/Audit_Resources/Federal/Other%20Federal%20Resources?csf=1&web=1&e=RtVw5R) *(Documents > Audit Resources > Federal > Other Federal Resources).*

*Auditors must review the Federal agency adoption of the Uniform Guidance (2 CFR Part 200) and nonprocurement suspension and debarment requirements (2 CFR Part 180) prior to issuing noncompliance citations to verify the Federal agency requirements.*

*Auditors should also review this* [*link*](Agency_Adoption_of_the_UG_and_Example_Citations.pdf) *for a discussion on how to cite non-compliance exceptions based on agency adoption of the UG.*

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# Compliance Requirement Matrix

*Footnotes 1-7 below the matrix provide further explanation; review note 6 which discusses tailoring the matrix assessments.*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  | **(1)** | **(2)** | **(6)** | **(6)** | **(3)** | **(4)** | **(5)** | **(5)** | **(6/7)** |
| **Compliance Requirement** | | | **Applicable per Compliance Supplement**  *(Yes/No)* | **Direct & Material to Program / Entity**  *(Yes/No)* | **Monetary**  **or Nonmonetary**  *(Set by CFAE)*  *(M/N)* | **Population Subject to Requirement (if Monetary)**  *(in $)* | **Inherent Risk**  **(from IRAF)**  *(High/Low)* | **Final Control Risk**  *(High/Low)* | **Detection**  **Risk of Noncompl.**  *(High/Low)* | **Overall Audit Risk of Noncompl.**  *(High/Low)* | **Federal Materiality by Compliance Requirement**  *(usually 5%)* |
| **A** |  | **Activities Allowed or Unallowed** | Yes |  | M |  |  |  |  |  | 5% |
| **B** |  | **Allowable Costs/Cost Principles** | Yes |  | M |  |  |  |  |  | 5% |
| **C** |  | **Cash Management** | Yes |  | N |  |  |  |  |  | 5% |
| **D** |  | ***Reserved – Not Used*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **E** |  | **Eligibility** | No |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **F** |  | **Equipment & Real Property Mgmt** | No |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **G** |  | **Matching, Level of Effort, Earmark** | Yes |  | M |  |  |  |  |  | 5% |
| **H** |  | **Period of Performance** | Yes |  | M |  |  |  |  |  | 5% |
| **I** |  | **Procurement & Sus. & Debarment** | Yes |  | N |  |  |  |  |  | 5% |
| **J** |  | **Program Income** | No |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **K** |  | ***Reserved – Not Used*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **L** |  | **Reporting** | Yes |  | N |  |  |  |  |  | 5% |
| **M** |  | **Subrecipient Monitoring** | No |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **N** |  | **Special Tests & Provisions** | No |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**(1)** *From Part 2, Matrix of Compliance Requirements, for the applicable program in the* [*OMB Compliance Supplement*](https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/office-federal-financial-management/)*. For programs not included in Part 2, all compliance requirements should be marked as applicable.*

**(2)** *If the Compliance Supplement notes a compliance requirement as being applicable to the program in the first column, it still may not apply at a particular entity either because that entity does not have activity subject to that type of compliance requirement, or the activity could not have a material effect on a major program. If the Compliance Supplement indicates that a type of compliance requirement is applicable and the auditor determines it also is direct and material to the program at the specific entity being audited, the auditor should answer this question “Yes,” and then complete the remainder of the line. Alternatively, if the auditor determines that a particular type of compliance requirement that normally would be applicable to a program (as per part 2 of the Compliance Supplement) is not direct and material to the program at the specific entity being audited, the auditor should answer this question “No.” Along with that response, the auditor should document the basis for the determination in the working papers or this FACCR. When making that determination all parts of that compliance requirement must be considered. For example, Equipment and Real Property Management contains procedures regarding Acquisitions, Dispositions (Disposals), and Inventory Management. The documentation on why the compliance requirement is not be applicable to the program/entity must address all parts of that compliance requirement.*

***(3)*** *Refer to the AICPA Single Audit Guide, chapter 10, Compliance Auditing Applicable to Major Programs, for considerations relating to assessing inherent risk of noncompliance for each direct and material type of compliance requirement. For AOS auditors, the auditor documents the inherent risk assessment for each direct and material compliance requirement on the Inherent Risk Assessment Form (IRAF). The assessments in this column should directly tie to the final inherent risk assessment on the IRAF.*

**(4)** *See guidance on the following page for considerations relating to assessing control risk of noncompliance for each direct and material type of compliance requirement.* ***Planned control risk must be assessed at low per 2 CFR § 200.514; therefore, only final control risk is shown in the matrix.*** *Additionally, auditors must document final control risk in each compliance requirement section’s Audit Implications Summary in this FACCR. See AICPA Single Audit Guide, Chapter 9, Consideration of Internal Control over Compliance for Major Programs.*

**(5)** *Audit risk of noncompliance is defined in AU-C 935 as the risk that the auditor expresses an inappropriate opinion on the entity’s compliance when material noncompliance exists. Audit risk of noncompliance is a function of the risks of material noncompliance and detection risk of noncompliance. A “Low” assessment of detection risk in this matrix means that the risk has been reduced to an acceptable level.*

***(6)*** *The AICPA Single Audit Guide 10.55 states the auditor’s tests of compliance with compliance requirements may disclose instances of noncompliance. The Uniform Guidance refers to these instances of noncompliance, among other matters, as “audit findings.” Such findings may be of a monetary nature and involve questioned costs or may be nonmonetary and not result in questioned costs. CFAE included the monetary vs. nonmonetary determinations for each compliance requirement in this program. If AOS auditor believe the determination of monetary vs. nonmonetary should be updated for a particular section, other than sections E and N, they must consult with CFAE via the FACCR specialty in Spiceworks. The Eligibility and Special Tests & Provisions determinations reflect M/N as the determination of whether the compliance requirement is monetary or non-monetary is contingent upon the specific requirements of the program being tested as well as requirements contained within the grant agreement. For sections E and N, auditors should tailor the assessment as appropriate based on the facts and circumstances of their entity’s operations, update the Compliance Requirement Matrix for the appropriate designation (N or M), and document the research and reasoning behind the determination.*

***(7)*** *AU-C 935.13 & .A7 require auditors to establish and document two materiality levels: (1) a materiality level for the program as a whole, and (2) a second materiality level for the each of the applicable 12 compliance requirement listed in Appendix XI to Part 200. This column documents quantitative materiality at the compliance requirement level for each major program.*

*Note: If the compliance requirement is (1) of a monetary nature, and (2) the requirement applies to the* ***total*** *population of program expenditures, then the compliance materiality amount for the program also equals materiality for the requirement as shown in the last column of the matrix. For example, the population for allowable costs and cost principles will usually equal the total Federal expenditures for the major program as a whole. Conversely, the population for some monetary compliance requirements may be less than the total Federal expenditures. Auditors must carefully determine the population subject to the compliance requirement to properly assess Federal materiality. Auditors should also consider the qualitative aspects of materiality. For example, in some cases, noncompliance and internal control deficiencies that might otherwise be immaterial could be significant to the major program because they involve fraud, abuse, or illegal acts. The program level materiality, typically 5%, is documented in the Record of Single Audit Risk (RSAR).*

**Performing Tests to Evaluate the Effectiveness of Controls**

*Control Risk Assessment:*

*Auditors must:*

* *Document the five internal control components (control environment, risk assessment, control activities, information and communication, and monitoring) for each direct and material compliance requirement and*
* *Perform procedures to obtain an understanding of internal control over compliance for federal programs that is sufficient to plan the audit to support a low assessed level of control risk.*

*If internal control over compliance for a compliance requirement is likely to be ineffective in preventing or detecting noncompliance, the auditor is not required to plan and perform tests of internal control over compliance. Rather, the auditor must assess control risk at maximum, determine whether additional compliance tests are required, and report a significant deficiency (or material weakness) as part of the audit findings.*

*AICPA Single Audit Guide’s paragraph 9.08 states that Uniform Guidance provides that the auditors must perform tests of internal controls over compliance as planned. (Paragraphs 9.40-9.42 of the* *AICPA Single Audit Guide discuss an exception related to ineffective internal control over compliance.) In addition, AU-C 330.08 states the auditor should design and perform tests of controls to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence about the operating effectiveness of relevant controls. Further, AU-C 330.09 states in designing and performing tests of controls, the auditor should obtain more persuasive audit evidence the greater the reliance the auditor places on the effectiveness of a control.*

*Testing of the operating effectiveness of controls ordinarily includes procedures such as*

1. *inquiries of appropriate entity personnel, including grant and contract managers;*
2. *the inspection of documents, reports, or electronic files indicating performance of the control;*
3. *the observation of the application of the specific controls; and*
4. *reperformance of the application of the control by the auditor.*

*The auditor should perform such procedures regardless of whether he or she would otherwise choose to obtain evidence to support an assessment of control risk below the maximum level.*

*Paragraph .A24 of AU-C section 330 provides guidance related to the testing of controls. When responding to the risk assessment, the auditor may design a test of controls to be performed concurrently with a test of details on the same transactions. Although the purpose of a test of controls is different from the purpose of a test of details, both may be accomplished concurrently by performing a test of controls and a test of details on the same transaction (a dual-purpose test). For example, the auditor may examine an invoice to determine whether it has been approved and whether it provides substantive evidence of a transaction. A dual-purpose test is designed and evaluated by considering each purpose of the test separately.*

*Also, when performing the tests, the auditor should consider how the outcome of the test of controls may affect the auditor’s determination about the extent of substantive procedures to be performed. See chapter 11 of the AICPA Single Audit Guide for a discussion of the use of dual-purpose samples in a compliance audit.*

*Before a dual-purpose test is performed, AOS auditors must read AOSAM 30500 and 35900 for guidance.*

[Part 6](OMB_Part_6.pdf) of the 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement provides detailed guidance on assessing internal controls over the compliance requirements.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement)*

**Improper Payments**

Under OMB guidance, Public Law (Pub. L.) No. 107-300, the Improper Payments Information Act of 2002, as amended by Pub. L. No. 111-204, the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act, Executive Order 13520 on reducing improper payments, and the June 18, 2010 Presidential memorandum to enhance payment accuracy, federal agencies are required to take actions to prevent improper payments, review federal awards for such payments, and, as applicable, reclaim improper payments. Improper payments include the following:

1. Any payment that should not have been made or that was made in an incorrect amount, including an overpayment or underpayment, under a statutory, contractual, administrative, or other legally applicable requirement; and includes -- (i) any payment to an ineligible recipient;(ii) any payment for an ineligible good or service; (iii) any duplicate payment; (iv) any payment for a good or service not received, except for those payments where authorized by law; and (v) any payment that does not account for credit for applicable discounts.
2. A payment that could be either proper or improper, but the agency is unable to discern whether the payment was proper or improper as a result of insufficient or lack of documentation.

Auditors must be alert to improper payments, particularly when testing the following parts of section III. – A, “Activities Allowed or Unallowed;” B, “Allowable Costs/Cost Principles;” E, “Eligibility;” and, in some cases, N, “Special Tests and Provisions.”

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

# Part I – OMB Compliance Supplement Information

*This program is considered a “higher risk” program for 2023, pursuant to 2 CFR section 200.519(c)(2). Refer to the “Programs with Higher Risk Designation” section of Part 8, Appendix IV, Internal Reference Tables, for a discussion of the impact of the “higher risk” designation on the major program determination process.*

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) was signed into law on March 27, 2020, and provided $30.75 billion for the Education Stabilization Fund (ESF) to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally. The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSA Act), was signed into law on December 27, 2020, and provided an additional $81.88 billion for the ESF programs. Finally, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP Act) was enacted on March 11, 2021, and included approximately $165 billion for the ESF.

Although funds from the CARES, CRRSA, and ARP Acts were allocated to the U.S. Department of Education (ED) under a single Federal program (ESF), ED awarded ESF funds to grantees under 23 subprograms (one subprogram, 84.425Q, was awarded only to for-profit institutions and therefore not included in the Compliance Supplement). An alphabetic character at the end of the 84.425 Assistance Listing Number (ALN) was used to delineate the specific subprogram. Each subprogram has its own funding requirements and compliance requirements.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement, Part 4, Department of Education, ESF Introduction)*

### I. Program Objectives

The objective of the HEERF program is to use HEERF grant funds to “prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus” through grants to eligible institutions. Each subprogram (denoted by separate Assistance Listing alpha) has specific funding requirements, as described below.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement, Part 4,* *ESF Section 2 – Higher Education (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)))*

### II. Program Procedures

**Overview**

*Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) – HEERF I*

The CARES Act appropriated approximately $14 billion to the Office of Postsecondary Education for HEERF (referred to herein as HEERF I subprograms or funding).

HEERF, I funding was distributed via several different subprograms, which were continued for HEERF II and HEERF III. First, 90 percent ($12.56 billion) under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act was distributed to institutions using a formula based on student enrollment, in which at least 50 percent must be reserved to provide students with emergency financial aid grants to help cover expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus (“Student Aid;” Assistance Listing 84.425E) and the remainder of which may be used to cover any costs associated with significant changes to the delivery of instruction due to the coronavirus (“Institutional Aid”; Assistance Listing 84.425F). A total of 7.5 percent ($1.05 billion) was distributed under Section 18004(a)(2) of the CARES Act for grants for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs), and other Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) as well as other institutions eligible for the Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP) under parts A and B of title III, parts A and B of title V, and Subpart 4 of Part A of title VII of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), to address needs directly related to the coronavirus (Assistance Listings 84.425J, 84.425K, 84.425L, and 84.425M). Finally, a total of 2.5 percent ($349 million) was distributed under Section 18004(a)(3) of the CARES Act for additional funds for institutions under Part B of title VII of the HEA, through the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE), to prioritize institutions that ED has determined have the greatest unmet needs. ED distributed these funds under a formula grant for institutions that received less than $500,000 under other parts of Section 18004 (Assistance Listing 84.425N) and under a competitive grant (Institutional Resilience and Expanded Postsecondary Opportunity (IREPO) Grant, Assistance Listing 84.425P).

*Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) – HEERF II*

The CRRSAA provided an additional $22.7 billion for institutions through the HEERF (referred to herein as HEERF II subprograms or funding). Of this amount, over $20 billion was available for supplements and new formula grants to assist public and private nonprofit colleges and universities in preparing for, preventing, and responding to coronavirus. Funding was appropriated for the existing (a)(1), (a)(2) and (a)(3) subprograms previously authorized under the CARES Act, with some changes.

Allocations to institutions under Section 314(a)(1) of CRRSAA (the analogous provision of Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act) were based on a formula that includes the relative shares of Federal Pell Grant recipients, the relative shares of non-Pell Grant recipients, and the relative shares of Federal Pell and non-Pell Grant recipients exclusively enrolled in distance education prior to the coronavirus emergency.

The CRRSAA provided a minimum amount of funding that each institution must devote towards financial aid grants to students. In addition, funds allocated for students enrolled exclusively in distance education may be used only for financial aid grants to students.

For CRRSAA (a)(3) funds, ED created the Supplemental Assistance to Institutions of Higher Education (SAIHE) subprogram (Assistance Listing 84.425S) with seven categories (absolute priorities) of funding specified in a notice inviting applications and described in the CRRSAA (a)(3) SAIHE Certification and Agreement. Generally, institutions that received grants under the SAIHE subprogram must use funds for either the allowable institutional uses or making additional emergency financial aid grants to students, as specified in the CRRSAA (a)(3) SAIHE Certification and Agreement.

*American Rescue Plan (ARP) – HEERF III*

The ARP provided an additional $39.6 billion for institutions through the HEERF (referred to herein as HEERF III subprograms or funding) with funding appropriated through existing subprograms previously authorized under the CRRSAA. The ARP, with some changes, was a continuation of the CRRSAA (a)(1), (a)(2), and (a)(3) subprograms.

The ARP established two new required uses of HEERF III institutional grant funds for public and private nonprofit institutions in which a portion of funds must be used to: (a) implement evidence-based practices to monitor and suppress coronavirus in accordance with public health guidelines; and (b) conduct direct outreach to financial aid applicants about the opportunity to receive a financial aid adjustment due to the recent unemployment of a family member or independent student, or other circumstances, described in section 479A of the HEA.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement, Part 4,* *ESF Section 2 – Higher Education (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)))*

### III. Source of Governing Requirements

The main sources of governing requirements are the CARES Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136 (March 27, 2020); the CRRSAA, Pub. L. No. 116-260 (December 27, 2020); and the ARP, Pub. L. No. 117-2 (March 11, 2021).

In addition to the required [SF-424 form,](https://www.grants.gov/forms/sf-424-family.html) a completed certification and agreement was required as part of the application used to award HEERF I funds under each Assistance Listing alpha. HEERF I grantees who received Institutional and/or Student Aid funds received HEERF II grant awards automatically with a supplemental agreement attached. Eligible institutions that did not receive HEERF I Institutional and/or Student Aid funds had to submit a certification and agreement as part of their applications for HEERF II funds. Similarly, HEERF II grantees who received Institutional and/or Student Aid funds received HEERF III grant awards automatically with a supplemental agreement attached. Eligible institutions that did not receive HEERF II Institutional and/or Student Aid funds had to submit a certification and agreement as part of their applications for HEERF III funds.

The certification and agreements and supplemental agreements help form the basis of the governing requirements for these subprograms:

1. Student Aid Fund (Assistance Listing 84.425E)

1. HEERF I – [Agreement Certification and Agreement](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerfstudentscertificationagreement42020a.pdf)

b. HEERF II – [(a)(1) Student Aid Portion Supplemental Agreement Supplemental Agreement](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/supplementalagreement314a1s.pdf)

c. HEERF II – [(a)(1) Student Aid Portion Certification and Agreement (Gold C&A)](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/goldcaheerfiistudent.pdf)

d. HEERF III – [(a)(1) Student Aid Portion Supplemental Agreement](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arpheerfiiisupplementa1student.pdf)

e. HEERF III – [(a)(1) Student Aid Portion Certification and Agreement (a)(1) Student Aid Portion Certification and Agreement](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arpheerfiiicaa1student.pdf)

2. Institutional Aid Fund (Assistance Listing 84.425F)

a. HEERF I – [(a)(1) Institutional Portion Certification and Agreement](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerfInstitutionalcertificationagreement42020v2a.pdf)

b. HEERF II – [(a)(1) Institutional Portion Supplemental Agreement](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/supplementalagreement314a1i.pdf)

c. HEERF II – [(a)(1) Institutional Portion Certification and Agreement (Blue C&A)](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/bluecaheerfiiinstitution.pdf)

d. HEERF III – [(a)(1) Institutional Portion Supplemental Agreement](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/supplementalagreement314a1i.pdf)

e. HEERF III – [(a)(1) Institutional Portion Certification and Agreement](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arpheerfiiicaa1institution.pdf)

3. (a)(2) Programs (Assistance Listings 84.425J, 84.425K, 84.425L, 84.425M)

*Programs not included in this FACCR, see page 1.*

4. (a)(3) Programs (Assistance Listings 84.425N, 84.425S, and 84.425T)

a. HEERF I – [(a)(3) FIPSE Formula Certification and Agreement](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/candafipsea.pdf)

b. HEERF I – [(a)(3) IREPO Notice Inviting Applications](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/08/21/2020-18531/applications-for-new-awards-institutional-resilience-and-expanded-postsecondary-opportunity-grants) (NIA)

c. HEERF II – [(a)(3) SAIHE Certification and Agreement](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerfiisaihea3ca.pdf)

d. HEERF III – [(a)(3) SSARP Certification and Agreement](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/ssarpca.pdf)

Furthermore, the regulations in the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) 34 CFR parts 75, 77, 81, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98, and 99; the OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (non-procurement) in 2 CFR Part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of ED in 2 CFR Part 3485; and the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards in 2 CFR Part 200, as adopted and amended as regulations of ED in 2 CFR Part 3474 (Uniform Guidance) also apply.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement, Part 4,* *ESF Section 2 – Higher Education (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)))*

*For more information on the HEERF program please refer to the* [*Department of Education’s website*](https://www2.ed.gov/programs/heerf/index.html)*.*

### IV. Other Information

**Availability of Other Program Information**

Rulemaking for Student Eligibility

On May 14, 2021, ED [published its Final Rule (FR)](https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2021-10190) regarding eligibility to receive emergency financial aid grants to students under HEERF. It was effective the same day. The FR constitutes ED’s binding final rule regarding student eligibility for HEERF assistance and amends ED’s position to allow any individual who is or was enrolled (as defined in 34 CFR 668.2) at an eligible institution (as defined in 34 CFR 600.2) on or after March 13, 2020, the date of declaration of the national emergency concerning the novel coronavirus disease, to receive HEERF assistance*.*

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and Other Guidance

Several documents posted on ED’s [HEERF I website](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/caresact.html), [HEERF II website,](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/crrsaa.html) and [HEERF III website](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arp.html) contain information pertinent to the compliance requirements described in this compliance supplement. ED strongly encourages auditors to regularly check the HEERF websites for updated FAQs and other pertinent guidance and reporting information. Earlier- released documents listed may also be applicable to later subprograms. The information below is current as of October 25, 2022:

*FAQs*

1. [ARP HEERF III FAQs](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arpfaq.pdf) (May 11, 2021, and updated October 27, 2022) (this is the most comprehensive set of FAQs for the HEERF grant program)

2. [CARES Act HEERF Rollup FAQs](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerffaqsoct2020rollup.pdf) (Compilation of all five previously-released HEERF FAQ documents in one document) (updated November 20, 2020)

3. [CRRSAA HEERF II Section 314(a)(1) Frequently Asked Questions](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/updatedfaqsfora1crrssaheerfii.pdf) (January 14, 2021, and updated March 19, 2021)

4. [HEERF Lost Revenue FAQs](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerflostrevenuefaqs.pdf) (March 19, 2021)

5. [Using American Rescue Plan and Other Pandemic Relief Funds to Provide Incentives to Students to Get the COVID-19 Vaccination](https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/07/FAQ-21.pdf) (July 2021)

6. [HEERF (a)(2) Construction FAQs](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerfa2priorapprovalfaq.pdf) (May 2022)

*Webinars*

7. [HEERF Quarterly Reporting Webinar Information](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerfreporting.html) and [Notes](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/technical-assistance-webinar-notes.pdf) (June 23, 2022)

8. [Overview of HEERF funds in the American Rescue Plan for Public and Private Institutions](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/opebriefingheerfarpinstitution.pdf) (June 2021)

*Other Materials*

9. [HEERF I and HEERF II Comparison Fact Sheet](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/factsheetcrrsaaheerfii.pdf) (January 14, 2021, and updated March 19, 2021)

10. [HEERF Notice of Interpretation for Period of Allowable HEERF Expenses](https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2021-05849) (March 22, 2021)

11. [HEERF Period of Allowable Expenses Grant Records Notice](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerfg5notice.pdf) (March 19, 2021)

12. [Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education; Supplemental Assistance to Institutions of Higher Education CRRSAA a3 NIA](https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2021-06527) (March 29, 2021)

13. [Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education; Supplemental Support under American Rescue Plan](https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2022-02338) (SSARP) ARP a3 NIA (February 3, 2022)

14. [HEERF Quarterly Reporting Changes June 2022](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerfquarterlyreportingchanges.pdf) (June 17, 2022)

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement, Part 4,* *ESF Section 2 – Higher Education (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)))*

*Major Program Determination*

Many auditees will have received and expended funds under multiple ESF subprograms. For major program purposes, auditors must evaluate 84.425 in its entirety. All ESF subprogram expenditures, even those expenditures of subprograms not addressed in this ESF Compliance Supplement, must be considered as part of the ESF program for major program determination purposes.

*Identifying Subawards on the SEFA and Data Collection Form*

For purposes of SEFA and Data Collection Form (Form SF-SAC) reporting, auditees should identify the individual subprogram(s) the funds were expended under, including each separate Assistance Listing Number (ALN) with the applicable alpha character. A total for the ESF in its entirety should also be provided. Auditees may need to determine which subprogram funds were expended through review of grant documents and inquiry of the source agency.

In order to identify more precisely subprogram expenditures, while also incorporating guidance issued by OMB on separately identifying COVID-19 expenditures, ED issued a memo to grantees on August 4, 2021, requesting that auditees include on the Federal Awards page of the Data Collection Form: (1) whether the program is novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) relief assistance; and (2) the subprogram Assistance Listing Number alpha.

Therefore, to apply this requirement to the ESF subprograms, on the Federal Awards page of the Data Collection Form, under column c with the heading “Additional Award Identification,” include the phrase “COVID-19” to be consistent with OMB’s guidance in Appendix VII of the Compliance Supplement. Then place a comma (,) after COVID-19 and include the full Assistance Listing number and capitalized alpha character (A, B, C, etc.) (see example below).

A picture containing table

Description automatically generated**Figure**: The column to include this information on the Data Collection Form, Federal Awards page is circled in the figure below:

Example: A grantee listing the program “Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund – Student Aid Portion” (ALN 84.425E) on the SEFA would complete the Federal Awards page of the Data Collection Form in the following manner:



Table, calendar

Description automatically generated

*Note*: Please note the inclusion of “COVID-19, 84.425E” in column C for the COVID-19 Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund – Student Aid Portion subprogram.

*Consolidation of Administrative Funds (SEAs and LEAs)*

State and local administrative funds for ESSER, GEER, and EANS (84.425C, D, R, U, and V) that are consolidated (as described in Part 4 ED Cross-Cutting, III.A.1, “Activities Allowed or Unallowed – Consolidation of Administrative Funds (SEAs and LEAs”)) should be included in the audit universe and the total expenditures of the programs from which they originated for purposes of (1) determining Type A programs and (2) completing the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA). A footnote showing, by program, amounts of administrative funds consolidated is encouraged.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement, Part 4, Department of Education, ESF Introduction)*

# Part II – Pass through Agency and Grant Specific Information

**This section should contain introductory program specific information that is applicable to the program AL being tested from the pass-through agency and contained within the individual grant agreement.**

### Program Overview

### Testing Considerations

### Reporting

*Example SEFA and Footnote shells, the “Single Audit SEFA 2023 Completeness Guide” and additional resources are available for AOS Staff on the Intranet and for IPAs on the* [*IPA Resource Internet Page*](http://www.ohioauditor.gov/references/practiceaids.html)*.*

# Part III – Applicable Compliance Requirements

## A. ACTIVITIES ALLOWED OR UNALLOWED

### OMB Compliance Requirements

*For a cost to be allowable, it must (1) be for a purpose the specific award permits (tested in FACCR Section A)**and (2) fall within 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E Cost Principles (tested in FACCR Section B). These two criteria are roughly analogous to classifying a cost by both program/function and object. That is, the grant award generally prescribes the allowable program/function while 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E prescribes allowable object cost categories and restrictions that may apply to certain object codes of expenditures.*

*For example, could a government use an imaginary Homeland Security grant to pay OP&F pension costs for its police force? To determine this, the client (and auditors) would look to the grant agreement to see if police activities (security of persons and property function cost classification) met the program objectives. Then, the auditor would look to Subpart E (provisions for selected items of cost § 200.420-200.476) to determine if pension costs (an object cost classification) are permissible. (200.431(g) states they are allowable, with certain provisions, so we would need to determine if the auditee met the provisions.) Both the client and the auditor should look at 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E even if the grant agreement includes a budget by object code approved by the grantor agency. Also, keep in mind that granting agencies have codified 2 CFR Part 200 and some agencies have been granted exceptions to provisions within 2 CFR Part 200.*

The specific requirements for activities allowed or unallowed are unique to each Federal program and are found in the federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award pertaining to the program.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

**Source of Governing Requirements**

The requirements for activities allowed or unallowed are contained in program legislation, Federal awarding agency regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

**Part 4 OMB Program Specific Requirements**

Institutions must demonstrate that costs incurred are allowable under the relevant statutory provisions and consistent with the purpose of the ESF “to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.” In general, the CARES Act authorized broad uses of HEERF funds, with specific standards for the different subprograms described below.

The CRRSAA expanded the allowable uses for supplemental awards and new awards made under Section 314(a)(1) of the CRRSAA. The expanded use of funds authority also applies to unexpended HEERF I funds as of December 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the CRRSAA).

The ARP is largely a continuation of the CRRSAA subprograms but added two new required uses of HEERF III institutional portion grant funds for public and private nonprofit institutions and eliminated the institutional use of funds “to carry out student support activities authorized by the HEA that address needs related to coronavirus.”

Auditors are strongly encouraged to review the FAQ documents and guidance materials which provide specific examples that help interpret these statutory standards.

*1. Activities Allowed*

*a. Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students (Student Aid Portion)*

For the (a)(1) Student Aid Portion (Assistance Listing 84.425E), disbursements made under the Student Aid Portion are required to be made directly to students. ED’s [final rule](https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2021-10190) (Eligibility to Receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the Higher Education Emergency Relief Programs, May 14, 2021) on student eligibility for HEERF states that all students who are or were enrolled in an institution of higher education on or after the date of the declaration of the national emergency due to the coronavirus (March 13, 2020) are eligible for emergency financial aid grants from the HEERF, regardless of whether they completed a FAFSA or are eligible for Title IV.

HEERF I Student Aid Portion funds expended prior to December 27, 2020: These funds must be paid to the student “for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus (including eligible expenses under a student’s cost of attendance, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care)” (CARES Act Section 18004(c)).

HEERF II, and HEERF III, and HEERF I fund liquidated (spent) on or after December 27, 2020: These funds must be used to provide financial aid grants to students (including students exclusively enrolled in distance education), which may be used for “any component of the student’s cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, healthcare (including mental health care), or childcare” (CRRSAA section 314(c)(3); ARP section 2003).

The CRRSAA and ARP requires that schools prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants. However, students do not need to be Pell recipients or students who are eligible for Pell grants in order to receive a financial aid grant.

Beyond Pell eligibility, other types of exceptional need could include students who may be eligible for other Federal or State need-based aid or have faced significant unexpected expenses either for themselves or that would affect their financial circumstances, such as the loss of employment, reduced income, or food or housing insecurity. In addition, the CRRSAA and ARP explicitly states that emergency financial aid grants to students may be provided to students exclusively enrolled in distance education provided they have exceptional need ([HEERF III FAQs](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arpfaq.pdf) questions 11 and 12).

Institutions may not condition the receipt of financial aid grants to students on continued or future enrollment in the institution and may not require a student to consent to the application of the financial aid grants to satisfy a student’s outstanding account balance as a condition of receipt of or eligibility for the financial aid grant. Institutions that add preconditions to receiving a financial aid grant that thwart this requirement may be subjected to oversight and corrective action.

Institutions may use funds under the Institutional Portion Aid Fund to provide additional emergency financial aid grants to students. If an institution chooses to do so, then those funds are subject to the requirements described in the institution’s applicable Student Aid Portion (ALN 84.425E) Certification and Agreement and/or Supplemental Agreement and the *Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students (Student Aid Portion)* section above.

As it relates to expenditures under the HEERF II and HEERF III (a)(1) Student Aid Portion or for additional emergency financial aid grants made using other HEERF grant funds, ED required that (1) the institution had a documented plan to distribute funds to students, (2) that institutions prioritized grants to students with exceptional need, (3) that the institution did not place any restrictions on the expenditure of those funds beyond what is in the statute, above, (4) the institution expended the entirety of the Student Aid Portion grant on Emergency financial aid grants to students, and (5) that the institution did not reimburse itself for any costs or expenses previously issued to students.

*b. Institutional Costs (Institutional Aid, (a)(2), and (a)(3) Funds)*

HEERF I Institutional Aid funds liquidated (spent) prior to December 27, 2020: For the (a)(1) Institutional Portion (Assistance Listing 84.425F), allowable expenditures incurred and liquidated prior to December 27, 2020, must have been “to cover any costs associated with significant changes to the delivery of instruction due to the coronavirus, so long as such costs do not include payment to contractors for the provision of pre- enrollment recruitment activities; endowments; or capital outlays associated with facilities related to athletics, sectarian instruction, or religious worship” (CARES Act Section 18004(c)).

Other allowable expenditures under the HEERF I Institutional Aid Fund included additional emergency financial grants made to students (in accordance with the requirements of the Student Aid Fund). Additionally, institutions also could have reimbursed themselves for refunds previously made to students on or after March 13, 2020, if those refunds were necessitated by significant changes to the delivery of instruction, including interruptions in instruction, due to the coronavirus. Please see questions 31 and 44 from the HEERF I CARES Act Rollup FAQs for more information. Generally, lost revenue was not a permissible expenditure under the HEERF I Institutional Aid Fund.

HEERF II, HEERF III, and HEERF I fund, liquidated (spent) on or after December 27, 2020. Beginning December 27, 2020, any unused HEERF I Institutional funds, new HEERF II Institutional funds, HEERF III Institutional Aid Funds may be used to defray expenses associated with coronavirus (including lost revenue, reimbursement for expenses already incurred, technology costs associated with a transition to distance education, faculty and staff trainings, and payroll) and to make additional financial grants to students (CRRSAA Section 314(c) (1-3); ARP Section 2003). HEERF I and HEERF II funds may also have been used to carry out student support activities authorized by the HEA that address needs related to coronavirus. The ARP eliminated this use of funds for HEERF III.

The following table describes this distinction:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Institutional Portion** | **Date** | **Uses of funds are specified in…** |
| **CARES Act HEERF I** | For allowable expenditures incurred on or after March 13, 2020, and liquidated (spent) prior to December 27, 2020. | CARES Act section 18004(c) |
| **CARES Act HEERF I** | For allowable expenditures incurred on or after March 13, 2020, and liquidated (spent) on or after December 27, 2020. | CRRSAA section 314(c) (1-3) |
| **CRRSAA HEERF II** | For allowable expenditures incurred on or after March 13, 2020. | CRRSAA section 314(c) (1- 3) |
| **ARP HEERF III** | For allowable expenditures incurred on or after March 13, 2020. | CRRSAA section 314(c)(1), (c)(3), and ARP section 2003(5) |

*Required uses of ARP HEERF III Institutional Portion grant funds:* ARP created two new requirements that a portion of HEERF III institutional funds must be used (a) to implement evidence-based practices to monitor and suppress coronavirus in accordance with public health guidelines; and (b) conduct direct outreach to financial aid applicants about the opportunity to receive a financial aid adjustment due to the recent unemployment of a family member or independent student, or other circumstances, described in section 479A of the HEA (see [HEERF III FAQs](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arpfaq.pdf) questions 21 and 28–35).

*HEERF I (a)(2) and (a)(3) subprograms:* For the HEERF I (a)(2) subprograms, (Assistance Listings 84.425J, 84.425K, 84.425L, and 84.425M) and HEERF I (a)(3) FIPSE Formula Grant (Assistance Listing 84.425N), funds “may be used to defray expenses, including lost revenue, reimbursement for expenses already incurred, technology costs associated with a transition to distance education, faculty and staff trainings, payroll incurred by institutions and for grants to students for any component of the student’s cost of attendance (as defined under section 472 of the HEA), including food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care” (CARES Act Sections 18004(a)(2) and 18004(a)(3)).

*Excise Tax for CRRSAA HEERF II:* Institutions that were required to pay an excise tax for tax year 2019 based on investment income under section 3968 of the Internal Revenue Code may only use their HEERF II funds for financial aid grants to students, or for sanitation, personal protective equipment, or other general health and safety expenses related to the coronavirus emergency, and such institutions’ allocations are reduced by 50 percent, unless a waiver has been obtained from ED (CRRSAA Section 314(d)(6)). The ARP eliminated this requirement for HEERF III funds.

*A portion of item b as well as items c through e were excluded as the information pertains to programs not included in this FACCR (see page 1).*

f. *Grantees on Route or Stop Pay Status:* Additionally, some institutions’ grants may have been placed on Route Pay or Stop Pay Status as indicated by a notification the grantee would have received from ED. This requires ED approval of a spending plan prior to the grantee drawing down funds or the submission of single requests with documentation. Auditors should ensure that in these circumstances that the grantee expended their HEERF grant funds consistent with the ED-approved spending plan or required documentation for single requests for funds.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement, Part 4,* *ESF Section 2 – Higher Education (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)))*

*In March 2021, the U.S. Department of Education updated its guidance on lost revenue under HEERF. The prior guidance required all lost revenue be supported with allowable expenditures which did not include replacement of revenue. In the updated guidance, which applies retroactively to the beginning of the program, lost revenue was added as one of the allowable uses of all HEERF institutional funds and is applicable to CARES (HEERF I), Consolidated Appropriations Act (HEERF II), and ARP HEERF (HEERF III).*

*The U.S. Department of Education’s* [*FAQs*](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerflostrevenuefaqs.pdf) *indicate lost revenue evaluations must be associated with the coronavirus pandemic and can be made back to the March 13, 2020 national emergency declaration.*

*FAQ #2 states that reimbursement for lost revenue is allowable for the Institutional Portion program (assistance listing number 84.425F) and the (a)(2) and (a)(3) programs (assistance listing numbers 84.425J, K, L, M, and N) for HEERF grant funds received under:*

* *The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (HEERF I);*
* *The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) (HEERF II); and*
* *The American Rescue Plan (ARP) (HEERF III).*

*Reimbursement for lost revenue is not an allowable use of funds for the Student Aid Portion program (assistance listing number 84.425E) under HEERF I, HEERF II, or HEERF III or the Proprietary Grant Funds to Students program (assistance listing number 84.425Q), as those grant programs may be used only to provide financial aid grants to students.*

*FAQ #12 states, the incurring of the “cost” of lost revenue on an institution’s HEERF grant award does not need to be assigned to any costs or expenses that the institution will pay using the amount of lost revenue since the allowable cost in the HEERF grant programs is the reimbursement of the lost revenue itself.*

*Allowable sources of lost revenue include tuition, room, board, fees, summer camps, bookstore, parking, and various other auxiliary services, to name a few (see FAQ #3). Lost revenue does not have to be associated with, or netted against, expenses and is considered an allowable use (type of expenditure) for quarterly and annual reporting to ED and on the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA).*

*FAQ #9 indicates that institutions who claim students who have dropped classes as lost revenue cannot also provide those same students with tuition reimbursement. Auditors should verify institutions meet these restrictions if lost revenue is claimed.*

### Additional Program Specific Information

**Add program specific requirements from:**

* **The individual grant application, agreement, and policies,**
* **The pass-through agency, and**
* **Federal agency guidance not included in the compliance supplement (such as federal agency grant manuals, references to CFR, etc.)**

**Be sure to indicate the source of your information. If no additional requirements are noted, indicate as such.**

### Audit Objectives and Control Testing

**Audit Objectives**

1. Obtain an understanding of internal control, assess risk, and test internal control as required by 2 CFR section 200.514(c).
2. Determine whether Federal awards were expended only for allowable activities.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

**Control Documentation and Testing**

|  |
| --- |
| *Auditors should clearly document what control procedures address the compliance requirement. Reference or link to documentation or where testing was performed.*  **Basis for the control** *(Ex. reports, resources, etc. providing information needed to understand requirements and prevent or identify and correct errors):*  **Control Procedure** *(Description of how auditee uses the “Basis” to prevent, or identify and correct or detect errors):*  **Person(s) responsible for performing the control procedure** *(Title):*  **Description of evidence documenting the control was applied** *(i.e. sampling unit):* |

### Suggested Substantive Audit Procedures – Compliance

|  |
| --- |
| Consider the results of control testing above in assessing the risk of noncompliance. Use this as the basis for determining the nature, timing, and extent (e.g., number of transactions to be selected) of substantive tests of compliance.  *(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*  ***AOS Auditors:*** *Steps marked with an asterisk (\*) are addressed via the attributes in the payroll and non-payroll Federal Testing Templates available on the Intranet.*  1. Identify the types of activities which are either specifically allowed or prohibited by the laws, regulations, and the provisions of the contract or grant agreements pertaining to the program.  *Auditors should be able to identify these activities using Part 4 requirements as well as tailoring the “Additional Program Specific Information” section above.*  2. When allowability is determined based upon summary level data, perform procedures to verify that:  a. Activities were allowable.  b. Individual transactions were properly classified and accumulated into the activity total.  \*3. When allowability is determined based upon individual transactions, select a sample of transactions and perform procedures to verify that the transaction was for an allowable activity.  4. The auditor should be alert for large transfers of funds from program accounts which may have been used to fund unallowable activities. |

### Audit Implications Summary

|  |
| --- |
| *Consider the adequacy of the system and controls, and the effect on sample size, significant deficiencies/material weaknesses, material non-compliance and management letter comments.*  *Auditors should review this* [*link*](Agency_Adoption_of_the_UG_and_Example_Citations.pdf) *for a discussion on how to cite non-compliance exceptions based on agency adoption of the UG.*   1. **Results of Test of Controls:** *(including material weaknesses, significant deficiencies, and management letter items)* 2. **Assessment of Control Risk:** 3. **Effect on the Nature, Timing, and Extent of Compliance (Substantive Test) including Sample Size:** 4. **Results of Compliance (Substantive Tests) Tests:** 5. **Questioned Costs: Actual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Projected \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |

## B. ALLOWABLE COSTS/COST PRINCIPLES

**Introduction**

2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E and Appendices III-VII establish principles and standards for determining allowable direct and indirect costs for Federal awards. This section is organized into the following areas of allowable costs: States and Local Government and Indian Tribe Costs (Direct and Indirect); State/Local Government Central Service Costs; and State Public Assistance Agency Costs.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

*FACCR Section B includes five distinct testing sections, the first of which is always applicable.*

1. *Cost Principles for States, Local Governments, and Indian Tribes – testing guidance and steps included in FACCR, not separate testing document.*

*Auditors* ***must*** *evaluate if additional section(s) are applicable to their Entity, including sources reviewed to verify applicability. For additional sections, auditors must pull the testing section(s) into their working papers and test accordingly.*

*Additional testing sections are located* [***here***](https://ohauditor.sharepoint.com/sites/Intranet/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx?FolderCTID=0x0120002FFBFB1F4A3C3F47AE37C7A44E1C1EDE&id=%2Fsites%2FIntranet%2FShared%20Documents%2FAudit%5FResources%2FFederal%2FFACCRs%20and%20IRAFs%2F2023%2FSection%20B%20Addenda&viewid=68cb3ab2%2D567e%2D456a%2D975c%2Da88f3e9c3727)*for AOS auditors and* [***here***](https://ohioauditor.gov/references/practiceaids/faccrs.html) *for IPA auditors.*

1. *De Minimis Indirect Cost Rate*
   1. *This section must be tested if the Entity utilizes the de minimis indirect cost rate to charge indirect costs to the grant, whether as a recipient or subrecipient.*
   2. *Applicability Determination:* **Auditors must specify here if this section is applicable to the Entity and identify which sources were reviewed to make the determination.**
   3. *If applicable, testing documents:* **Link to testing documents**
2. *Allowable Costs – State/Local Government-wide Central Service Costs*
   1. *This section must be tested if the Entity allocated costs to the grant using central service cost allocation plans (CAPs).*
   2. *Applicability Determination:* **Auditors must specify here if this section is applicable to the Entity and identify which sources were reviewed to make the determination.**
   3. *If applicable, testing documents:* **Link to testing documents**
3. *Allowable Costs – State Public Assistance Agency Costs*
   1. *This section must be tested if the Entity charged state public assistance agency costs to the grant.* 
      1. *State public assistance agency costs are defined as (1) all costs allocated or incurred by the State agency except expenditures for financial assistance, medical vendor payments, and payments for service and goods provided directly to program recipients and (2) normally charged to Federal awards by implementing the public assistance cost allocation plan (CAP).*
      2. *This may be applicable at the local level if local entities perform procedures to support the State compliance (For example, this may occur with JFS programs)*
   2. *Applicability Determination:* **Auditors must specify here if this section is applicable to the Entity and identify which sources were reviewed to make the determination.**
   3. *If applicable, testing documents:* **Link to testing documents**
4. *Cost Principles for Nonprofit Organizations* 
   1. *This section must be tested if the Entity is a nonprofit organization.*
   2. *Applicability Determination:* **Auditors must specify here if this section is applicable to the Entity and identify which sources were reviewed to make the determination.**
   3. *If applicable, testing documents:* **Link to testing documents**

### Applicability of Cost Principles

*For a cost to be allowable, it must (1) be for a purpose the specific award permits (tested in FACCR Section A) and (2) fall within 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E Cost Principles (tested in FACCR Section B). These two criteria are roughly analogous to classifying a cost by both program/function and object. That is, the grant award generally prescribes the allowable program/function while 2 CFR 200, Subpart E prescribes allowable object cost categories and restrictions that may apply to certain object codes of expenditures.*

*For example, could a government use an imaginary Homeland Security grant to pay OP&F pension costs for its police force? To determine this, the client (and we) would look to the grant agreement to see if police activities (security of persons and property function cost classification) met the program objectives. Then, the auditor would look to Subpart E (provisions for selected items of cost § 200.420-200.476) to determine if pension costs (an object cost classification) are permissible. (200.431(g) states they are allowable, with certain provisions, so we would need to determine if the auditee met the provisions.) Both the client and the auditor should look at 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E even if the grant agreement includes a budget by object code approved by the grantor agency. Also, keep in mind that granting agencies have codified 2 CFR Part 200 and some agencies have been granted exceptions to provisions within 2 CFR Part 200.*

*The specific requirements for activities allowed or unallowed are unique to each Federal program and are found in the laws, regulations, and the provisions of the Federal award contracts or grant agreements pertaining to the program.*

The cost principles in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E (Cost Principles), prescribe the cost accounting requirements associated with the administration of Federal awards by:

1. States, local governments and Indian tribes
2. Institutions of higher education (IHEs)
3. Nonprofit organizations

As provided in 2 CFR 200.101, the cost principles requirements apply to all Federal awards with the exception of grant agreements and cooperative agreements providing food commodities; agreements for loans, loan guarantees, interest subsidies, insurance; and programs listed in 2 CFR 200.101(e) (see Appendix I of this Supplement). Federal awards administered by publicly owned hospitals and other providers of medical care are exempt from 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E, but are subject to the requirements [45 CFR Part 75, Appendix IX](45_CFR_Part_75.pdf), the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) implementation of 2 CFR Part 200. The cost principles applicable to a non-Federal entity apply to all Federal awards received by the entity, regardless of whether the awards are received directly from the Federal awarding agency or indirectly through a pass-through entity. For this purpose, Federal awards include cost-reimbursement contacts under the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR). The cost principles do not apply to Federal awards under which a non-Federal entity is not required to account to the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity for actual costs incurred.

**Source of Governing Requirements**

The requirements for allowable costs/cost principles are contained in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E, program legislation, Federal awarding agency regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award.

The requirements for the development and submission of indirect (facilities and administration (F&A)) cost rate proposals and cost allocation plans (CAPs) are contained in 2 CFR Part 200, Appendices III-VII as follows:

* Appendix III to Part 200—Indirect (F&A) Const Identification and Assignment and Rate Determination for Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs)
* Appendix IV to Part 200—Indirect (F&A) Costs Identification and Assignment, and Rate Determination for Nonprofit Organizations
* Appendix V to Part 200—State/Local Government-Wide Central Service Cost Allocation Plans
* Appendix VI to Part 200—Public Assistance Cost Allocation Plans
* Appendix VII to Part 200—States and Local Government and Indian Tribe Indirect Cost Proposals

Except for the requirements identified below under “Basic Guidelines,” which are applicable to all types of non-Federal entities, this compliance requirement is divided into sections based on the type of non-Federal entity. The differences that exist are necessary because of the nature of the non-Federal entity organizational structures, programs administered, and breadth of services offered by some non-Federal entities and not others.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

**Basic Guidelines**

Except where otherwise authorized by statute, costs must meet the following general criteria in order to be allowable under Federal awards;

1. Be necessary and reasonable for the performance of the Federal award and be allocable thereto under the principles in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E.

2. Conform to any limitations or exclusions set forth in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E or in the Federal award as to types or amount of cost items.

3. Be consistent with policies and procedures that apply uniformly to both federally financed and other activities of the non-Federal entity.

4. Be accorded consistent treatment. A cost may not be assigned to a Federal award as a direct cost if any other cost incurred for the same purpose in like circumstances has been allocated to the Federal award as an indirect cost.

5. Be determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), except, for State and local governments and Indian tribes only, as otherwise provided for in 2 CFR Part 200.

6. Not be included as a cost or used to meet cost-sharing or matching requirements of any other federally financed program in either the current or a prior period.

7. Be adequately documented.

**Selected Items of Cost**

2 CFR 200.420 - 200.476 provide the principles to be applied in establishing the allowability of certain items of cost, in addition to the basic considerations identified above. These principles apply whether or not a particular item of cost is treated as a direct cost or indirect (F&A) cost. Failure to mention a particular item of cost is not intended to imply that it is either allowable or unallowable; rather, determination of allowability in each case should be based on the treatment provided for similar or related items of cost and the principles described in 2 CFR 200.402 - 200.411.

[List of Selected Items of Cost Contained in 2 CFR Part 200](Selected_Items_of_Cost_Part_3_ComplianceSupplement.pdf)

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

**Part 4 OMB Program Specific Requirements**

The Uniform Guidance Cost Principles described in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E, apply to the HEERF subprogram. As described earlier, for the HEERF subprograms covered in this section, institutions generally have broad uses of funds. Some items of cost in Subpart E of the Uniform Guidance require prior approval under [2 CFR section 200.407](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=783c533c982a3e15188b76c8e82a413a&mc=true&node=se2.1.200_1407&rgn=div8) by ED. However, in its [HEERF II FAQs](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/updatedfaqsfora1crrssaheerfii.pdf) published on January 14, 2021, and [HEERF III FAQs](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arpfaqsample.pdf) published on May 11, 2021, ED waived prior approval for certain items of cost (as described in questions 20 and 45, respectively).

1. HEERF grant funds must not be used for:

a. funding contractors for the provision of pre-enrollment recruitment activities;

b. marketing or recruitment (see [HEERF III FAQs](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arpfaq.pdf) question 27 for information on reengagement activities);

c. endowments;

d. capital outlays associated with facilities related to athletics, sectarian instruction, or religious worship;

e. senior administrator or executive salaries, benefits, bonuses, contracts, incentives, stock buybacks, shareholder dividends, capital distributions, and stock options, or any other cash or other benefit for a senior administrator or executive;

f. religious worship, instruction, or proselytization or equipment or supplies to be used for religious worship, instruction, or proselytization; or

g. construction or purchase of real property, excluding HEERF (a)(2) *(Assistance Listings 84.425J, 84.425K, 84.425L, and 84.425M)* grantees\*.

Please see also [HEERF III FAQs](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arpfaq.pdf) question 22 for more information.

\*With the exception of HEERF (a)(2) grantees using their (a)(2) grant funds that receive prior approval from ED, grantees are prohibited from using HEERF funding for the acquisition of real property or construction under [34 CFR section 75.533](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=702fa4c3f2eb8959992bd86c5b6dcc04&mc=true&node=pt34.1.75&rgn=div5&se34.1.75_1533). This includes using HEERF grant funds on capital projects, including deferred maintenance and capital improvement.

However, this general prohibition on construction and acquisition of real property does not extend to activities that meet the definition of “minor remodeling” under [34 CFR section 77.1](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=702fa4c3f2eb8959992bd86c5b6dcc04&mc=true&node=pt34.1.77&rgn=div5). Minor remodeling means minor alterations in a previously completed building, for purposes associated with the coronavirus. The term also includes the extension of utility lines, such as water and electricity, from points beyond the confines of the space in which the minor remodeling is undertaken but within the confines of the previously completed building The term does not include permanent building construction, structural alterations to buildings, building maintenance, or repairs (see also [HEERF III FAQs](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arpfaq.pdf) questions 23 and 24).

Reasonable direct administrative costs and indirect costs at an institution’s approved negotiated indirect cost rate may be charged against Assistance Listing 84.425F (the Institutional portion). An institution may not apply an indirect cost rate to its estimated amount of lost revenue.

No administrative costs and no indirect costs are allowed to be charged against Assistance Listing 84.425E (the Student Aid Portion), as CARES Act Section 18004(c), CRRSAA Section 314 (c)(3), and ARP 2003 require that these funds be used to provide emergency financial aid grants to students. All administrative costs must be reasonable and necessary and conform to Cost Principles described in 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E of the Uniform Guidance (see [HEERF II FAQs](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/updatedfaqsfora1crrssaheerfii.pdf) Question 18 and [HEERF III FAQs](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arpfaq.pdf) questions 43 and 44).

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement, Part 4,* *ESF Section 2 – Higher Education (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)))*

*In March 2021, the U.S. Department of Education updated its guidance on lost revenue under HEERF. The prior guidance required all lost revenue be supported with allowable expenditures which did not include replacement of revenue. In the updated guidance, which applies retroactively to the beginning of the program, lost revenue was added as one of the allowable uses of all HEERF institutional funds and is applicable to CARES (HEERF I), Consolidated Appropriations Act (HEERF II), and ARP HEERF (HEERF III).*

*The U.S. Department of Education’s* [*FAQs*](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerflostrevenuefaqs.pdf) *indicate lost revenue evaluations must be associated with the coronavirus pandemic and can be made back to the March 13, 2020 national emergency declaration.*

*FAQ #2 states that reimbursement for lost revenue is allowable for the Institutional Portion program (assistance listing number 84.425F) and the (a)(2) and (a)(3) programs (assistance listing numbers 84.425J, K, L, M, and N) for HEERF grant funds received under:*

* *The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (HEERF I);*
* *The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) (HEERF II); and*
* *The American Rescue Plan (ARP) (HEERF III).*

*Reimbursement for lost revenue is not an allowable use of funds for the Student Aid Portion program (assistance listing number 84.425E) under HEERF I, HEERF II, or HEERF III or the Proprietary Grant Funds to Students program (assistance listing number 84.425Q), as those grant programs may be used only to provide financial aid grants to students.*

*FAQ #12 states, the incurring of the “cost” of lost revenue on an institution’s HEERF grant award does not need to be assigned to any costs or expenses that the institution will pay using the amount of lost revenue since the allowable cost in the HEERF grant programs is the reimbursement of the lost revenue itself.*

*Allowable sources of lost revenue include tuition, room, board, fees, summer camps, bookstore, parking, and various other auxiliary services, to name a few (see FAQ #3). Lost revenue does not have to be associated with, or netted against, expenses and is considered an allowable use (type of expenditure) for quarterly and annual reporting to ED and on the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA).*

*FAQ #9 indicates that institutions who claim students who have dropped classes as lost revenue cannot also provide those same students with tuition reimbursement. Auditors should verify institutions meet these restrictions if lost revenue is claimed.*

***Written Procedure Requirements:***

*2 CFR 200.302(b)(7) requires written procedures for determining the allowability of costs in accordance with Subpart E-Cost Principles of this part and the terms and conditions of the Federal award.*

*2 CFR 200.430 states that costs of compensation are allowable to the extent that they satisfy the specific requirements of this part, and that the total compensation for individual employees: (1) Is reasonable for the services rendered and conforms to the established written policy of the non-Federal entity consistently applied to both Federal and non-Federal activities; (2) Follows an appointment made in accordance with a non-Federal entity's laws and/or rules or written policies and meets the requirements of Federal statute, where applicable; and (3) Is determined and supported as provided in paragraph (i) of this section, Standards for Documentation of Personnel Expenses, when applicable.*

*2 CFR 200.431 requires established written leave policies if the entity intends to pay fringe benefits.*

*2 CFR 200.464(a)(2) requires reimbursement of relocation costs to employees be in accordance with an established written policy must be consistently followed by the employer.*

*2 CFR 200.475 requires reimbursement and/or charges to be consistent with those normally allowed in like circumstances in the non-Federal entity's non-federally funded activities and in accordance with non-Federal entity's written travel reimbursement policies.*

### Additional Program Specific Information

**Add program specific requirements from:**

* **The individual grant application, agreement, and policies,**
* **The pass-through agency, and**
* **Federal agency guidance not included in the compliance supplement (such as federal agency grant manuals, references to CFR, etc.)**

**Be sure to indicate the source of your information. If no additional requirements are noted, indicate as such.**

### Cost Principles for States, Local Governments and Indian Tribes

### OMB Compliance Requirements

**Direct Costs**

Direct costs are those costs that can be identified specifically with a particular final cost objective, such as a federal award or other internally or externally funded activity, or that can be directly assigned to such activities relatively easily with a high degree of accuracy.

Costs incurred for the same purpose in like circumstances must be treated consistently as either direct or indirect costs.

**Indirect Costs**

*Allocation of Indirect Costs and Determination of Indirect Cost Rates*

1. The specific methods for allocating indirect costs and computing indirect cost rates are as follows:
   1. *Simplified Method* – This method is applicable where a governmental unit’s department or agency has only one major function, or where all its major functions benefit from the indirect cost to approximately the same degree. The allocation of indirect costs and the computation of an indirect cost rate may be accomplished through simplified allocation procedures described in 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix VII, paragraph C.2.
   2. *Multiple Allocation Base Method* – This method is applicable where a governmental unit’s department or agency has several major functions that benefit from its indirect costs in varying degrees. The allocation of indirect costs may require the accumulation of such costs into separate groupings which are then allocated individually to benefiting functions by means of a base which best measures the relative degree of benefit. (For detailed information, refer to 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix VII, paragraph C.3.)
   3. *Special Indirect Cost Rates* – In some instances, a single indirect cost rate for all activities of a department or agency may not be appropriate. Different factors may substantially affect the indirect costs applicable to a particular program or group of programs (e.g., the physical location of the work, the nature of the facilities, or level of administrative support required). (For the requirements for a separate indirect cost rate, refer to 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix VII, paragraph C.4.)
   4. *Cost Allocation Plans* – In certain cases, the cognizant agency for indirect costs may require a state or local government o unit’s department or agency to prepare a CAP instead of an ICRP. These are infrequently occurring cases in which the nature of the department or agency’s federal awards makes impracticable the use of a rate to recover indirect costs. A CAP required in such cases consists of narrative descriptions of the methods the department or agency uses to allocate indirect costs to programs, awards, or other cost objectives. Like an ICRP, the CAP either must be submitted to the cognizant agency for indirect cost for review, negotiation, and approval, or retained on file for inspection during audits.

*Submission Requirements*

1. Submission requirements are identified in 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix VII, paragraph D.1. All departments or agencies of a governmental unit claiming indirect costs under federal awards must prepare an ICRP and related documentation to support those costs.
2. A state/local department or agency or Indian tribe that receives more than $35 million in direct federal funding must submit its ICRP to its cognizant agency for indirect costs. Other state/local government departments or agencies that are not required to submit a proposal to the cognizant agency for indirect costs must develop an ICRP in accordance with the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 and maintain the proposal and related supporting documentation for audit.
3. Where a government receives funds as a subrecipient only, the pass-through entity will be responsible for the indirect cost rate used (2 CFR section 200.331(a)(4)).
4. Each Indian tribe desiring reimbursement of indirect costs must submit its ICRP to the DOI (its cognizant agency for indirect costs).
5. ICRPs must be developed (and, when required, submitted) within 6 months after the close of the governmental unit’s fiscal year, unless an exception is approved by the cognizant agency for indirect costs.

*Documentation and Certification Requirements*

The documentation and certification requirements for ICRPs are included in 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix VII, paragraphs D.2 and 3, respectively. The proposal and related documentation must be retained for audit in accordance with the record retention requirements contained in 2 CFR section 200.333(f).

**Cognizant Agency for Indirect Costs**

2 CFR Part 200, Appendix V, paragraph F, provides the guidelines to use when determining the Federal agency that will serve as the cognizant agency for indirect costs for States, local governments, and Indian tribes. References to the “cognizant agency for indirect costs” are not equivalent to the cognizant agency for audit responsibilities, which is defined in 2 CFR 200.1\_Cognizant\_Agency.

For indirect cost rates and departmental indirect cost allocation plans, the cognizant agency is generally the Federal agency with the largest value of direct Federal awards (excluding pass-through awards) with a governmental unit or component, as appropriate. In general, unless different arrangements are agreed to by the concerned Federal agencies or described in 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix V, paragraph F, the cognizant agency for central service cost allocation plans is the Federal agency with the largest dollar value of total Federal awards (including pass-through awards) with a governmental unit.

Once designated as the cognizant agency for indirect costs, the Federal agency remains so for a period of 5 years. In addition, 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix V, paragraph F, lists the cognizant agencies for certain specific types of plans and the cognizant agencies for indirect costs for certain types of governmental entities. For example, HHS is cognizant for all public assistance and State-wide cost allocation plans for all States (including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico), State and local hospitals, libraries, and health districts and the Department of the Interior (DOI) is cognizant for all Indian tribal governments, territorial governments, and State and local park and recreational districts.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

#### Audit Objectives and Control Tests: Allowable Costs –– Direct and Indirect Costs

The individual State/local government/Indian tribe departments or agencies (also known as “operating agencies”) are responsible for the performance or administration of Federal awards. In order to receive cost reimbursement **under** Federal awards, the department or agency usually submits claims asserting that allowable and eligible costs (direct and indirect) have been incurred in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E.

The indirect cost rate proposal (ICRP) provides the documentation prepared by a State/local government/Indian tribe department or agency to substantiate its request for the establishment of an indirect cost rate. The indirect costs include (1) costs originating in the department or agency of the governmental unit carrying out Federal awards, and (2) for States and local governments, costs of central governmental services distributed through the State/local government-wide central service CAP that are not otherwise treated as direct costs. The ICRPs are based on the most current financial data and are used to either establish predetermined, fixed, or provisional indirect cost rates or to finalize provisional rates (for rate definitions refer to 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix VII, paragraph B).

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

**Audit Objectives**

1. Obtain an understanding of internal control, assess risk, and test internal control as required by 2 CFR section 200.514(c).

**Audit Objectives: Direct Costs**

1. Determine whether the organization complied with the provisions of 2 CFR Part 200 as follows:
2. Direct charges to federal awards were for allowable costs.
3. Unallowable costs determined to be direct costs were included in the allocation base for the purpose of computing an indirect cost rate.

**Audit Objectives: Indirect Costs**

1. Determine whether the governmental unit complied with the provisions of 2 CFR Part 200 as follows:
2. Charges to cost pools used in calculating indirect cost rates were for allowable costs.
3. The methods for allocating the costs are in accordance with the cost principles, and produce an equitable and consistent distribution of costs (e.g., all activities that benefit from the indirect cost, including unallowable activities, must receive an appropriate allocation of indirect costs).
4. Indirect cost rates were applied in accordance with negotiated indirect cost rate agreements (ICRA).
5. For State/local departments or agencies that do not have to submit an ICRP to the cognizant agency for indirect costs (those that receive less than $35 million in direct Federal awards), indirect cost rates were applied in accordance with the ICRP maintained on file.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

***Additional Control Test Objectives for Written Procedures***

*When documenting and identifying the key control(s) in place to address the compliance requirement, consider if the client has written procedures to document the control process.*

* *UG requires written policies for the requirements outlined in 2 CFR 200.302(b)(7), 2 CFR 200.430, 2 CFR 200.431, 2 CFR 200.464(a)(2), and 2 CFR 200.475.*
* *Document whether the non-federal entity established written procedures consistent with the following requirements:*
  + *2 CFR 200.302(b)(7) for determining the allowability of costs in accordance with Subpart E-Cost Principles.*
  + *2 CFR 200.430 for allowability of compensation costs.*
  + *2 CFR 200.431 for written leave policies.*
  + *2 CFR 200.464(a)(2) for reimbursement of relocation costs.*
  + *2 CFR 200.475 for travel reimbursements.*
* *It is auditor judgment how to report instances where the entity either lacks having a written policy or their written policy is insufficient to meet the requirements of 2 CFR 200.302(b)(7), 2 CFR 200.430, 2 CFR 200.431, 2 CFR 200.464(a)(2), and 2 CFR 200.475.*
  + *While auditors would normally use a written policy as the basis for the compliance control, there could be other key controls in place to ensure program compliance.*
  + *The lack of a policy would be noncompliance, which could rise to the level of material noncompliance and even a control deficiency (SD / MW) if there were underlying internal control deficiencies.* 
    - *If there are key controls in place operating effectively, AOS auditors would report the lack of the required UG policy as a management letter citation. However, in subsequent audits, evaluate if the noncompliance should be elevated if not adopted. Written policies aid in consistency and adherence to requirements strengthening internal control processes.*

**Control Documentation and Testing**

|  |
| --- |
| *Auditors should clearly document what control procedures address the compliance requirement. Reference or link to documentation or where testing was performed.*  **Basis for the control** *(Ex. reports, resources, etc. providing information needed to understand requirements and prevent or identify and correct errors)*:  **Control Procedure** *(Description of how auditee uses the “Basis” to prevent, or identify and correct or detect errors)*:  **Person(s) responsible for performing the control procedure** *(Title)*:  **Description of evidence documenting the control was applied** *(i.e. sampling unit)*: |

#### Suggested Substantive Audit Procedures – Compliance – Direct and Indirect Costs

|  |
| --- |
| Consider the results of control testing above in assessing the risk of noncompliance. Use this as the basis for determining the nature, timing, and extent (e.g., number of transactions to be selected) of substantive tests of compliance.  *(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*  ***AOS Auditors:*** *Steps marked with an asterisk (\*) are addressed via the attributes in the payroll and non-payroll Federal Testing Templates available on the Intranet.*  ***Direct Costs***  \*Test a sample of transactions for conformance with the following criteria contained in 2 CFR Part 200, as applicable:   1. If the auditor identifies unallowable direct costs, the auditor should be aware that “directly associated costs” might have been charged. Directly associated costs are costs incurred solely as a result of incurring another cost, and would not have been incurred if the other cost had not been incurred. For example, fringe benefits are “directly associated” with payroll costs. When an unallowable cost is incurred, directly associated costs are also unallowable. 2. Costs were approved by the Federal awarding agency, if required (see the above table (Selected Items of Cost, Exhibit 1) or 2 CFR 200.407 for selected items of cost that require prior written approval). 3. Costs did not consist of improper payments, including (1) payments that should not have been made or that were made in incorrect amounts (including overpayments and underpayments) under statutory, contractual, administrative, or other legally applicable requirements; (2) payments that do not account for credit for applicable discounts; (3) duplicate payments; (4) payments that were made to an ineligible party or for an ineligible good or service; and (5) payments for goods or services not received (except for such payments where authorized by law).   d. Costs were necessary and reasonable for the performance of the Federal award and allocable under the principles of 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E.  e. Costs conformed to any limitations or exclusions set forth in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E, or in the Federal award as to types or amount of cost items.  *While several selected items of cost are included in Exhibit 1 , one item to note is* Compensation - Personnel Services*, (formally referred to as Time and Effort/Semi Annual Certification). See 2 CFR 200.430.*  *As a reminder, this is a policy-based requirement. If employees are partially paid from at least one federal grant, auditors should review the auditee’s policy for ensuring employee pay is allocated to federal programs based on actual time spent on each program and test accordingly.*  f. Costs were consistent with policies and procedures that apply uniformly to both federally financed and other activities of the State/local government/Indian tribe department or agency.  g. Costs were accorded consistent treatment. Costs were not assigned to a Federal award as a direct cost if any other cost incurred for the same purpose in like circumstances was allocated to the Federal award as an indirect cost.  h. Costs were not included as a cost of any other federally financed program in either the current or a prior period.  i. Costs were not used to meet the cost-sharing or matching requirements of another Federal program, except where authorized by Federal statute.  j. Costs were adequately documented.  ***Indirect Costs***  a. If the State/local department or agency is not required to submit an ICRP and related supporting documentation, the auditor should consider the risk of the reduced level of oversight in designing the nature, timing, and extent of compliance testing.  b. *General Audit Procedures* – The following procedures apply to charges to cost pools that are allocated wholly or partially to Federal awards or used in formulating indirect cost rates used for recovering indirect costs under Federal awards.  (1) Test a sample of transactions for conformance with:  (a) The criteria contained in the “Basic Considerations” section of 2 CFR 200.402 - 200.411.  (b) The principles to establish allowability or unallowability of certain items of cost (2 CFR 200.420 - 200.476).  *While several selected items of cost are included in Exhibit 1 , one item to note is* Compensation - Personnel Services*, (formally referred to as Time and Effort/Semi Annual Certification). See 2 CFR 200.430.*  *As a reminder, this is a policy-based requirement. If employees are partially paid from at least one federal grant, auditors should review the auditee’s policy for ensuring employee pay is allocated to federal programs based on actual time spent on each program and test accordingly.*  (2) If the auditor identifies unallowable costs, the auditor should be aware that directly associated costs might have been charged. Directly associated costs are costs incurred solely as a result of incurring another cost, and would have not been incurred if the other cost had not been incurred. When an unallowable cost is incurred, directly associated costs are also unallowable. For example, occupancy costs related to unallowable general costs of government are also unallowable.  c. *Special Audit Procedures for State, Local Government, and Indian Tribe ICRPs (see also the AOS discussion on* [*testing the ICRP*](Testing_the_ICRP_discussion.pdf)*)*  (1) Verify that the ICRP includes the required documentation in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix VII, paragraph D.  (2) *Testing of the ICRP* – There may be a timing consideration when the audit is completed before the ICRP is completed. In this instance, the auditor should consider performing interim testing of the costs charged to the cost pools and the allocation bases (e.g., determine from management the cost pools that management expects to include in the ICRP and test the costs for compliance with 2 CFR Part 200). Should there be audit exceptions, corrective action may be taken earlier to minimize questioned costs. In the next year’s audit, the auditor should complete testing and verify management’s representations against the completed ICRP.  The following procedures are some acceptable options the auditor may use to obtain assurance that the costs collected in the cost pools and the allocation methods used are in compliance with 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E:  (a) *Indirect Cost Pool* – Test the indirect cost pool to ascertain if it includes only allowable costs in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200.  (i) Test to ensure that unallowable costs are identified and eliminated from the indirect cost pool (e.g., capital expenditures, general costs of government).  (ii) Identify significant changes in expense categories between the prior ICRP and the current ICRP. Test a sample of transactions to verify the allowability of the costs.  (iii) Trace the central service costs that are included in the indirect cost pool to the approved State/local government or central service CAP or to plans on file when submission is not required.  (b) *Direct Cost Base* – Test the methods of allocating the costs to ascertain if they are in accordance with the applicable provisions of 2 CFR Part 200 and produce an equitable distribution of costs.  (i) Determine that the proposed base(s) includes all activities that benefit from the indirect costs being allocated.  (ii) If the direct cost base is not limited to direct salaries and wages, determine that distorting items are excluded from the base. Examples of distorting items include capital expenditures, flow-through funds (such as benefit payments), and subaward costs in excess of $25,000 per subaward.  (iii) Determine the appropriateness of the allocation base (e.g., salaries and wages, modified total direct costs).  (c) *Other Procedures*  (i) Examine the records for employee compensation to ascertain if they are accurate, and the costs are allowable and properly allocated to the various functional and programmatic activities to which salary and wage costs are charged. (Refer to 2 CFR 200.430 for additional information on support of salaries and wages.)  (ii) For an ICRP using the multiple allocation base method, test statistical data (e.g., square footage, audit hours, salaries and wages) to ascertain if the proposed allocation or rate bases are reasonable, updated as necessary, and do not contain any material omissions.  (3) *Testing of Charges Based Upon the ICRA* – Perform the following procedures to test the application of charges to Federal awards based upon an ICRA:  (a) Obtain and read the current ICRA and determine the terms in effect.  (b) Select a sample of claims for reimbursement and verify that the rates used are in accordance with the rate agreement, that rates were applied to the appropriate bases, and that the amounts claimed were the product of applying the rate to the applicable base. Verify that the costs included in the base(s) are consistent with the costs that were included in the base year (e.g., if the allocation base is total direct costs, verify that current-year direct costs do not include costs items that were treated as indirect costs in the base year).  (4) *Other Procedures* – No Negotiated ICRA  (a) If an indirect cost rate has not been negotiated by a cognizant agency for indirect costs, the auditor should determine whether documentation exists to support the costs. When the auditee has documentation, the suggested general audit procedures under paragraph 3.b above should be performed to determine the appropriateness of the indirect cost charges to awards.  (b) If an indirect cost rate has not been negotiated by a cognizant agency for indirect costs, and documentation to support the indirect costs does not exist, the auditor should question the costs based on a lack of supporting documentation. |

### Audit Implications Summary

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| *Consider the adequacy of the system and controls, and the effect on sample size, significant deficiencies/material weaknesses, material non-compliance and management letter comments.*  *Auditors should review this* [*link*](Agency_Adoption_of_the_UG_and_Example_Citations.pdf) *for a discussion on how to cite non-compliance exceptions based on agency adoption of the UG.*  ***This box should include results of applicable additional testing sections as determined at the beginning of Section B.***   1. **Results of Test of Controls:** *(including material weaknesses, significant deficiencies and management letter items)* 2. **Assessment of Control Risk:** 3. **Effect on the Nature, Timing, and Extent of Compliance (Substantive Test) including Sample Size:** 4. **Results of Compliance (Substantive Tests) Tests:** 5. **Questioned Costs: Actual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Projected \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |

## C. CASH MANAGEMENT

### OMB Compliance Requirements

***Grants and Cooperative Agreements***

***All Non-Federal Entities***

Non-Federal entities must establish written procedures to implement the requirements of 2 CFR 200.305 (2 CFR 200.302(b)(6)).

***Non-Federal Entities Other Than States***

Non-Federal entities must minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds from the U.S. Treasury or pass-through entity and disbursement by the non-Federal entity for direct program or project costs and the proportionate share of allowable indirect costs, whether the payment is made by electronic funds transfer, or issuance or redemption of checks, warrants, or payment by other means (2 CFR 200.305(b)).

What constitutes minimized elapsed time for funds transfer will depend on what payment system/method a non-federal entity uses. For example:

* The US Department of Health and Human Service (HHS) processes its financial transactions with non-federal entities through HHS’s Program Support Center (PCS), which uses the Payment Management System (PMS). Usually, payments from PMS process overnight and the funds would be available in a non-federal entity’s account the next business day. HHS also processes payments through same day wires (mostly state governments).
* Federal agencies, such as the US Department of Commerce, and US Department of the Interior, use the US Treasury’s Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) system for grant and cooperative agreement payments. Non-federal entities can use the ASAP on-line process to request and receive same-day payment.

Under the advance payment method, federal awarding agency or pass-through entity payment is made to the non-federal entity before the non-federal entity disburses the funds for program purposes (2 CFR section 200.1). A non-federal entity must be paid in advance provided that it maintains, or demonstrates the willingness to maintain, both written procedures that minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds from the US Treasury and disbursement by the non-federal entity, as well as a financial management system that meets the specified standards for fund control and accountability (2 CFR section 200.305(b)(1)).

The reimbursement payment method is the preferred payment method if (a) the non-federal entity cannot the meet the requirements in 2 CFR section 200.305(b)(1) for advance payment, (b) the federal awarding agency sets a specific condition for use of the reimbursement or (c) if requested by the non-federal entity (2 CFR sections 200.305(b)(3) and 200.207). The reimbursement payment method also may be used on a federal award for construction or for other construction activity as specified in 2 CFR section 200.305(b)(3).

To the extent available, the non-Federal entity must disburse funds available from program income (including repayments to a revolving fund), rebates, refunds, contract settlements, audit recoveries, and interest earned on such funds before requesting additional Federal cash draws (2 CFR 200.305(b)(5)).

Except for interest exempt under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (23 USC 450), interest earned by non-Federal entities other than States on advances of Federal funds is required to be remitted annually to the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, Payment Management System, P.O. Box 6021, Rockville, MD 20852. Up to $500 per year may be kept for administrative expenses (2 CFR section 200.305(b)(9)).

**Cost-Reimbursement Contracts under the Federal Acquisition Regulation**

For cost-reimbursement contracts under the FAR, reimbursement payment is the predominant method of funding. Advance payments under FAR-based contracts are rare. The FAR clause at 48 CFR section 52.216-7 applies to reimbursement payment. Paragraph (b)(1) of that clause requires that the non-federal entity request reimbursement for (a) only allocable, allowable, and reasonable contract costs that have already been paid, or (b) if the non-federal entity is not delinquent in paying costs of contract performance in the ordinary course of business, costs incurred, but not necessarily paid. As defined in 48 CFR section 52.216-7(b)(1), with relation to supplies and services purchased for use on the contract, “ordinary course of business” would be in accordance with the terms and conditions of a subcontract or invoice, and ordinarily within 30 days of the request to the federal government for reimbursement.

For cost-reimbursement contracts using advance payment, the requirements are contained in the FAR clause at 48 CFR section 52.232-12. The non-federal entity is required to account for interest earned on advances from the federal government in accordance with paragraph (f) of that clause.

***Loans, Loan Guarantees, Interest Subsidies, and Insurance***

Non-Federal entities must comply with applicable program requirements for payment under loans, loan guarantees, interest subsidies, and insurance.

***Pass-through Entities***

Pass-through entities must monitor cash drawdowns by their subrecipients to ensure that the time elapsing between the transfer of Federal funds to the subrecipient and their disbursement for program purposes is minimized as required by the applicable cash management requirements in the Federal award to the recipient (2 CFR 200.305(b)(1)).

**Source of Governing Requirements**

The requirements for cash management are contained in 2 CFR 200.302(b)(6) and 200.305, [31 CFR Part 205](31_CFR_Part_205.pdf), [48 CFR 52.216-7(b)](48_CFR_52.216-7.pdf) and [52.232-12](48_CFR_52.232-12.pdf), program legislation, federal awarding agency regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

**Availability of Other Information**

Treasury’s Fiscal Service maintains a Cash Management Improvement Act web page [Cash Management Improvement Act (treasury.gov)](https://fiscal.treasury.gov/cmia/). Information about the Department of Health and Human Services Payment Management System and the Department of the Treasury’ Automated Standard Application for Payments is available at [Payment Management | HHS.gov](https://www.hhs.gov/about/agencies/asa/psc/accounting/payment-management/index.html) and [Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) (treasury.gov)](https://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/ASAP/), respectively.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

**Part 4 OMB Program Specific Requirements**

For CRRSAA HEERF II and ARP HEERF III, the Certification and Agreement and/or Supplemental Agreement indicate that Student Aid (ALN 84.425E) should be disbursed within 15 calendar days of the drawdown from ED’s grant management system (G5), while Institutional Aid Portion, (a)(2), and (a)(3) funds (all other ALNs) should be disbursed within 3 calendar days of the drawdown from G5.

For lost revenue, the “obligation” occurs on the date the institution completes its estimate of its amount of lost revenue after the estimation period.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement, Part 4,* *ESF Section 2 – Higher Education (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)))*

### Additional Program Specific Information

**Add program specific requirements from:**

* **The individual grant application, agreement, and policies,**
* **The pass-through agency, and**
* **Federal agency guidance not included in the compliance supplement (such as federal agency grant manuals, references to CFR, etc.)**

**Be sure to indicate the source of your information. If no additional requirements are noted, indicate as such.**

### Audit Objectives and Control Testing

**Audit Objectives**

1. Obtain an understanding of internal control, assess risk, and test internal control as required by 2 CFR section 200.514(c).

2. For grants and cooperative agreements to non-Federal entities other than States, determine whether payment methods minimized the time elapsing between transfer of Federal funds from the U. S. Treasury or the pass-through entity and the disbursement by the non-Federal entity and any interest earned on advances was properly remitted.

3. For grants and cooperative agreements to non-Federal entities that are paid on a reimbursement basis, supporting documentation shows that the costs for which reimbursement was requested were paid prior to the date of the reimbursement request.

4. Determine whether non-Federal entities that receive reimbursement payments under cost-reimbursement contracts under the FAR and cost-reimbursement subcontracts under these contracts requested payments in compliance with [48 CFR section 52.216-7(b)](48_CFR_52.216-7.pdf).

5. Determine whether non-Federal entities complied with applicable program requirements for loans, loan guarantees, interest subsidies, and insurance.

6. Determine whether pass-through entities implemented procedures to ensure that payments to subrecipients minimized the time elapsing between transfer of Federal funds from the pass-through entity to the subrecipient and the disbursement of such funds for program purposes by the subrecipient, as required by applicable cash management requirements in the Federal award to the recipient.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

***Additional Control Test Objectives for Written Procedures***

*When documenting and identifying the key control(s) in place to address the compliance requirement, consider if the client has written procedures to document the control process.*

* *UG requires a written policy for the requirements outlined in 2 CFR 200.302(b)(6) Payments*
* *Document whether the non-Federal entity established written procedures consistent with the requirements in 2 CFR 200.302(b)(6) to minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds.*
* *It is auditor judgment how to report instances where the entity either lacks having a written policy or their written policy is insufficient to meet the requirements of 2 CFR 200.302(b)(6).*
  + *While auditors would normally use a written policy as the basis for the compliance control, there could be other key controls in place to ensure program compliance.*
  + *The lack of a policy would be noncompliance, which could rise to the level of material noncompliance and even a control deficiency (SD / MW) if there were underlying internal control deficiencies.* 
    - *If there are key controls in place operating effectively, AOS auditors would report the lack of the required UG policy as a management letter citation. However, in subsequent audits, evaluate if the noncompliance should be elevated if not adopted. Written policies aid in consistency and adherence to requirements strengthening internal control processes.*

**Control Documentation and Testing**

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| *Auditors should clearly document what control procedures address the compliance requirement. Reference or link to documentation or where testing was performed.*  **Basis for the control** *(Ex. reports, resources, etc. providing information needed to understand requirements and prevent or identify and correct errors)*:  **Control Procedure** *(Description of how auditee uses the “Basis” to prevent, or identify and correct or detect errors)*:  **Person(s) responsible for performing the control procedure** *(Title)*:  **Description of evidence documenting the control was applied** *(i.e. sampling unit)*: |

### Suggested Substantive Audit Procedures – Compliance

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| Consider the results of control testing above in assessing the risk of noncompliance. Use this as the basis for determining the nature, timing, and extent (e.g., number of transactions to be selected) of substantive tests of compliance.  *(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*  *Steps 1-4 are omitted as they are applicable to only States.*  OMB Note: The following procedures are intended to be applied to each program determined to be major. However, due to the nature of cash management and the system of cash management in place in a particular entity, it may be appropriate and more efficient to perform these procedures for all programs collectively rather than separately for each program.  *Grants and cooperative agreements to non-Federal entities other than States*  5. Review trial balances related to Federal funds for unearned revenue. If unearned revenue balances are identified, consider if such balances are consistent with the requirement to minimize the time between drawing and disbursing Federal funds.  6. When non-federal entities are funded using advance payments, select a sample of cash drawdowns and verify that the non-Federal entity minimized the time elapsing between the transfer of funds from the U.S. Treasury or pass-through entity and disbursement by the non-Federal entity.  7. When non-Federal entities are funded under the reimbursement method, (a) select a sample of expenditures included in the cash drawdowns made during the period from the U.S. Treasury or pass-through entity and (b) trace to supporting documentation and ascertain if the expenditures were incurred prior to the date of the reimbursement request (2 CFR 200.305(b)(3)).  8. When a program receives program income (including repayments to a revolving fund), rebates, refunds, contract settlements, audit recoveries, or interest earned on such funds; perform tests to ascertain if these funds were disbursed before requesting additional Federal cash draws (2 CFR 200.305(b)(5)).  9. Review records to determine if interest in excess of $500 per year was earned on Federal cash draws. If so, determine if it was remitted annually to the Department of Health and Human Services, Payment Management System (2 CFR 200.305(b)(9)).  *Cost-reimbursement contracts under the Federal Acquisition Regulation*   1. Perform tests to ascertain if the non-Federal entity requesting reimbursement (a) disbursed funds prior to the date of the request, or (b) meets the conditions allowing for the request for costs incurred, but not necessarily paid for, i.e., ordinarily within 30 days of the request ([48 CFR section 52.216-7(b)](48%20CFR%2052.216-7.pdf)).   *The Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) defines cost-reimbursement contracts in 48 CFR Subpart 16.3. Cost-reimbursement contracts are contracts which establish an estimate of total costs (or a ‘ceiling’) which a contractor may not exceed (except at its own risk) without the approval of a contracting officer. Cost-reimbursement contracts are only allowable when the circumstances described in 48 CFR 16.301-3 have been met.*  *Loans, Loan Guarantees, Interest Subsidies, and Insurance*  11. Perform tests to ascertain if the non-Federal entity complied with applicable program requirements.  *All Pass-Through Entities*  12. For those programs where a pass-through entity passes Federal funds through to subrecipients, select a representative sample of subrecipient payments and ascertain if the pass-through entity implemented procedures to ensure that the time elapsing between the transfer of Federal funds to the subrecipient and the disbursement of such funds for program purposes by the subrecipient was minimized (2 CFR 200.305(b)(1)). |

### Audit Implications Summary

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| *Consider the adequacy of the system and controls, and the effect on sample size, significant deficiencies/material weaknesses, material non-compliance and management letter comments.*  *Auditors should review this* [*link*](Agency_Adoption_of_the_UG_and_Example_Citations.pdf) *for a discussion on how to cite non-compliance exceptions based on agency adoption of the UG.*   1. **Results of Test of Controls:** *(including material weaknesses, significant deficiencies and management letter items)* 2. **Assessment of Control Risk:** 3. **Effect on the Nature, Timing, and Extent of Compliance (Substantive Test) including Sample Size:** 4. **Results of Compliance (Substantive Tests) Tests:** 5. **Questioned Costs: Actual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Projected \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**   ***Note:*** *Violations of cash management rules alone generally should not result in a questioned cost unless the entity spent the interest earnings related to the excess grant cash balances on hand throughout the year (these monies would be payable back to the pass-through/federal agency). Further, the interest earnings expended must exceed $25,000 in a single major program to be a questioned cost.* |

## G. MATCHING, LEVEL OF EFFORT, EARMARKING

### OMB Compliance Requirements

The specific requirements for matching, level of effort, and earmarking are unique to each Federal program and are found in the statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of awards pertaining to the program. For programs listed in this Supplement, these specific requirements are in Part 4, “Agency Program Requirements,” or Part 5, “Clusters of Programs,” as applicable.

However, for matching, 2 CFR 200.306 provides detailed criteria for acceptable costs and contributions. The following is a list of the basic criteria for acceptable matching:

- Are verifiable from the non-Federal entity’s records;

- Are not included as contributions for any other Federal award;

- Are necessary and reasonable for accomplishment of project or program objectives;

- Are allowed under 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E (Cost Principles);

- Are not paid by the Federal Government under another award, except where the Federal statute authorizing a program specifically provides that Federal funds made available for such program can be applied to matching or cost sharing requirements of other Federal programs;

- Are provided for in the approved budget when required by the Federal awarding agency; and

- Conform to other provisions of this part, as applicable.

“Matching,” “level of effort,” and “earmarking” are defined as follows:

1. *Matching* or cost sharing includes requirements to provide contributions (usually non-Federal) of a specified amount or percentage to match Federal awards. Matching may be in the form of allowable costs incurred or in-kind contributions (including third-party in-kind contributions).

2. *Level of effort* includes requirements for (a) a specified level of service to be provided from period to period, (b) a specified level of expenditures from non-Federal or Federal sources for specified activities to be maintained from period to period, and (c) Federal funds to supplement and not supplant non-Federal funding of services.

3. *Earmarking* includes requirements that specify the minimum and/or maximum amount or percentage of the program’s funding that must/may be used for specified activities, including funds provided to subrecipients. Earmarking may also be specified in relation to the types of participants covered.

**Source of Governing Requirements**

The requirements for matching are contained in 2 CFR 200.306, program legislation, Federal awarding agency regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award. The requirements for level of effort and earmarking are contained in program legislation, Federal awarding agency regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

**Part 4 OMB Program Specific Requirements**

**1. Matching –** *Not Applicable*

**2. Level of Effort –** *Not Applicable*

**3**. **Earmarking**

Institutions must use no less than 50 percent of funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus. Conversely, institutions may use up to 50 percent of the funds they receive under Section 18004(a)(1) to “cover any costs associated with significant changes to the delivery of instruction due to the coronavirus so long as such costs do not include payment to contractors for the provision of pre-enrollment recruitment activities, including marketing and advertising; endowments; or capital outlays associated with facilities related to athletics, sectarian instruction, or religious worship.” See <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerfInstitutionalcertificationagreement42020v2a.pdf>.

Section 314(d)(5) of the CRRSAA requires institutions to provide at least the same amount of funding in financial aid grants to students as was required to be provided under its original Student Aid HEERF I allocation amount. The minimum amount of CRRSAA Section 314(a)(1) funding that each institution must devote towards financial aid grants to students is represented in the “Student Aid” (Assistance Listing 84.425E) of their supplement of new Student Aid award and included in the HEERF II Allocation Table.

Additionally, an institution that utilizes the expanded use of funds authority under the CRRSAA for its unspent HEERF I funds must ensure at least 50 percent of the funds it received under CARES Act section 18004(a)(1) (generally, its HEERF I Student Aid award) is used for financial aid grants to students.

Under ARP, the amount of funds that a public and private nonprofit institution must devote to financial aid grants to students is the full amount allocated under the Student Aid (84.425E) subprogram of HEERF III.

The division of the (a)(1) funds into the Student Aid and Institutional Aid was made by ED. Each were given as separate grant awards, the Student Aid under Assistance Listing 84.425E and the Institutional Aid under Assistance Listing 84.425F.

The order of incurring costs which will be attributed to the Student Aid and Institutional Aid is not relevant to the earmarking requirement but, rather, the relationships between these two portions must be met and measured by the end of the period of performance. Therefore, testing this requirement is only applicable at the end of the period of performance as defined below.

ARP created two new requirements that a portion of HEERF III institutional funds must be used (a) to implement evidence-based practices to monitor and suppress coronavirus in accordance with public health guidelines; and (b) conduct direct outreach to financial aid applicants about the opportunity to receive a financial aid adjustment due to the recent unemployment of a family member or independent student, or other circumstances, described in section 479A of the HEA. As noted in Question 35 of the ARP HEERF III ARP FAQs, institutions must document how the amount of the HEERF grant spent on these two required activities was reasonable and necessary given the unique needs and circumstances of the institution (see HEERF III FAQs questions 21 and 28–35).

*A portion of guidance for Section G is excluded as the information pertains to programs not included in this FACCR (see page 1).*

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement, Part 4,* *ESF Section 2 – Higher Education (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)))*

### Additional Program Specific Information

**Add program specific requirements from:**

* **The individual grant application, agreement, and policies,**
* **The pass-through agency, and**
* **Federal agency guidance not included in the compliance supplement (such as federal agency grant manuals, references to CFR, etc.)**

**Be sure to indicate the source of your information. If no additional requirements are noted, indicate as such.**

### Audit Objectives and Control Testing

**Audit Objectives**

1. Obtain an understanding of internal control, assess risk, and test internal control as required by 2 CFR section 200.514(c).

2. *Matching* – Determine whether the minimum amount or percentage of contributions or matching funds was provided.

3. *Level of Effort* – Determine whether specified service or expenditure levels were maintained.

4. *Earmarking* – Determine whether minimum or maximum limits for specified purposes or types of participants were met.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

**Control Documentation and Testing**

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| *Auditors should clearly document what control procedures address the compliance requirement. Reference or link to documentation or where testing was performed.*  **Basis for the control** *(Ex. reports, resources, etc. providing information needed to understand requirements and prevent or identify and correct errors)*:  **Control Procedure** *(Description of how auditee uses the “Basis” to prevent, or identify and correct or detect errors)*:  **Person(s) responsible for performing the control procedure** *(Title)*:  **Description of evidence documenting the control was applied** *(i.e. sampling unit)*: |

### Suggested Substantive Audit Procedures – Compliance

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| Consider the results of control testing above in assessing the risk of noncompliance. Use this as the basis for determining the nature, timing, and extent (e.g., number of transactions to be selected) of substantive tests of compliance.  *(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*  **1.** **Matching –** *Not Applicable*  **2. Level of Effort –** *Not Applicable*  **3. Earmarking**  a. Identify the applicable percentage or dollar requirements for earmarking.  b. Perform procedures to verify that the amounts recorded in the financial records met the requirements (e.g., when a minimum amount is required to be spent for a specified type of service, perform procedures to verify that the financial records show that at least the minimum amount for this type of service was charged to the program; or, when the amount spent on a specified type of service may not exceed a maximum amount, perform procedures to verify that the financial records show no more than this maximum amount for the specified type of service was charged to the program).  c. When earmarking requirements specify a minimum percentage or amount, select a sample of transactions supporting the specified amount or percentage and perform tests to verify proper classification to meet the minimum percentage or amount.  d. When the earmarking requirements specify a maximum percentage or amount, review the financial records to identify transactions for the specified activity which were improperly classified in another account (e.g., if only 10 percent may be spent for administrative costs, review accounts for other than administrative costs to identify administrative costs which were improperly classified elsewhere and cause the maximum percentage or amount to be exceeded).  e. When earmarking requirements prescribe the minimum number or percentage of specified types of participants that can be served, select a sample of participants that are counted toward meeting the minimum requirement and perform tests to verify that they were properly classified.  f. When earmarking requirements prescribe the maximum number or percentage of specified types of participants that can be served, select a sample of other participants and perform tests to verify that they were not of the specified type. |

### Audit Implications Summary

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| *Consider the adequacy of the system and controls, and the effect on sample size, significant deficiencies/material weaknesses, material non-compliance and management letter comments.*  *Auditors should review this* [*link*](Agency_Adoption_of_the_UG_and_Example_Citations.pdf) *for a discussion on how to cite non-compliance exceptions based on agency adoption of the UG.*   1. **Results of Test of Controls:** *(including material weaknesses, significant deficiencies and management letter items)* 2. **Assessment of Control Risk:** 3. **Effect on the Nature, Timing, and Extent of Compliance (Substantive Test) including Sample Size:** 4. **Results of Compliance (Substantive Tests) Tests:** 5. **Questioned Costs: Actual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Projected \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |

## H. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

### OMB Compliance Requirements

A non-Federal entity may charge only allowable costs incurred during the approved budget period of a federal award’s period of performance and any costs incurred before the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity made the Federal award that were authorized by the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity sections 2 CFR 200.308, 200.309, and 200.403(h). A period of performance may contain one or more budget periods.

Unless the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity authorizes an extension, a non-Federal entity must liquidate all financial obligations incurred under the Federal award not later than 90 calendar days after the end date of the period of performance as specified in the terms and conditions of the Federal award (2 CFR 200.344(b)). When used in connection with a non-Federal entity’s utilization of funds under a Federal award, “financial obligations” means orders placed for property and services, contracts and subawards made, and similar transactions during a given period that require payment by the non-Federal entity during the same or a future period (2 CFR 200.1\_Obligations).

Period of Performance requirements for cost reimbursement contracts subject to the FAR are contained in the terms and conditions of the contract.

**Source of Governing Requirements**

The requirements for the period of performance are contained in 2 CFR 200.1 definitions for “budget period,” “financial obligations,” “period of performance,” 2 CFR 200.308 Revisions of budget and program plans, 2 CFR 200.309 Modifications to period of performance, 2 CFR 200.344 Closeout, program legislation, Federal awarding agency regulations; and the terms and conditions of the award.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

**Part 4 OMB Program Specific Requirements**

*Period of Performance*: In the CARES Act, CRRSAA, and ARP Certification and Agreements, all institutions were given one calendar year (12 months) from the date of award in their HEERF Grant Award Notifications (GAN) to complete the performance of their HEERF grants.

Institutions generally must expend their HEERF grant funds within one year from the date when ED processed the most recent obligation of funds for each specific grant. Thus, institutions that received a supplemental award under ARP have one year to spend all remaining HEERF I, HEERF II, and new HEERF III funds for each grant from the date their HEERF III supplemental award is made. The specific period of performance will be indicated in Box 6 of the institution’s most recent GAN. (See [HEERF III FAQs](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arpfaqsample.pdf) Question 39.)

Note: The performance period was extended to June 30, 2023, as of April 24, 2022, for all HEERF grant awards in an open status (grant awards that had not entered the closeout phase and had a balance of $1,000 or more).

Pre-award Costs: For CARES Act HEERF I awards, institutions were allowed to incur pre-award costs consistent with [2 CFR section 200.458](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=783c533c982a3e15188b76c8e82a413a&mc=true&node=se2.1.200_1458&rgn=div8) and [34 CFR section 75.263](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=5bce9552a9fd7b188f9e17d3cc487d8a&mc=true&node=pt34.1.75&rgn=div5&se34.1.75_1263) on or after March 13, 2020, the date of the declaration of the national emergency due to the coronavirus, to the date of their HEERF grant award for their (a)(1) Institutional Portion, (a)(2), and (a)(3) funds as long as those expenditures would have been allowable if incurred after the date of the HEERF grant award.

For the (a)(1) Student Aid, institutions were only able to refund themselves for institutionally-funded emergency grants to students that were made (1) for authorized expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus as set forth in Section 18004(c) of the CARES Act; (2) to students eligible to receive emergency financial aid grants under the CARES Act; and (3) on or after March 13, 2020, the date the of the declaration of the national emergency due to the coronavirus.

For the HEERF II and HEERF III awards, funds may be used for all costs incurred on or after March 13, 2020.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement, Part 4,* *ESF Section 2 – Higher Education (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)))*

### Additional Program Specific Information

**Add program specific requirements from:**

* **The individual grant application, agreement, and policies,**
* **The pass-through agency, and**
* **Federal agency guidance not included in the compliance supplement (such as federal agency grant manuals, references to CFR, etc.)**

**Be sure to indicate the source of your information. If no additional requirements are noted, indicate as such.**

### Audit Objectives and Control Testing

**Audit Objectives**

1. Obtain an understanding of internal control, assess risk, and test internal control as required by 2 CFR section 200.514(c).

2. Determine whether the Federal award was only charged for: (a) allowable costs incurred during the period of performance; or (b) costs incurred prior to the date the Federal award was made that were authorized by the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity.

3. Determine whether financial obligations were liquidated within the required time period.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

**Control Documentation and Testing**

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| *Auditors should clearly document what control procedures address the compliance requirement. Reference or link to documentation or where testing was performed.*  **Basis for the control** *(Ex. reports, resources, etc. providing information needed to understand requirements and prevent or identify and correct errors)*:  **Control Procedure** *(Description of how auditee uses the “Basis” to prevent, or identify and correct or detect errors)*:  **Person(s) responsible for performing the control procedure** *(Title)*:  **Description of evidence documenting the control was applied** *(i.e. sampling unit)*: |

### Suggested Substantive Audit Procedures – Compliance

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| Consider the results of control testing above in assessing the risk of noncompliance. Use this as the basis for determining the nature, timing, and extent (e.g., number of transactions to be selected) of substantive tests of compliance.  *(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*  ***AOS Auditors:*** *Steps marked with an asterisk (\*) are addressed via the attributes in the payroll and non-payroll Federal Testing Templates available on the Intranet.*  1. Review the award documents and regulations pertaining to the program and determine any award-specific requirements related to the period of performance.  *This step should be addressed when auditors tailor the “Additional Program Specific Information.”*  \*2. For Federal awards with performance period beginning dates during the audit period, test transactions for costs recorded during the beginning of the period of performance and verify that the costs were not incurred prior to the start of the period of performance unless authorized by the Federal awarding agency or the pass-through entity.  \*3. For Federal awards with performance period ending dates during the audit period, test transactions for costs recorded during the latter part and after the period of performance and verify that the costs had been incurred within the period of performance.  \*4. For Federal awards with performance period ending dates during the audit period, test transactions for Federal award costs for which the obligation had not been liquidated (payment made) as of the end of the period of performance and verify that the liquidation occurred within the allowed time period.  5. Test adjustments (e.g., manual journal entries) for Federal award costs and verify that these adjustments were for transactions that occurred during the period of performance. |

### Audit Implications Summary

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| *Consider the adequacy of the system and controls, and the effect on sample size, significant deficiencies/material weaknesses, material non-compliance and management letter comments.*  *Auditors should review this* [*link*](Agency_Adoption_of_the_UG_and_Example_Citations.pdf) *for a discussion on how to cite non-compliance exceptions based on agency adoption of the UG.*   1. **Results of Test of Controls:** *(including material weaknesses, significant deficiencies and management letter items)* 2. **Assessment of Control Risk:** 3. **Effect on the Nature, Timing, and Extent of Compliance (Substantive Test) including Sample Size:** 4. **Results of Compliance (Substantive Tests) Tests:** 5. **Questioned Costs: Actual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Projected \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |

## I. PROCUREMENT AND SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT

### OMB Compliance Requirements – Procurement

***Procurement—Grants and Cooperative Agreements***

*Non-Federal Entities Other than States*

Non-Federal entities other than States, including those operating Federal programs as subrecipients of States, must follow the procurement standards set out at 2 CFR 200.317 - 200.327. They must use their own documented procurement procedures, which reflect applicable State and local laws and regulations, provided that the procurements conform to applicable Federal statutes and the procurement requirements identified in 2 CFR Part 200. A non-Federal entity must:

1. Meet the general procurement standards in 2 CFR 200.318, which include oversight of contractors’ performance, maintaining written standards of conduct for employees involved in contracting, awarding contracts only to responsible contractors, and maintaining records to document history of procurements.

2. Conduct all procurement transactions in a manner providing full and open competition, in accordance with 2 CFR 200.319.

3. Use the micro-purchase and small purchase methods only for procurements that meet the applicable criteria under 2 CFR 200.320(a)(1) and (2). Under the micro-purchase method, the aggregate dollar amount does not exceed $10,000 ($2,000 in the case of acquisition for construction subject to the Wage Rate Requirements (Davis-Bacon Act)). Small purchase procedures are used for purchases that exceed the micro-purchase amount but do not exceed the simplified acquisition threshold ($250,000). Micro-purchases may be awarded without soliciting competitive quotations if the non-Federal entity considers the price to be reasonable (2 CFR 200.320(a)). If small purchase procedures are used, price or rate quotations must be obtained from an adequate number of qualified sources (2 CFR 200.320(b)).

4. For acquisitions exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold, the non-Federal entity must use one of the following procurement methods: the sealed bid method if the acquisition meets the criteria in 2 CFR 200.320(b); the competitive proposals method under the conditions specified in 2 CFR 200.320(b)(2); or the noncompetitive proposals method (i.e., solicit a proposal from only one source) but only when one or more of four circumstances are met, in accordance with 2 CFR 200.320(c).

5. Perform a cost or price analysis in connection with every procurement action in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold, including contract modifications (2 CFR 200.324(a)). The cost plus a percentage of cost and percentage of construction cost methods of contracting must not be used (2 CFR 200.324(d)).

6. Ensure that every purchase order or other contract includes applicable provisions required by 2 CFR 200.326. These provisions are described in Appendix II to 2 CFR Part 200, “Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards.”

*All Non-Federal Entities (including both states and other non-federal entities)*

Effective May 14, 2022, the non-Federal entity must ensure that all applicable programs comply with section 70914 of the Build America, Buy America Act (BABA), including through incorporation of a Buy America preference in the terms and conditions of each award with an infrastructure project. Each covered Federal agency must ensure that “none of the funds made available for a Federal financial assistance program for infrastructure may be obligated for a project unless all of the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States. The Act requires the following Buy America preference:

1. All iron and steel used in the project are produced in the United States;

2. All manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States; and

3. All construction materials are manufactured in the United States.

Important Notes:

• A non-federal entity must comply with the BABA requirements to the extent that the non-federal entity has been informed of these requirements, such as through the award terms and conditions.

• Several Federal agencies, in consultation with OMB, issued “waivers” as an exception from or waiver of the Made in America laws. For a listing of waivers by agency see <https://www.madeinamerica.gov/waivers/financial-assistance>. For a listing of waivers by category see <https://www.madeinamerica.gov/waivers>. If additional information is needed, see the agency contact found in Appendix III.

***Procurement—Cost-Reimbursement Contracts under the Federal Acquisition Regulation***

When awarding subcontracts, non-Federal entities receiving cost-reimbursement contracts under the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) must comply with the clauses at [48 CFR 52.244-2](48_CFR_52.244-2.pdf) (consent to subcontract), [52.244-5](48_CFR_52.244-5.pdf) (competition), [52.203-13](48_CFR_52.203-13.pdf) (code of business ethics), [52.203-16](48_CFR_52.203-16.pdf) (conflicts of interest), and [52.215.12](48_CFR_52.215-12.pdf) (cost or pricing data); and the terms and conditions of the contract. The FAR defines “subcontracts” as a contract, i.e., a mutually binding legal relationship obligating the seller to furnish the supplies or services (including construction) and the buyer to pay for them, entered into by a subcontractor to furnish supplies or services for performance of a prime contract or a subcontract. It includes, but is not limited to, purchase orders, and changes and modifications to purchase orders.

**Source of Governing Requirements – Procurement**

The requirements that apply to procurement under grants and cooperative agreements are contained in 2 CFR 200.317 - 200.327, program legislation, Federal awarding agency regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award. The requirements that apply to procurement under cost-reimbursement contracts under the FAR are contained in 48 CFR Parts [03](48_CFR_Part_3.pdf), [15](48_CFR_Part_15.pdf), [44](48_CFR_Part_44.pdf) and the clauses at [48 CFR 52.244-2](48_CFR_52.244-2.pdf), [52.244-5](48_CFR_52.244-5.pdf), [52.203-13](48_CFR_52.203-13.pdf), [52.203-16](48_CFR_52.203-16.pdf), and [52.215-12](48_CFR_52.215-12.pdf); agency FAR Supplements; and the terms and conditions of the contract.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

### OMB Compliance Requirements – Suspension and Debarment

Non-Federal entities are prohibited from contracting with or making subawards under covered transactions to parties that are suspended or debarred. “Covered transactions” include contracts for goods and services awarded under a non-procurement transaction (e.g., grant or cooperative agreement) that are expected to equal or exceed $25,000 or meet certain other criteria as specified in [2 CFR 180.220](2_CFR_Part_180.pdf). All non-procurement transactions entered into by a pass-through entity (i.e., subawards to subrecipients), irrespective of award amount, are considered covered transactions, unless they are exempt as provided in [2 CFR 180.215](2_CFR_Part_180.pdf).

When a non-Federal entity enters into a covered transaction with an entity at a lower tier, the non-Federal entity must verify that the entity, as defined in [2 CFR 180.995](2_CFR_Part_180.pdf) and agency adopting regulations, is not suspended or debarred or otherwise excluded from participating in the transaction. This verification may be accomplished by (1) checking the System for Award Management (SAM) Exclusions maintained by the General Services Administration (GSA) and available at [SAM.gov | Home](https://www.sam.gov/) (click on Search Record, then click on Advanced Search-Exclusions) (**Note:** The OMB guidance at 2 CFR part 180 and agency implementing regulations still refer to the SAM Exclusions as the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)), (2) collecting a certification from the entity, or (3) adding a clause or condition to the covered transaction with that entity ([2 CFR 180.300](2_CFR_Part_180.pdf)).

Non-Federal entities receiving contracts from the Federal Government are required to comply with the contract clause at [48 CFR 52.209-6](48_CFR_52.209-6.pdf) before entering into a subcontract that will exceed $30,000, other than a subcontract for a commercially available off-the-shelf item.

**Source of Governing Requirements – Suspension and Debarment**

The requirements for nonprocurement suspension and debarment are contained in OMB guidance in [2 CFR Part 180](2_CFR_Part_180.pdf), which implements Executive Orders 12549 and 12689, “Debarment and Suspension;” Federal awarding agency regulations in Title 2 of the CFR adopting/implementing the OMB guidance in 2 CFR Part 180; program legislation; and the terms and conditions of the award.

Most of the Federal agencies have adopted or implemented 2 CFR Part 180, generally by relocating their associated agency rules in Title 2 of the CFR. [Appendix II](OMB_Appendix_II.pdf) to the Supplement includes the current CFR citations for all agencies adoption or implementation of the nonprocurement suspension and debarment guidance.

Government-wide requirements related to suspension and debarment and doing business with suspended or debarred subcontractors under cost reimbursement contracts under the FAR are contained in [48 CFR 9.405-2(b)](48_CFR_9.405-2.pdf) and the clause at [48 CFR 52.209-6](48_CFR_52.209-6.pdf).

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

**Part 4 OMB Program Specific Requirements**

For those procurements supported by HEERF grant funds, auditors should determine if institutions sufficiently documented rationales and determinations in making any sole- source awards during the time of national emergency due to the coronavirus. For HEERF (a)(2) grantees using funds pursuant to an approved construction, renovation, or real property project under Assistance Listings 84.425J, 84.425K, 84.425L, or 84.425M, citing the national emergency due to the coronavirus as a rationale for sole sourcing under the public exigency exception in 2 CFR section 200.320(c)(3) is generally not permitted given the national emergency was first declared in March 2020.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement, Part 4,* *ESF Section 2 – Higher Education (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)))*

***Written Procedure Requirements:***

*2 CFR 200.318(c)(1) requires non-Federal entities maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees engaged in the selection, award and administration of contracts.*

*2 CFR 200.318(c)(2) requires non-Federal entities maintain written standards of conduct covering organizational conflicts of interest when the non-federal entity has a parent, affiliate, or subsidiary organization that is not a state, local government, or Indian tribe.*

*2 CFR 200.320(b)(2) requires non-federal entities to have a written method for conducting technical evaluations of the competitive proposals received and for selecting contract recipients.*

*2 CFR 200.319(d) requires non-federal entities to have written procedures for procurement transactions to ensure all solicitations incorporate a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for the material, product, or service to be procured and identify all requirements which the offerors must fulfill and all other factors to be used in evaluating bids or proposals.*

### Additional Program Specific Information

**Add program specific requirements from:**

* **The individual grant application, agreement, and policies,**
* **The pass-through agency, and**
* **Federal agency guidance not included in the compliance supplement (such as federal agency grant manuals, references to CFR, etc.)**

**Be sure to indicate the source of your information. If no additional requirements are noted, indicate as such.**

### Audit Objectives and Control Testing

**Audit Objectives**

1. Obtain an understanding of internal control, assess risk, and test internal control as required by 2 CFR section 200.514(c).

2. Determine whether procurements under federal awards were made in compliance with applicable federal regulations and other procurement requirements specific to an award or subaward.

3. For covered transactions determine whether the non-federal entity verified that entities are not suspended, debarred, or otherwise excluded.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

***Additional Control Test Objectives for Written Procedures:***

*When documenting and identifying the key control(s) in place to address the compliance requirement, consider if the client has written procedures to document the control process.*

* *UG requires a written policy for the requirements outlined in 2 CFR 200.318(c)(1), 2 CFR 200.318(c)(2), 2 CFR 200.320(b)(2), and 2 CFR 200.319(d).*
* *Document whether the non-Federal entity established written procedures consistent with the following requirements:*
  + *2 CFR 200.318(c)(1) for employee conflicts of interest.*
  + *2 CFR 200.318(c)(2) for organizational conflicts of interest.*
  + *2 CFR 200.320(b)(2) for selection and awarding of contracts for competitive proposals.*
  + *2 CFR 200.319(d) for minimum evaluation criteria for bids and proposals.*
* *It is auditor judgment how to report instances where the entity either lacks having a written policy or their written policy is insufficient to meet the requirements of 2 CFR 200.318(c)(1), 2 CFR 200.318(c)(2), 2 CFR 200.320(b)(2), and 2 CFR 200.319(d).*
  + *While auditors would normally use a written policy as the basis for the compliance control, there could be other key controls in place to ensure program compliance.*
  + *The lack of a policy would be noncompliance, which could rise to the level of material noncompliance and even a control deficiency (SD / MW) if there were underlying internal control deficiencies.* 
    - *If there are key controls in place operating effectively, AOS auditors would report the lack of the required UG policy as a management letter citation. However, in subsequent audits, evaluate if the noncompliance should be elevated if not adopted. Written policies aid in consistency and adherence to requirements strengthening internal control processes.*

**Control Documentation and Testing**

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| --- |
| *Auditors should clearly document what control procedures address the compliance requirement. Reference or link to documentation or where testing was performed.*  **Basis for the control** *(Ex. reports, resources, etc. providing information needed to understand requirements and prevent or identify and correct errors)*:  **Control Procedure** *(Description of how auditee uses the “Basis” to prevent, or identify and correct or detect errors)*:  **Person(s) responsible for performing the control procedure** *(Title)*:  **Description of evidence documenting the control was applied** *(i.e. sampling unit)*: |

### Suggested Substantive Audit Procedures – Compliance

|  |
| --- |
| Consider the results of control testing above in assessing the risk of noncompliance. Use this as the basis for determining the nature, timing, and extent (e.g., number of transactions to be selected) of substantive tests of compliance.  *(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*  ***The local government is required to be in compliance with applicable Federal, state and local procurement requirements regardless of whether the local government procures item(s) itself or relies upon an intergovernmental arrangement with co-op or another entity to procure on its behalf. Auditors need to test procurement files whether they're from the local government, the co-op, or another entity.***  ***AOS Auditors:*** *Steps marked with an asterisk (\*) are addressed via the attributes in the Procurement Federal Testing Template available on the Intranet.*  *Procedure 1 is omitted as it is only applicable to States.*  *(Procedures 2 – 5 apply to non-Federal entities other than States.)*  2. Obtain the entity’s procurement policies and verify that the policies comply with the compliance requirements highlighted above.  3. Verify that the entity has written standards of conduct that cover conflicts of interest and govern the performance of its employees engaged in the selection, award, and administration of contracts (2 CFR 200.318(c) and [48 CFR 52.203-13](48_CFR_52.203-13.pdf) and [52.203-16](48_CFR_52.203-16.pdf)).  4. Ascertain if the entity has a policy to use statutorily or administratively imposed in‑State or local geographical preferences in the evaluation of bids or proposals. If yes, verify that these limitations were not applied to federally funded procurements except where applicable Federal statutes expressly mandate or encourage geographic preference (2 CFR 200.319(c)).  5. Select a sample of procurements and perform the following procedures:  **\***a. Examine contract files and verify that they document the history of the procurement, including the rationale for the method of procurement, selection of contract type, basis for contractor selection, and the basis for the contract price (2 CFR 200.318(i) and [48 CFR Part 44](48_CFR_Part_44.pdf) and [52.244-2](48_CFR_52.244-2.pdf)).  **\***b. For grants and cooperative agreements, verify that the procurement method used was appropriate based on the dollar amount and conditions specified in 2 CFR 200.320. Current micro-purchase and simplified acquisition thresholds can be found in the FAR (48 CFR Subpart 2.1, “Definitions”)  \*c. Verify that procurements provide full and open competition (2 CFR 200.319 and [48 CFR 52.244-5](48_CFR_52.244-5.pdf)).  d. Examine documentation in support of the rationale to limit competition in those cases where competition was limited and ascertain if the limitation was justified (2 CFR 200.319 and 200.320(c) and [48 CFR 52.244-5](48_CFR_52.244-5.pdf)).  **\***e. Ascertain if cost or price analysis was performed in connection with all procurement actions exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold, including contract modifications, and that this analysis supported the procurement action (2 CFR 200.324 and [48 CFR 15.404-3](48_CFR_15.404-3.pdf)).  OMB Note: A cost or price analysis is required for each procurement action, including each contract modification, when the total amount of the contract and related modifications is greater than the simplified acquisition threshold.  f. Verify consent to subcontract was obtained when required by the terms and conditions of a cost reimbursement contract under the FAR ([48 CFR 52.244-2](48_CFR_52.244-2.pdf)).  OMB Note: If the non-Federal entity has an approved purchasing system, consent to subcontract may not be required unless specifically identified by contract terms or conditions. The auditor should verify that the approval of the purchasing system is effective for the audit period being reviewed.  *The Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) defines cost-reimbursement contracts in 48 CFR Subpart 16.3. Cost-reimbursement contracts are contracts which establish an estimate of total costs (or a ‘ceiling’) which a contractor may not exceed (except at its own risk) without the approval of a contracting officer. Cost-reimbursement contracts are only allowable when the circumstances described in 48 CFR 16.301-3 have been met.*  *(Procedures 6 and 8 apply to all non-Federal entities)*  6. Review the non-Federal entity’s procedures for verifying that an entity with which it plans to enter into a covered transaction is not debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded (2 CFR 200.213 and 200.318(h); [2 CFR 180.300](2_CFR_Part_180.pdf); [48 CFR 52.209-6](48_CFR_52.209-6.pdf)).  **\***7. Select a sample of procurements and subawards and test whether the non-Federal entity followed its procedures before entering into a covered transaction.  *If an internal control deficiency or noncompliance is noted with Suspension and Debarment requirements, AoS auditors must consult with Legal for an evaluation. IPAs should review the Federal agency adoption of the Suspension and Debarment requirements as well as the specific terms and conditions in the grant agreement to ensure the comment is accurate.*  8. Select a sample of procurement agreements for infrastructure projects subject to BABAA and test whether the non-federal entity included the Buy America domestic preference provisions in each agreement, or obtained a BABAA waiver. |

### Audit Implications Summary

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| --- |
| *Consider the adequacy of the system and controls, and the effect on sample size, significant deficiencies/material weaknesses, material non-compliance and management letter comments.*  *Auditors must review the Federal agency adoption of the Uniform Guidance (2 CFR Part 200) and nonprocurement suspension and debarment requirements (2 CFR Part 180) prior to issuing noncompliance citations to verify the Federal agency requirements. Auditors should also review this* [*link*](Agency_Adoption_of_the_UG_and_Example_Citations.pdf) *for a discussion on how to cite non-compliance exceptions based on agency adoption of the UG.*   1. **Results of Test of Controls:** *(including material weaknesses, significant deficiencies and management letter items)* 2. **Assessment of Control Risk:** 3. **Effect on the Nature, Timing, and Extent of Compliance (Substantive Test) including Sample Size:** 4. **Results of Compliance (Substantive Tests) Tests:** 5. **Questioned Costs: Actual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Projected \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |

## L. REPORTING

### OMB Compliance Requirements

*Financial Reporting*

Recipients must use the standard financial reporting forms or such other forms as may be authorized by OMB (approval is indicated by an OMB paperwork control number on the form) when reporting to the Federal awarding agency. Each recipient must report program outlays and program income on a cash or accrual basis, as prescribed by the Federal awarding agency. If the Federal awarding agency requires reporting of accrual information and the recipient’s accounting records are not normally maintained on the accrual basis, the recipient is not required to convert its accounting system to an accrual basis but may develop such accrual information through analysis of available documentation. The Federal awarding agency may accept identical information from the recipient in machine-readable format, computer printouts, or electronic outputs in lieu of closed formats or on paper.

Similarly, a pass-through entity must not require a subrecipient to establish an accrual accounting system and must allow the subrecipient to develop accrual data for its reports on the basis of an analysis of available documentation.

The financial reporting requirements for subrecipients are as specified by the pass-through entity. In many cases, these will be the same as or similar to those for recipients.

The standard financial reporting forms for grants and cooperative agreements are as follows:

* *Request for Advance or Reimbursement (SF-270) (OMB No. 0348-0004))*. Recipients are required to use the SF-270 to request reimbursement payments under non-construction programs, and may be required to use it to request advance payments.
* *Outlay Report and Request for Reimbursement for Construction Programs (SF-271) (OMB No. 0348-0002))*. Recipients use the SF-271 to request funds for construction projects unless they are paid in advance or the SF-270 is used.
* *Federal Financial Report (FFR) (SF-425/SF-425A) (OMB No. 0348-0061)).* Recipients use the FFR as a standardized format to report expenditures under Federal awards, as well as, when applicable, cash status (lines 10.a, 10.b, and 10c). References to this report include its applicability as both an expenditure and a cash status report unless otherwise indicated.

Electronic versions of the standard forms are located on agency’s home page.

Financial reporting requirements for cost reimbursement contracts subject to the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) are contained in the terms and conditions of the contract.

*Performance and Special Reporting*

Non-Federal entities may be required to submit performance reports at least annually but not more frequently than quarterly, except in unusual circumstances, using a form or format authorized by OMB (2 CFR 200.329(c)(1)). They also may be required to submit special reports as required by the terms and conditions of the Federal award.

Compliance testing of performance and special reporting is only included in Part 4, “Agency Program Requirements” and Part 5, “Clusters of Programs,” if such reporting has been identified by a federal agency as subject to audit. Further, compliance testing of performance and special reports is only required for data, identified by agencies in parts 4 and 5 as key line items, that are quantifiable and are capable of evaluation against objective criteria stated in the statutes, regulations, contract or grant agreements pertaining to the program.

Performance and special reports in parts 4 and 5 are assumed to meet the above criteria. However, if an agency does not identify key line items for a performance or special report, auditors are only required to test that the report was submitted in a timely manner and no other procedures are required. Similarly, if key line items are identified in parts 4 and 5 that would not be quantifiable and capable of evaluation against objective criteria (e.g., narratives, futuristic information, information that would require verification at the program beneficiary level), auditors are not required to perform testing of such items.

**Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act**

Under the requirements of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (Pub. L. No. 109-282), as amended by Section 6202 of Pub. L. No. 110-252, hereafter referred as the “Transparency Act” that are codified in 2 CFR Part 170, recipients (i.e., direct recipients) of grants or cooperative agreements are required to report first-tier subawards of $30,000 or more to the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act Subaward Reporting System (FSRS). In accordance with OMB Memorandum M-20-21, Implementation Guidance for Supplementing Funding Provided in Response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), existing Transparency Act subaward reporting requirements may be leveraged to meet the transparency requirements outlined in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). Information input to FSRS is available at USASpending.gov as the publicly available website for viewing this information (<https://www.usaspending.gov/search>).

Where the Reporting type of compliance requirement is marked as a “Y” in the Part 2 Matrix of Compliance Requirements, indicating it is subject to audit, auditors must test the compliance with the reporting requirements of 2 CFR Part 170 using the guidance in this section when the auditor determines Reporting to be direct and material and the recipient makes first tier awards.

*Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act*

Aspects of the Transparency Act that relate to subaward reporting (1) under grants and cooperative agreements were implemented in OMB in 2 CFR Part 170 and (2) under contracts, by the regulatory agencies responsible for the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR at 5 FR 39414 et seq., July 8, 2010). The requirements pertain to recipients (i.e., direct recipients) of grants or cooperative agreements who make first-tier subawards and contractors (i.e., prime contractors) that award first-tier subcontracts. There are limited exceptions as specified in 2 CFR Part 170 and the FAR. The guidance at 2 CFR Part 170 currently applies only to federal financial assistance awards in the form of grants and cooperative agreements (e.g., it does not apply to loans made by a federal agency to a recipient), however the subaward reporting requirement applies to all types of first-tier subawards under a grant or cooperative agreement.

As provided in 2 CFR Part 170 and FAR Subpart 4.14, respectively, federal agencies are required to include the award term specified in Appendix A to 2 CFR Part 170 or the contract clause in FAR 52.204-10, Reporting Executive Compensation and First-Tier Subcontract Awards, as applicable, in awards subject to the Transparency Act.

Consistent with the OMB guidance,

• 2 CFR Part 170 “subaward” has the meaning given in 2 CFR 200.1 and means an award provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to carry out part of a federal award received by the pass-through entity. It does not include payments to a contractor or payments to an individual that is a beneficiary of a federal program. A subaward may be provided through any form of legal agreement, including an agreement that the pass-through entity considers a contract.

• [FAR 52.204-10(a)](FAR_52.204-10.pdf) defines “first-tier subcontract” to mean a subcontract awarded directly by a contractor to acquire supplies or services (including construction) for performance of a prime contract, but excludes the contractor’s supplier agreements with vendors, such as long-term arrangements for materials or supplies that benefit multiple contracts or the costs of which would normally be applied to a contractor's general and administrative expenses or indirect cost.

While 2 CFR Part 170 and the FAR implement several distinct Transparency Act reporting requirements, including reporting of executive compensation, the Supplement addresses only the following requirements: (1) recipient reporting of each first-tier subaward or subaward amendment that results in an obligation of $30,000 or more in federal funds; and (2) contractor reporting of each first-tier subcontract award of $30,000 or more in federal funds (this requirement was phased in based on the value of the new prime contract as specified below under “Effective Date of Reporting Requirements”).

*Reporting Site*

Grant and cooperative agreement recipients and contractors are required to register FSRS and report subaward data through FSRS. To do so, they will first be required to register in the System for Award Management (SAM) (if they have not done so previously for another purpose (e.g., submission of applications through Grants.gov) and actively maintain that registration. Prime contractors have previously been required to register in SAM. Information input to FSRS is available at USASpending.gov as the publicly available website for viewing this information (<https://www.usaspending.gov/search>).

*Key Data Elements*

Compliance testing of the Transparency Act reporting requirements must include the following key data elements about the first-tier subrecipients and subawards under grants and cooperative agreements.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Subaward Data Element** | **Definition** |
| Subawardee Name | This is the Sub-Awardee’s Name |
| Subawardee DUNS # | The subawardee organization’s nine-digit Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number. |
| Amount of Subaward | The net dollar amount of federal funds awarded to the  subawardee including modifications. |
| Subaward Obligation/Action Date | Date the subaward agreement was signed. |
| Date of Report Submission | Date the recipient entered the action/obligation into FSRS. |
| Subaward Number | Subaward number or other identifying number assigned by the prime awardee organization to facilitate the tracking of its  subawards. |
| Subaward Project Description | Describes the subaward project. |
| Subawardee Names and Compensation of Highly  Compensated Officers | Names of officers if thresholds are met. |

For purposes of programs included in parts 4 and 5 of this Supplement, the designation “Not Applicable” in relation to “Financial Reporting,” “Performance Reporting,” and “Special Reporting” means that the auditor is not expected to audit anything in these categories, whether or not award terms and conditions may require such reporting.

**Source of Governing Requirements**

**Reporting requirements are contained in the following:**

1. Financial reporting, 2 CFR 200.328
2. Monitoring and reporting program performance, 2 CFR 200.329
3. Program legislation.
4. Transparency Act, implementing requirements in 2 CFR Part 170 and the FAR, and the previously listed OMB guidance documents.
5. Federal awarding agency regulations.
6. The terms and conditions of the award.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

**Part 4 OMB Program Specific Requirements**

There are three components to reporting for HEERF: 1) public reporting on the (a)(1) Student Aid; 2) public reporting on the (a)(1) Institutional Portion (a)(2) and (a)(3) subprograms (Quarterly Reporting Form), as applicable; and 3) the annual report.

The CARES Act 18004(e) and the CRRSAA 314(e) requires an institution receiving funds under HEERF I and HEERF II to submit a report to the secretary, at such time in such a manner as the secretary may require. While ARP does not explicitly identify procedures by which institutions must report on their uses of HEERF grant funds, ED exercises this reporting authority under 2 CFR section 200.328 and 2 CFR section 200.329.

Please see the [HEERF Reporting web page](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerfreporting.html) for the latest information and guidance for annual and quarterly HEERF reporting.

**1. Financial Reporting –** *Not Applicable*

**2. Performance Reporting** – *Not Applicable*

**3. Special Reporting**

**Title of Report:** HEERF I, II, & III Annual Performance Report Form

**PRA Number:** 1840-0850

**Reporting Cycle:** ED collected an annual report for HEERF grantees in March 2023 covering calendar year 2022 expenditures. Additional information and resources regarding this annual report on use of HEERF I CARES Act funds, HEERF II CRRSAA funds, and HEERF III ARP funds is available via the [ESF portal](https://covid-relief-data.ed.gov/grantee-help/heerf).

**Authoritative Requirement:** 34 CFR 75.720(b)

**Blank Copy of the Report:** [Data Elements Here](https://api.covid-relief-data.ed.gov/collection/api/v1/public/docs/HEERF_APR_YR3_122222.pdf).

**Report Instructions:** [User Guide Here](https://api.covid-relief-data.ed.gov/collection/api/v1/public/docs/ESF-HEERF%20User%20Guide%20Year%203.pdf).

*Key Line Items:*

1. Question 5: Institutions were required to prioritize exceptional need in awarding emergency financial aid grants to students. Documentation must show methodology for distributing aid that prioritizes exceptional need.

Question 9b, row 13: “Implementing evidence-based practices to monitor and suppress coronavirus in accordance with public health guidelines” and row 14: “Conducting direct outreach to financial aid applicants.” Spending under these categories indicates whether an institution has spent funds under a required use of funds established under the ARP. If an institution indicates zero-dollar amount spending for either or both categories, examine earlier annual reports to determine the institution had spending at some point on these two funding categories consistent with [ARP FAQ Question 21](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arpfaq.pdf).

**Title of Report:** Quarterly Budget and Expenditure Reporting for all HEERF I, II, and III grant funds

**PRA Number:** 1840-0849

**Reporting Cycle:** On June 17, 2022, ED [announced](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerfquarterlyreportingchanges.pdf) an updated format for the HEERF Quarterly Report effective for Q2 2022, report to be posted July 10, 2022. The quarterly portion reporting requirements involve publicly posting completed forms conspicuously on the institution’s website.

**Authoritative Requirement:**

**Blank Copy of the Report:** [Report forms here](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerfquarterlyreport2022.pdf).

**Report Instructions:** [Question 36](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arpfaq.pdf) on the ARP FAQs and [Reporting Tips here](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerfreportingtips.pdf).

*Key Line Items:*

1. Auditors should determine if an institution was both timely and accurate in publicly posting their required quarterly report(s) and sample specific line items in these quarterly public reports and reconcile the publicly reported amounts with underlying documentation to ensure accuracy. ED understands that this information may be unique and challenging to audit, particularly because auditors are asked to verify information posted on a webpage which may not be accessible during audit fieldwork. For these public reporting requirements, auditors may will accept as evidence of compliance, contemporarily produced emails, webmaster logs, or other relevant documentation establishing a good-faith indication that the institution posted the required information at approximately the timelines and using the specific reporting templates described in [Question 36](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arpfaq.pdf) on the ARP FAQs.

**4. Special Reporting for Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency** **Act** – *Not Applicable*

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement, Part 4,* *ESF Section 2 – Higher Education (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)))*

*In March 2021, the U.S. Department of Education updated its guidance on lost revenue under HEERF. The prior guidance required all lost revenue be supported with allowable expenditures which did not include replacement of revenue. In the updated guidance, which applies retroactively to the beginning of the program, lost revenue was added as one of the allowable uses of all HEERF institutional funds and is applicable to CARES (HEERF I), Consolidated Appropriations Act (HEERF II), and ARP HEERF (HEERF III).*

*The U.S. Department of Education’s* [*FAQs*](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/heerflostrevenuefaqs.pdf) *indicate lost revenue evaluations must be associated with the coronavirus pandemic and can be made back to the March 13, 2020 national emergency declaration.*

*FAQ #2 states that reimbursement for lost revenue is allowable for the Institutional Portion program (assistance listing number 84.425F) and the (a)(2) and (a)(3) programs (assistance listing numbers 84.425J, K, L, M, and N) for HEERF grant funds received under:*

* *The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (HEERF I);*
* *The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) (HEERF II); and*
* *The American Rescue Plan (ARP) (HEERF III).*

*Reimbursement for lost revenue is not an allowable use of funds for the Student Aid Portion program (assistance listing number 84.425E) under HEERF I, HEERF II, or HEERF III or the Proprietary Grant Funds to Students program (assistance listing number 84.425Q), as those grant programs may be used only to provide financial aid grants to students.*

*FAQ #12 states, the incurring of the “cost” of lost revenue on an institution’s HEERF grant award does not need to be assigned to any costs or expenses that the institution will pay using the amount of lost revenue since the allowable cost in the HEERF grant programs is the reimbursement of the lost revenue itself.*

*Allowable sources of lost revenue include tuition, room, board, fees, summer camps, bookstore, parking, and various other auxiliary services, to name a few (see FAQ #3). Lost revenue does not have to be associated with, or netted against, expenses and is considered an allowable use (type of expenditure) for quarterly and annual reporting to ED and on the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA).*

*FAQ #9 indicates that institutions who claim students who have dropped classes as lost revenue cannot also provide those same students with tuition reimbursement. Auditors should verify institutions meet these restrictions if lost revenue is claimed.*

### Additional Program Specific Information

**Add program specific requirements from:**

* **The individual grant application, agreement, and policies,**
* **The pass-through agency, and**
* **Federal agency guidance not included in the compliance supplement (such as federal agency grant manuals, references to CFR, etc.)**

**Be sure to indicate the source of your information. If no additional requirements are noted, indicate as such.**

### Audit Objectives and Control Testing

**Audit Objectives**

1. Obtain an understanding of internal control, assess risk, and test internal control as required by 2 CFR section 200.514(c).

2. Determine whether required reports for federal awards include all activity of the reporting period, are supported by applicable accounting or performance records, and are fairly presented in accordance with governing requirements.

*(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*

**Control Documentation and Testing**

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| *Auditors should clearly document what control procedures address the compliance requirement. Reference or link to documentation or where testing was performed.*  **Basis for the control** *(Ex. reports, resources, etc. providing information needed to understand requirements and prevent or identify and correct errors)*:  **Control Procedure** *(Description of how auditee uses the “Basis” to prevent, or identify and correct or detect errors)*:  **Person(s) responsible for performing the control procedure** *(Title)*:  **Description of evidence documenting the control was applied** *(i.e. sampling unit)*: |

### Suggested Substantive Audit Procedures – Compliance

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| **OMB Note for Direct Awards Only**: For recipients using HHS’ Payment Management System (PMS) to draw Federal funds, the auditor should consider the following steps numbered 1 through 4 as they pertain to the cash reporting portion of the SF-425A, regardless of the source of the data included in the PMS reports. (During FY2016, HHS is completing the transition from pooled payment to use of subaccounts.) Although certain data is supplied by the Federal awarding agency (e.g., award authorization amounts) and certain amounts are provided by HHS’ Payment Management Services, the auditor should ensure that such amounts are in agreement with the recipient’s records and are otherwise accurate. |
| Consider the results of control testing above in assessing the risk of noncompliance. Use this as the basis for determining the nature, timing, and extent (e.g., number of transactions to be selected) of substantive tests of compliance.  *(Source: 2023 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3)*  1. Review applicable statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award pertaining to reporting requirements. Determine the types and frequency of required reports. Obtain and review Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity, in the case of a subrecipient, instructions for completing the reports.  a. For financial reports, ascertain the accounting basis used in reporting the data (e.g., cash or accrual).  b. For performance and special reports, determine the criteria and methodology used in compiling and reporting the data.  2. Select a sample of reports and perform appropriate analytical procedures and ascertain the reason for any unexpected differences. Examples of analytical procedures include:  a. Comparing current period reports to prior period reports.  b. Comparing anticipated results to the data included in the reports.  c. Comparing information obtained during the audit of the financial statements to the reports.  3. Select a sample of each of the following report types, and test for accuracy and completeness:  a. *Financial reports – Not Applicable*  b. *Performance and special reports*  *Testing is only required for data identified by the federal agency as key line items in the Part 4 OMB Program Specific Requirements section above. If an agency does not identify key line items auditors are only required to test that the report was submitted in a timely manner. If the program is not included in Part 4 of the OMB Compliance Supplement, auditors will need to review the grant agreement to determine applicability.*  (1) Review the supporting records and ascertain if all applicable data elements were included in the sampled reports. Trace the reported data to records that accumulate and summarize data.  (2) Perform tests of the underlying data to verify that the data were accumulated and summarized in accordance with the required or stated criteria and methodology, including the accuracy and completeness of the reports.  c. *Special reports for FFATA (Only applicable for direct recipients)*  (1) Gain an understanding of the recipient’s methodology used to identify which, if any, awards were subject to the Transparency Act based on inclusion of the award term, the assignment by the federal awarding agency of a new FAIN, the effective date of the reporting requirement, and whether the entity passed funds through to first-tier subrecipients.  (2) Select a sample of first-tier subawards. Obtain related subaward agreements/amendments/modifications and determine if the subaward/subcontract was subject to reporting under the Transparency Act based on (a) the date of the award and (b) the amount of the obligating action for subawards or face value of the first-tier subcontracts (inclusive of modifications).  If the subaward/subcontract was subject to reporting under the Transparency Act:  (a) Using the FAIN, find the award in FSRS.  FSRS is the portal where the recipient enters the award information; it is only accessible by the recipient. Therefore, in order for recipients to demonstrate that information has been properly input, they should coordinate with the auditor regarding the auditor’s review of the information, physically or virtually (e.g. by logging into its FSRS account either in the auditor’s presence or remotely using technology such as screensharing, screenshot evidence, etc.) so that the auditor is able to find the awards in the system as required in this procedure).  (b) Compare the award information accessed in step 2.a to the subaward/subcontract documents maintained by the recipient to assess if—  (i) applicable subaward obligations /modifications have been reported,  (ii) the key data elements (see above) were accurately reported and are supported by the source documentation, and  (iii) the action was reported in FSRS no later than the last day of the month following the month in which the subaward/subaward amendment obligation was made or the subcontract award/subcontract modification was made.  (c) The auditor must provide the following information for non- compliance finding (s) as the results of step 2.b.  (i) The non-federal entity did not report the subaward information  (ii) The non-federal entity did not report the subaward information timely  (iii) The non-federal entity reported incorrect amount  (iv) The non-federal entity did not report all the key data elements  The following format is recommended to report non-compliance findings and included in the audit report. Data is included for illustration purposes only.   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Transactions Tested** | **Subaward not reported** | **Report not timely** | **Subaward amount incorrect** | **Subaward missing key elements** | | 25 | 2 | 10 | 13 | 0 | | **Dollar Amount of Tested Transactions** | **Subaward not reported** | **Report not timely** | **Subaward amount incorrect** | **Subaward missing key elements** | | $5,000,000 | $200,000 | $4,000,000 | $800,000 | $0 |   d. *For each type of report*  (1) When intervening computations or calculations are required between the records and the reports, trace reported data elements to supporting worksheets or other documentation that link reports to the data.  (2) Test mathematical accuracy of reports and supporting worksheets.  4. Obtain written representation from management that the reports provided to the auditor are true copies of the reports submitted or electronically transmitted to the Federal awarding agency, the applicable payment system, or pass-through entity in the case of a subrecipient. |

### Audit Implications Summary

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| *Consider the adequacy of the system and controls, and the effect on sample size, significant deficiencies/material weaknesses, material non-compliance and management letter comments.*  *Auditors should review this* [*link*](Agency_Adoption_of_the_UG_and_Example_Citations.pdf) *for a discussion on how to cite non-compliance exceptions based on agency adoption of the UG.*   1. **Results of Test of Controls:** *(including material weaknesses, significant deficiencies and management letter items)* 2. **Assessment of Control Risk:** 3. **Effect on the Nature, Timing, and Extent of Compliance (Substantive Test) including Sample Size:** 4. **Results of Compliance (Substantive Tests) Tests:** 5. **Questioned Costs: Actual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Projected \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |

## Program Testing Conclusion

We have performed procedures sufficient to provide reasonable assurance for federal award program compliance requirements (to support our opinions). The procedures performed, relevant evidence obtained, and our conclusions are adequately documented. (If you are unable to conclude, prepare a memo documenting your reason and the implications for the engagement, including the audit reports.)

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| **Conclusion** | | |
| **The opinion on this major program should be:** | |  |
| **Unmodified:** |  | |
| **Qualified (describe):** |  | |
| **Adverse (describe):** |  | |
| **Disclaimer (describe):** |  | |

Per paragraph 13.39 of the **AICPA Single Audit Guide[Permalink to here](https://checkpoint.riag.com/app/view/docPermaLink?DocID=iAICPAIGS:767.2440&docTid=T0AICPAIGS:767.2440-1&feature=ttoc&lastCpReqId=97899&tlltype=AICPAIGS:767.2668)**, the **following are required to be reported** as audit findings in the federal awards section of the schedule of findings and questioned costs **(2 CFR 200.516):**

1. Significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over major programs.
2. Material noncompliance with the federal statues, regulations, or the terms and conditions of federal awards related to a major program.
3. Known questioned costs that are greater than $25,000 for a type of compliance requirement for a major program. The auditor also must report (in the schedule of findings and questioned costs) known questioned costs when likely questioned costs are greater than $25,000 for a type of compliance requirement for a major program.
4. Known questioned costs that are greater than $25,000 for programs that are not audited as major.
5. Known or likely fraud affecting a federal award, unless such fraud is otherwise reported as an audit finding in the schedule of findings and questioned costs.
6. Significant instances of abuse relating to major programs.
7. The circumstances concerning why the opinion in the auditor's report on compliance for major programs is other than an unmodified opinion, unless such circumstances are otherwise reported as audit findings in the schedule of findings and questioned costs (for example, a scope limitation that is not otherwise reported as a finding).
8. Instances in which the results of audit follow-up procedures disclosed that the summary schedule of prior audit findings prepared by the auditee in accordance with 2 CFR 200.511(b) of the Uniform Guidance, materially misrepresents the status of any prior audit finding.

[Appendix I](2_CFR_Part_200.pdf) lists block grants and other programs excluded from the requirements of specified portions of 2 CFR Part 200.

*Auditors must review the Federal agency adoption of the Uniform Guidance (2 CFR Part 200) and nonprocurement suspension and debarment requirements (2 CFR Part 180) prior to issuing noncompliance citations to verify the Federal agency requirements. Auditors should also review this* [*link*](Agency_Adoption_of_the_UG_and_Example_Citations.pdf) *for a discussion on how to cite non-compliance exceptions based on agency adoption of the UG.*

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| **Cross-reference to internal control matters (significant deficiencies or material weaknesses), if any, documented in the FACCR:** |
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| **Cross-reference to questioned costs and matter of noncompliance, if any, documented in this FACCR:** |
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**Per paragraph 13.50 of the AICPA Single Audit Guide,** the schedule of findings and questioned costs must include all audit findings required to be reported under the Uniform Guidance. A separate written communication (such as a communication sometimes referred to as a management letter) may not be used to communicate such matters to the auditee in lieu of reporting them as audit findings in accordance with the Uniform Guidance. See the discussion beginning at paragraph 13.34 for information on Uniform Guidance requirements for the schedule of findings and questioned costs. If there are other matters that do not meet the Uniform Guidance requirements for reporting but, in the auditor's judgment, warrant the attention those charged with governance, they should be communicated in writing or verbally. If such a communication is provided in writing to the auditee, there is no requirement for that communication to be referenced in the Uniform Guidance compliance report. Per table 13-2 **a matter must meet the following in order to be communicated in the management letter:**

* Other deficiencies in internal control over compliance that are not significant deficiencies or material weaknesses required to be reported but, in the auditor's judgment, are of sufficient importance to be communicated to management.
* Noncompliance with federal statutes, regulations or terms and conditions of federal awards related to a major program that does not meet the criteria for reporting under the Uniform Guidance but, in the auditor's judgment, is of sufficient importance to communicate to management or those charged with governance.
* Other findings or issues arising from the compliance audit that are not otherwise required to be reported but are, in the auditor's professional judgment, significant and relevant to those charged with governance.

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| **Cross-reference to any Management Letter items and explain why not included in the Single Audit Compliance Report:** |
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