

## **FINANCIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

*Provisions Applicable to Local Recipient Organizations including Fiscal Agent/Fiscal Conduits*

The National Board requires all EFSP-funded LROs to meet the requirements stated in this manual regarding program compliance, reporting, documentation and submission of documentation.

### **1) Definitions**

- a) "Jurisdiction" refers to the city, county or combination receiving funds through EFSP.
- b) "Local Recipient Organization" or "LRO" refers to the local private or public agency that will receive any award of funds from the National Board.
- c) "Award" refers to the award of funds made by the National Board to a local private or public agency on the recommendation of a Local Board.
- d) "End-of-program" refers to the jurisdiction's end date, as agreed by Local and National Board, by which all monies must be spent or returned to the National Board.
- e) "Begin Date" is the date LROs may begin expending funds.
- f) "End date" is the date by which all funds must be expended or returned to the National Board.

### **2) Amendments**

An award may be amended at any time by a written modification. Amendments, which reflect the rights and obligations of either party, shall be executed by both the National Board and the LRO. *Administrative amendments such as changes in accounting data may be issued unilaterally by the National Board.*

### **3) Local Board Authority Related to Local Recipient Organizations**

The Local Board is responsible for monitoring expenditures of LROs receiving EFSP funds; authorizing the adjustment of funds between EFSP funded services; and, reallocating funds from one LRO to another.

Local Boards may not alter or change National Board cost eligibility or approve expenditures outside of the National Board's criteria without National Board permission. Local Boards may not alter or change the National Board's documentation requirements.

A Local Board can recall an award to an LRO and reallocate to another LRO in the case of gross negligence, inadequate use of funds, failure to use funds, failure to use funds for purposes intended, for any other violation of the National Board guidelines, or in cases of critical need in the community. The Local Board must advise, in writing, all concerned LROs of any reallocation of their original award.

**In the event the Local Board discovers ineligible expenditures by an LRO, the Local Board must send to the LRO a written request for reimbursement of the amount.** The National Board must also be notified. If the LRO is unwilling or unable to reimburse the National Board for the ineligible expenditure, the Local Board must refer the matter to the National Board. The National Board may ask the Local Board to take further action to see that reimbursement of ineligible expenditures is made to the National Board, or the National Board may refer the matter to FEMA.

**If the Local Board suspects that fraud has been committed by an LRO, the Local Board must contact the DHS/Office of Inspector General with details of the suspected fraud or misuse of Federal funds by telephone at (800 323-8603), or by writing: DHS Office of Inspector General, Attention: Hotline, Office of Investigation, Building 410 Stop 2600, 245 Murray Drive, SW, Washington, DC 20528 in writing or Email: dhsoighotline@dhs.gov. See pages 17-18 for more details.**

If an LRO received an award under previous phases (Public Laws 98-8, 98-151 and 98-181, 98-396, 99-88 and 99-160, 99-500 and 100-6, 100-71 and 100-120, 100-404 and 101-45, and 101-100, 101-467, 102-139, 102-389, 103-124, 103-327, 104-91 and 104-134, 104-204, 105-65, 105-276, 106-74, 106-377, 107-73, 107-294, 108-7, 108-90, 108-334, 109-90, 109-295, 110-161, 110-329, 111-5, or 111-83), it must not include those funds in any reporting for the current awards. Reports should be confined to the amount granted by the National Board under the new appropriations legislation (Public Law 112-10).

#### **4) Cash Depositories**

- a) Any money advanced to the LRO under the terms of this award must be deposited in a checking account in a bank with Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or Federal Savings & Loan Insurance Corporation (FSLIC) insurance coverage (whose responsibility has been taken over by FDIC), and the balance exceeding the FDIC or FSLIC coverage must be collaterally secured. Interest income earned on these funds must be put back into eligible program costs, not administration.
- b) LROs are encouraged to use minority banks (a bank that is owned at least 50 percent by minority group members). This is consistent with the national goal of expanding the opportunities for minority business enterprises. A list of minority owned banks can be obtained from the Office of Minority Business Enterprises, Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20203.

#### **5) Retention and Custodial Requirements for Records**

- a) Financial records, supporting documentation, statistical records, and all other records pertinent to the award shall be retained by the LRO for a period of three years from the end-of-program date with the following exceptions: See Annex 2 (pages 52-53).
  - i) If any litigation, claim, program compliance review, or audit is started before the expiration of the three-year period, the records shall be retained until all litigation, claims, program compliance problems, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved.
  - ii) Records for non-expendable property, if any, acquired in part with EFSP funds shall be retained for three years after submission of the final financial report (Final Report). Non-expendable property is defined as tangible property having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of more than \$300 per unit.
- b) The retention period starts from the date of the submission by the LRO of the final expenditure report (Final Report).
- c) The National Board may request transfer of certain records to its custody from the LRO when it determines that the records possess long-term retention value. The LRO shall make such transfers as requested.
- d) The Director of FEMA, the Comptroller General of the United States, and the National Board, or any of their duly authorized representatives, shall have access to any pertinent books, documents, papers, and records of the LRO, and its sub grantees, to make audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcripts.

#### **6) Financial Management Systems**

The LRO/Fiscal Agent or Fiscal Conduit shall maintain a financial management system that provides for the following:

- a) Accurate, current and complete disclosures of the financial results of this program.
- b) Records that identify adequately the source and application of funds for federally supported activities. These records shall contain information pertaining to Federal awards, authorizations, obligations, non-obligated balances, assets, outlays, and incomes.

- c) Effective control over and accountability for all funds, property, and other assets.
- d) Procedures for determining eligibility of costs in accordance with this manual.
- e) Accounting records that are supported by source documentation. The LRO must maintain and retain a register of cash receipts and disbursements and original supporting documentation such as purchase orders, invoices, canceled checks or documentation for other acceptable payment methods, sign-in logs and any other documentation that is necessary to support their costs under the program.
- f) A systematic method to assure timely and appropriate resolution of audit findings and recommendations.
- g) In cases where more than one civil jurisdiction (e.g., a city and a balance of county, or several counties) recommends awards to the same LRO, the LRO can combine these funds in a single account. However, separate program records for each civil jurisdiction award must be kept.

## 7) Audit Requirements

If receiving \$50,000 or more in EFSP funds, the LRO will be eligible to receive the funds if it arranges for an independent audit of funds to coincide with the next scheduled annual audit of its financial affairs. If receiving \$25,000 to \$49,999 in EFSP funds, the LRO will be eligible to receive the funds if it arranges for an annual accountant's review of funds to coincide with the next scheduled annual review of its financial affairs. An original copy of this audit or review will be provided to the National Board upon request. **It is not necessary to have a separate, independent audit/review for this award so long as program funds are treated as a separate element in the LRO's regular annual audit/review.** If the LRO does not have a certified annual audit/review, that audit/review must be provided by a Local Board designated Fiscal Agent for the LRO willing to account for the funds. **The audit submitted must be from the current year or one year prior. See Annex 2 (pages 52-53).**

All EFSP funded LROs (both governmental and not-for-profit) that expend \$500,000 or more in Federal funds must comply with the OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Government, and Nonprofit Organizations, which requires a single organization-wide audit. This \$500,000 could be exclusively EFSP funds or a combination of EFSP and other Federal funds that an agency might be receiving. **Note: A copy of the audit report must be forwarded to the National Board annually along with the regular audit. EFSP funds must be clearly identified by ID number in the audit/review and Schedule of Federal Awards.**

## 8) Payment

A first payment shall be made to the LRO upon recommendation of the Local Board and approval by the National Board. Second payment requests include an interim report to be submitted and signed by each LRO. The request is also signed by the Local Board chair, and submitted to the National Board. For each LRO funded in the previous phase, second installments will be held until the jurisdiction's final Local Board report and documentation for the previous year has been reviewed and found to be compliant.

## 9) Financial Reporting Requirements

The National Board shall provide the LRO, through the Local Board, with the necessary reporting requirements well in advance of report deadlines.

LROs shall submit their Final Report to the Local Board that will then be forwarded to the National Board approximately 45 days after the jurisdiction's program ending date.

## **10) Closeout**

The following definitions shall apply:

- a) "Closeout" is the process by which the National Board determines that all applicable administrative actions and all required work of the award have been completed.
- b) "Disallowed costs" are those charges that the National Board determined to be unallowable in accordance with the legislation, National Board requirements and applicable Federal cost principles or other conditions contained in the award. The applicable cost principles for Private Voluntary Organizations are contained in OMB Circular A-122, "Cost Principles Applicable for Nonprofit Agencies," and OMB Circular A-110, "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Other Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals and Other Nonprofit Organizations". The applicable cost principles for Public Organizations are contained in OMB Circular A-87, "Cost Principles for State Agencies and Units of Local Governments". If you are unsure of where to find these circulars check with your local Congressional Representative, contact the National Board staff, or visit the Office of Management and Budget's website: [www.omb.gov](http://www.omb.gov).

## **11) Suspension and Termination Procedures**

The following definitions shall apply:

- a) Termination – termination of this award means the cancellation of EFSP assistance, in whole or in part, under the award at any time prior to the date of completion.
- b) Suspension – the suspension of this award is an action by the Local Board or National Board that temporarily suspends EFSP assistance under the award pending corrective action by the LRO or pending a decision by the National Board to terminate the award.
- c) Local Board Authority – authority to suspend/reallocate all or a portion of an LRO's award at its discretion for any cause (i.e., inability to deliver services, suspected fraud, violation of eligible costs, changing need in the community, etc.).

## **12) Lobbying**

Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. §1352, an LRO is prohibited from using Federally appropriated grant funds for lobbying activities. This condition bars the use of Federal money for political activities, but does not in any way restrict lobbying or political activities paid for with non-Federal funds. This condition prohibits the use of Federal grant funds for the following activities:

- Federal, state or local electioneering and support of such entities as campaign organizations and political action committees;
- Direct lobbying of the Congress and State Legislatures to influence legislation;
- Grassroots lobbying concerning either Federal or state legislation;
- Lobbying of the Executive Branch in connection with decisions to sign or veto enrolled legislation; and,
- Efforts to utilize state or local officials to lobby the Congressional or State Legislatures.

Any LRO that will receive more than \$100,000 in EFSP funds is required to submit:

- a certification form that EFSP funds will not be used for lobbying activities; and,
- a disclosure of lobbying activities (if applicable).

This certification and disclosure must be submitted prior to grant payment. See Annex 11 (page 71) for certification and disclosure forms.

### **13) Debarment and Suspension Regarding Funding**

Pursuant to Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, all LROs, including Fiscal Agents, Fiscal Conduits, and agencies benefiting from EFSP funding under the Fiscal Conduit, must certify that they have not been debarred or suspended from receiving funds from or doing business with the Federal government. Each LRO will make this certification by signing the LRO certification form which states the requirement. Each Local Board must certify they have received the LRO Certification form from the LRO which states the requirements.