

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS WITH ANSWERS

- 1.) **Q** Am I required to identify American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds on a separate line in the SEFA?

**A** Yes, any funds spent from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) must be reported separately on the SEFA. Many of the grants under ARRA have their own unique CFDA number for use on the SEFA. In addition, use the prefix "ARRA-" when identifying the name of the program. Further, your district should include in the SEFA any ARRA funds disbursed to subrecipients. It is recommended that you include a footnote that describes the pass-through awards to sub-recipients.

- 2.) **Q** Has CFDA 10.550 (food commodities) been removed from the CFDA?

**A** Yes. CFDA 10.550 has been deleted by the USDA for FY2009 and beyond. Instead, food commodities should be reported under CFDA 10.555 (National School Lunch) or 10.559 (Summer Food). Do not use 10.553 (School Breakfast). Report the commodities as "noncash assistance" on a separate line from your meal reimbursements.

Example:

USDA National School Lunch; CFDA 10.555	
Cash Assistance	\$xxxxx
Non-cash assistance (commodities)	\$xxxxx

- 3.) **Q** I have joined a special education consortium through the Educational Service District (ESD) that receives all of my local and federal special education funds (CFDA 84.027 and 84.173). Do I have to report the cost of the federal special education services provided by the ESD on my SEFA?

**A** Yes, beginning with fiscal year 2008, when it will be required to be reported by the district. LEA's (school districts) are the official grantee and the primary provider of special education. ESD's are service organizations without FTE's and cannot receive funding as a grantee under IDEA, but can provide special education services. Therefore, in order to properly account for funds received and expended, the school district should consider itself as the grantee and the ESD as a vendor providing services. As a result, each district should report the federal funds expended to support these services on its SEFA. Consult with your ESD on the proper accounting journal entry for this grant. Each school district would then be responsible for monitoring the proper use of these federal funds by the consortium.

- 4.) **Q** Do I report the amount my district sub-grants (pass-through award) to other districts?

**A** Yes, amounts passed through to other entities are considered expenditures. Consequently, the total amount reported for a particular federal award includes all amounts spent by your district and any amounts awarded to other districts.

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS WITH ANSWERS (continued)**

**Example 1:** An ESD provided federal funds to School District A and School District B to purchase computer equipment under a technology grant, and both districts procure and pay for the equipment using the grant funds. The amount paid to each district by the ESD is considered a pass through award. As such, the ESD would report this amount on its Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA). Further, School Districts A and B would report the amount they spent for the equipment as an expenditure of a pass through award on their SEFAs.

**Example 2:** An ESD purchases computers, provides training, and awards the computers to participating districts. The title for the equipment transfers to each district, which has the responsibility for managing and tracking the equipment. Each district would report the receipt of the equipment on its SEFA and the ESD would report the initial cost of purchasing the computers on its SEFA. If the ESD charged a fee to attend the training, and a district paid the fee with federal funds, the district would report the cost of the registration as an expenditure. The ESD would also report the cost of the training (net of the registration fees received) on the SEFA if it was paid with federal funds.

- 5.) **Q** Do I report Medicaid Administrative Match reimbursements from the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) on the SEFA?

**A** Yes, report this assistance under CFDA No. 93.778. The federal grantor is the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the pass through agency is DSHS. You should report the amount claimed for reimbursement during the year on the SEFA, even though you might not receive the payment from DSHS until the following fiscal year. If the delay is significant (e.g., longer than 6 months), consult with your regional SAO audit team.

- 6.) **Q** Do I report Medicaid reimbursements received from DSHS for services provided to Medicaid-eligible Special Education students?

**A** No, these services are considered patient care services and are not subject to audit under Circular A-133.

- 7.) **Q** Do I report Federal Forest funds (Schools and Roads) on the SEFA?

**A** Yes, report this assistance under CFDA No. 10.665, "Schools and Roads – Grants to States." The federal grantor is the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The pass-through agency is the Office of State Treasurer.

- 8.) **Q** Do I report state and local funds spent by our district to supplement federal programs?

**A** No, report **only** the federal portion.

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS WITH ANSWERS (continued)**

- 9.) **Q** Do I report amounts that we are reimbursed for indirect costs on the SEFA?
- A** Yes, include direct costs and costs recovered via an indirect cost rate. (However, you do not need to distinguish between direct and indirect costs when reporting the amount spent.)
- 10.) **Q** Do Title I “Academic Achievement Awards” or “Distinguished Schools Awards” from OSPI need to be reported on the SEFA?
- A** No, according to the OSPI Title I office, these special awards are not part of your Title I, Part A allocation and are not considered a federal grant that is required to be included on the SEFA. Please refer all questions to OSPI on the allowable uses of these “awards.”
- 11.) **Q** My district received an interest subsidy payment for eligible tax credit bonds (such as Build America Bonds). Am I required to report the payments from the Department of the Treasury on my SEFA?
- A** No, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has determined that the tax credits first established with Build America Bonds are excluded from the provisions of OMB Circular A-33, and thus should not be presented on the SEFA.