MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS AND BUDGET OFFICERS OF SELECTED AGENCIES

FROM: Dave Mader
Controller

SUBJECT: Financial and Performance Reporting on Undisbursed Balances in Expired Grant Accounts

In December 2015, Congress passed the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016 (Division B of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, Pub. L. 114-113). Section 530 of such Act requires the heads of the Departments of Commerce and Justice, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and National Science Foundation (selected agencies), to report undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts in their Agency Financial Report (AFR) or Performance and Accountability Report (PAR) and performance plans/budgets for the preceding three fiscal years to the President and Congress. “Undisbursed balances” in expired grant accounts represent the unliquidated obligation amounts that remain available for expenditure on an expired grant award before it is closed out and include budget authority that is no longer available for new obligations but is still available for disbursement.

The “Section 530” requirement was previously included in section 537 of the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 for said selected agencies receiving appropriations under the Act to report undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts. This FY 2010 requirement was enumerated in an OMB memorandum in October 2010 from the Controller. This memorandum restates the requirement for these selected agencies to report undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts in their annual performance plan/budget and AFR/PAR each year if included in subsequent fiscal year’s appropriations acts, until instructed otherwise. This memorandum does not exempt these selected agencies from complying with the requirements of the Grants Oversight and New Efficiency (GONE) Act for which implementation guidance will be issued separately.

For FY 2016, and subsequent fiscal years thereafter, the information described below shall be included in the Other Information (OI) section of your AFR or PAR and annual performance plans/budgets with regard to undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

I. In the preceding 3 fiscal years, provide the total number of expired grant accounts with undisbursed balances for the department, agency, or instrumentality and the total amount that has not been obligated to a specific grant or project remaining in the accounts.

II. Details on future action the department, agency, or instrumentality will take to resolve undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

III. The method that the department, agency, or instrumentality uses to track undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

IV. Process for identification of undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts that may be returned to the Treasury of the United States.

For questions regarding this memorandum, please contact Karen F. Lee in the Office of Federal Financial Management at (202) 395-8083 or Karen_F_Lee@omb.eop.gov.