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OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
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Appendix B: Detailed Summary of Changes

Subject: OSMRE Updates to the Federal Financial Assistance Manual, formerly the Federal Assistance Manual

Changes to General Format

- Name change from Federal Assistance Manual (FAM) to Federal Financial Assistance Manual (FFAM). Why this change? This allows FFAM to be in accordance with 2 CFR 200 terminology.
- Page numbers now included for the entire FFAM. The previous version was difficult to reference or find information without page numbers. This addition makes it easier for readers to reference and makes the entire document user-friendly. Page numbers are indicated with a “A” prefix to adhere to the OSMRE policy directive appendix format.
- Table of Contents is now hyperlinked to the Annexes, Chapters, and Exhibits.
- Updated the Definition section. The definitions now include 2 CFR 200 definitions, such as Non-Discretionary Award, Notice of Grant Award, NOFO, etc.
- New acronyms are included in the acronym section for new terms, such as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).
- Table of Contents for each chapter changed from question format to statement.
- The document is now in the third person instead of first and second.
- All chapters include a “Purpose” section to describe what is in that chapter.
- Instead of the Division of Reclamation Support, the FFAM now incorporates the new Division of Financial Assistance with the new division roles and responsibilities.
- Title change from grants specialist to grants management specialist or GMS.
- No longer requesting hard copy files; everything should be submitted by the applicant/recipient in an electronic format.
- Some chapters were re-numbered to accommodate additions and deletions.

- Updated 2 CFR 200 requirements based on an advanced copy of the update coming October 2024.

Chapter Additions/Deletions

- Introduction added prior to Table of Contents. This gives readers/users an overview of the document.
- Updated all the information that is included on the Notice of Award.

Changes to Part 2 – General Requirements for Financial Assistance

- Took out from Part 2 Chapter 100 that a single assistance agreement can be both grant and cooperative agreement.
- Included in Part 2 Chapter 110-30 the components of SAM.
- 2 110-40 added more roles for recipients to do.
- 2-110-50 debarments or suspensions will be done on a case-by-case basis.
- 2-130-50 described the difference in lobbying forms for an application and which an applicant should use. Took out that the SF-LLL forms would be forwarded to the AD-PS.
- 2-200-60 added “Fees for services provided with OSMRE furnished equipment should be authorized by OSMRE before services are provided with the equipment.”
- 2-200-70 OSMRE keeps record of all owned equipment/property and recipient must report annually on said equipment/property.
- 2-260 added section on the supporting documents required for Davis Bacon Act, Real Property, and Build America Buy America.
- Added a chapter covering the topic of Real Property (found in Part 2 – General Requirements for Financial Assistance).

Changes to Part 3 – Allowable Costs

- 3-100 deleted the chapter on Leasing and put it under the chapter “Cost Principles.”
- 3-110-30 added “There is also the de minimis rate of up to 15% of the Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC).”

- 3-120 combined subgrants/awards sections and added the difference between subawards and subgrants.

Changes to Part 4 – Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) Grant Programs

- Added an introductory section to provide an overview of all the AML grant programs.
- Updated 4-105-30 to indicate that State Attorney Generals may delegate signature authority for site eligibility determination to an appropriate State Program official.
- Abandoned Mine Land Economic Revitalization (AMLER), Part 4-700 and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Part 4-650 programs are now included in the FFAM. This eliminates the need for annual guidance for these two grant award programs.
- Added a chapter 4-600 on AML-Fee based grant overview and breakdown of funding.
- Revised chapter 4-120 on State Emergency AML Programs to reflect changes in emergency funding. This chapter was renumbered to 4-115.
- Added information regarding AML Contractor eligibility to Chapter 4-150.
- Deleted chapter on purchasing, constructing, and renovating buildings, as this information can now be found in “Real Property” section (Part 2-210) of the FFAM.

Changes to Part 5 – Regulatory Grant Program

- 5-100 now includes Program Development information. This information didn’t exist in the FFAM previously, and then also added a program development bullet to 5-200-30.
- 5-100-30 included due dates for required budget estimates so recipients know the timeline for these documents. As an example, for budget estimates for 18-month estimates are “due April 1, request goes out late February or early March every year. (i.e., February of FY 2023 asking for FY 2025).”
- 5-120 added at the Purpose section that this whole chapter does not apply to Tribal lands.
- 5-220-30 identifies changes that require a formal amendment to the approved agreement and including transfers of “any funds between construction and non-construction if the agreement has both construction and non-construction activities” and “[c]hanges, greater than 10% of the entire award, to the approved budgetary plan.”

Changes to Part 6 (Formerly Part 6 & 7) – Cooperative Agreement Programs

- Deleted Part 7 – Technical Studies and combined Part 6 to include all OSMRE’s Cooperative Agreement Programs. This section now includes the Watershed Cooperative Agreement Program (WCAP), Applied Science (AS), Mine Drainage Technology Initiative (MDTI), Youth Programs, and the Passive Treatment Protection Program (PTPP). MDTI, Youth, and PTPP were not previously in FFAM.
- Part 6 in the previous version of the FFAM included all the WCAP information. In this new version, Part 6 covers all cooperative agreements and WCAP information is included as one chapter.
- Each chapter in Part 6 refers to the NOFO, providing comprehensive, current information for applicants/recipients regarding the cooperative agreement programs.