



National Science Foundation
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

FY 2024 YEAR-END CLOSE AND FINANCIAL CRITICAL DATES

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 28, 2024



PAB

PAYMENTS AND ANALYTICS BRANCH

BUDGET, FINANCE AND AWARDS MANAGEMENT | DIVISION OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT



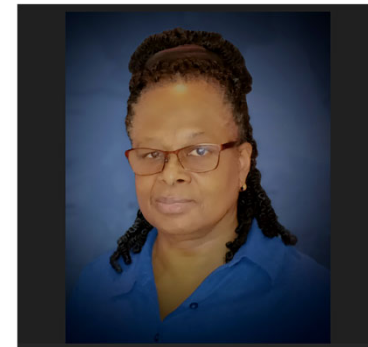
INTRODUCTIONS



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AGENDA

- 1 | General Information/Frequent Questions**
- 2 | Canceling Appropriations**
- 3 | Year-End ACM\$ Shutdown Critical Dates**
- 4 | Award Monitoring Notifications**





PAYMENTS AND ANALYTICS BRANCH (PAB)

PAB falls within the Division of Financial Management at NSF.

Our branch supports the NSF mission by leading comprehensive post-award grant and commercial financial processes, including:

- Payment Operations,
- Financial Analytics,
- Monitoring and Compliance, and
- Stakeholder Outreach.





YOUR ROLE IN PROTECTING FEDERAL FUNDS

- ▶ Institute Robust Internal Controls
- ▶ Increase Fraud and Security Awareness
- ▶ Strengthen Security and Mitigate Risk
- ▶ Each user is required to have a unique ID
- ▶ Never share ID and/or password
- ▶ Only one account per user
- ▶ Group user accounts and passwords are not permitted
- ▶ Keep your users up to date



General Information/Frequent Questions



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

GRANT

FAQ

AWARD CASH MANAGEMENT SERVICE (ACMS)

1 What is the Award Cash Management Service (ACMS)?

ACMS is NSF's system for awardees to manage award payment and post-award financial processes. The system allows users to submit cash requests and adjustments to open and closed awards on a grant by grant basis. Additionally, users have timely access to award level information on payments and award balances improving reconciliations and award monitoring.

2 How do I request funds on my award?

The majority of awardees must submit their payment request through the NSF Award Cash Management Service (ACMS) at: www.research.gov. Once a user has accessed ACMS, a request may be submitted by selecting "Submit New Transaction" and identifying the "Payment Date Requested". A user may select from the available open awards on the first tab called "Step 1. Payments" or from available financially closed awards on the second tab called "Step 2. Adjustments". All transactions must be certified by an authorized official on the third tab called "Step 3. Review". Navigate between the tabs by clicking on the tab label. NSF will not process a transaction until it has been certified and submitted. A transaction with a status of "Draft" or "Awaiting Certification" will not be processed.

Additional instructions and user guides can be found on the ACMS information webpage at: https://www.research.gov/research-portal/appmanager/base/desktop?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=research_node_display&nodePath=/researchGov/Service/Desktop/AwardCashManagementService.html.

3 Is my organization required to submit a quarterly FFR or are there any additional financial reporting requirements for my NSF award?

With the implementation of ACMS, NSF eliminated the requirement for organizations to submit quarterly Federal Financial Reports (FFR). The FFR was considered to collect duplicate information since expense data for each award is collected with the submission of ACMS payment transactions.

Program income reports for NSF are collected annually instead of quarterly via an FFR submission. For more information, please see the Program Income Reporting section of this FAQ.

Cost Share reports are collected through the submission of a Notification to the Program Office via FastLane. For more information, please see the About Notifications and Requests on [Research.gov](http://www.research.gov/research-portal/appmanager/base/desktop?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=research_node_display&nodePath=/researchGov/Service/Desktop/NotificationRequest.html): https://www.research.gov/research-portal/appmanager/base/desktop?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=research_node_display&nodePath=/researchGov/Service/Desktop/NotificationRequest.html.

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PAYMENTS AND ANALYTICS BRANCH

Office of Budget, Finance, and Award Management (BFA)
Division of Financial Management (DFM)

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▶ 16 pages of the most common questions

▶ **Download from our website:**

<https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dfm/cmeab.jsp>

▶ **Direct link:**

https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dfm/docs/DFM_PABGrantFAQ.pdf

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► Website

www.nsf.gov/bfa/dfm/cmeab.jsp



Impacts of Canceling Appropriations



CANCELING APPROPRIATIONS

- ▶ Each fiscal year end, millions of dollars of obligated funds must be deobligated
- ▶ Federal appropriations cancel five years after their period of availability.
 - ▶ Public Law 101-510: States Federal agencies must financially close fixed year appropriation accounts and cancel any remaining balances by September 30th of the 5th year after the period of availability.



FY	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Availability	Open	Open	Expired	Expired	Expired	Expired	Expired	Canceled

- ▶ **AFTER SEPTEMBER 30th, NEITHER THE AWARDEE OR NSF CAN ACCESS ANY REMAINING FUNDS**





AWARDS WITH CANCELING FUNDS IN ACM\$

Federal Award ID	Recipient Account Number	PI/PD Name	From	To	Total Federal Funds Authorized	Previous Cumulative Cash Disbursement	Net Available Funds	Payment Amount Requested	Expected Close Date	Final Flag
0939454	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	\$135,551.50	\$11,426.22	11/28/2022	No
 1340048							\$1,130,785.45	\$1,092.84	01/28/2024	No
1430152							\$441,989.79	\$19,115.88	06/28/2023	No
1432563							\$116,308.49	\$41,464.44	04/30/2023	No
 1443165							\$104,698.44	\$1,421.71	11/28/2022	No
1452479							\$8,154.43	\$5,496.04	12/29/2022	No
1546617							\$160,984.08	\$14,443.29	11/28/2022	No





CANCELING APPROPRIATIONS CRITICAL DATE

- ▶ ACM\$ (NSF's Automated Grant Payment System) is closing **Monday September 23, 2024 at 2:00 PM EDT.**
 - ▶ After this date (for awards with canceling funds):
 - ▶ no adjustments
 - ▶ no extensions
- ▶ NSF will continue to reach out to awardees who have canceling funds throughout FY 2024.





CANCELING APPROPRIATIONS

Edit Notification/Request

Grantee-Approved No-Cost Extension

[← Back to Notifications & Requests Home](#)

ⓘ Appropriated Funds have expired for this award. No Notification/Request can be submitted for this award.

Award Number: [REDACTED] **Award Title:** [REDACTED]
End Date: 11/30/2016
Status: Forwarded to AOR

ⓘ Reminder: This one time extension may not be exercised merely for the purpose of using the unliquidated balances.

Required

Revised End Date: (Always expires on the last day of the month)

Justification for Grantee-Approved No-Cost Extension:

[REDACTED]

Characters remaining: 978 (out of 1200 max)



HYPOTHETICAL SCENARIO – TRUE OR FALSE?

University is managing award 1812334 with initial funds obligated in FY2018 (FY2018/2019 appropriation)

Subsequent funding was received in FY2021.

University receives a no-cost extension for the award that extends the period of performance of the award from May 31, 2024 to May 31, 2025.

During the spring of 2024, the University receives a letter from the NSF Payments and Analytics Branch, Payments and Outreach Section notifying the University that the award (1812334) has canceling funds, which will cancel on September 30, 2024.

True or False:

The University can ignore the canceling funds email. The Payments and Analytics Branch must have made a mistake in sending this notice.

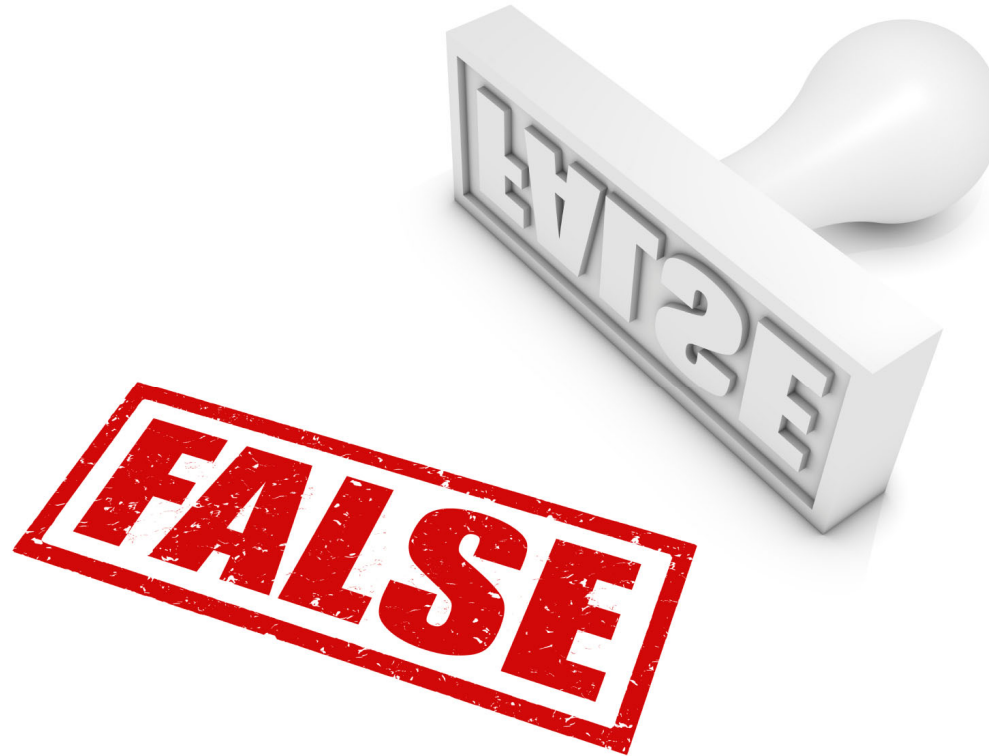




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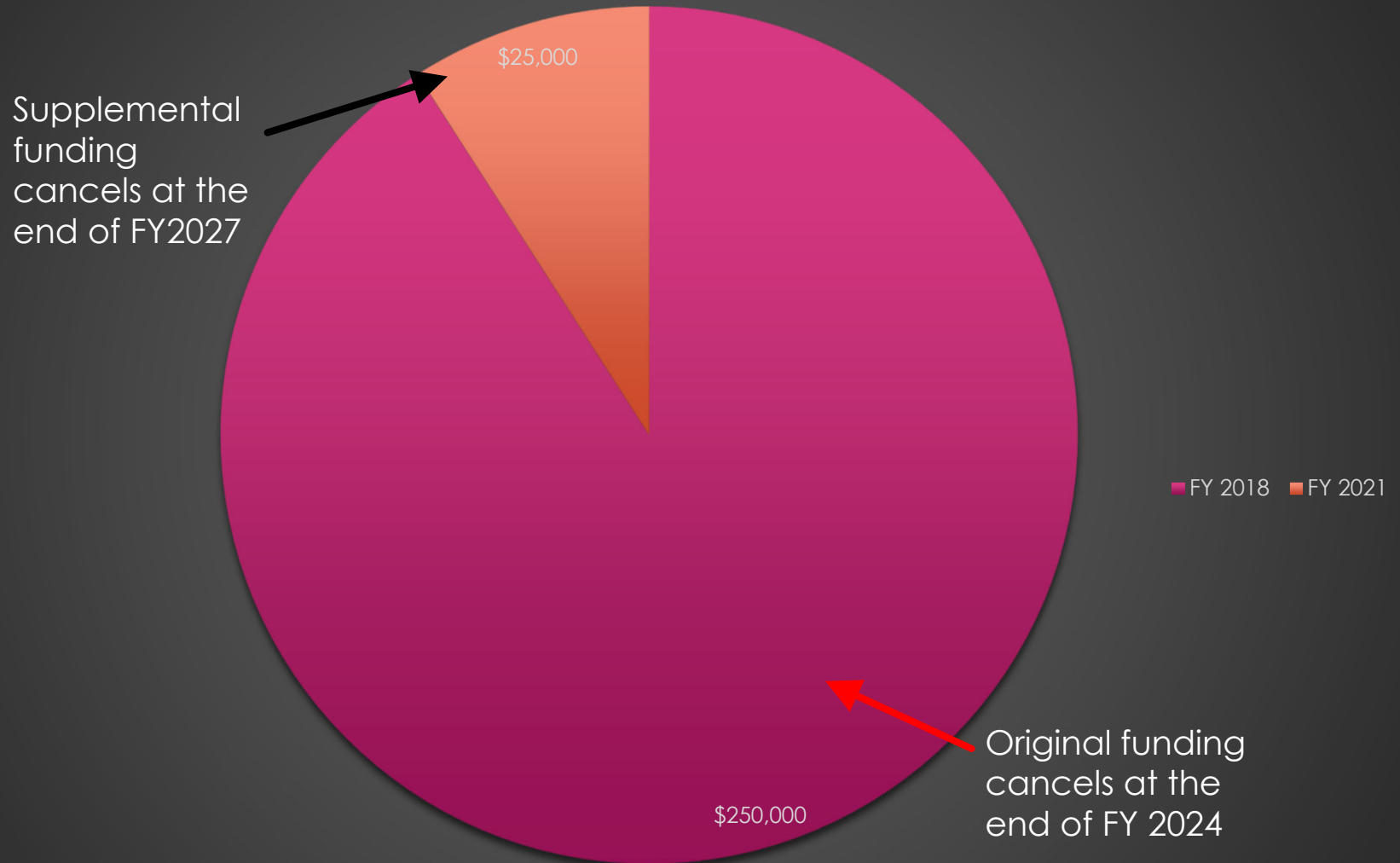
True or False:
The University
Analytics Bran



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Award Example





APPROPRIATION LIFE CYCLE

Appropriation	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
FY18/19 Research	1	2	1	2	3	4	5			
FY21/22 Research				1	2	1	2	3	4	5



Budget Authority **AVAILABLE** (allowed to make new obligations)



Budget Authority **EXPIRED** (allowed to adjust or liquidate existing obligations – NO NEW OBLIGATIONS)



Budget Authority **CANCELLED** (NO OBLIGATIONS OR OUTLAYS/EXPENSES)





ADVANCED PAYMENT OF CANCELING FUNDS

University was granted a No-Cost Extension to May 31, 2025 for an award involving canceling funds. There is \$100,000 available on the award, with \$50,000 canceling September 30, 2024. The University estimates \$30,000 of the canceling funding will be spent by the end of September 2024 and would like to request advanced payment of the canceling funds prior to the ACM\$ shutdown period. How much should their advance payment be for?

- A. **\$0** – advance payments are not permitted
- B. **\$30,000** – advance payment should be limited to the expected expenditures
- C. **\$50,000** – advance payment should include all of the canceling funding so the PI can continue to spend the remaining \$20,000 after September 2024 since the new award end date is 05/31/2025




Year-End ACM\$ Shutdown Critical Dates



YEAR-END CLOSE AND ACM\$ SHUTDOWN

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD AT 2:00 PM EDT

ACM\$ will go offline

- ▶ All payment requests must be made by 2:00 pm to be processed for payment
- ▶ If your award has cancelling funds, this is the last chance at making a payment request for these funds
 - ▶ Remember these awards will have a red flag next to them in ACM\$ 

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ACM\$ REOPENING SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1ST

ACM\$ is planned to come back online the morning of October 1st

- ▶ If your award had cancelling funds, they are no longer available
- ▶ Due to fiscal year opening budget activities, we recommend that you do not make Upward Adjustments against financially closed awards until October 23rd. Upward adjustments requests made prior to this date may fail to process and you will need to resubmit this request
- ▶ Updated annual Program Income Report Excel file available for download
 - ▶ This report is due on Wednesday, November 15th





YEAR-END CLOSE SCENARIO

It's 1:55pm on September 23rd and you just logged into ACM\$ to make your final draw before the cutoff. You receive a phone call that takes 12 minutes of your time. It's now past the 2pm cutoff, but you're still in ACM\$ and able to navigate within. Which of the following is true?

- A. You can continue to submit your transaction and will be successful in making the request
- B. There's a 30-minute grace period after 2pm to allow users to process their requests
- C. You will encounter a message stating funds are not available. This is due to a system wide threshold.
- D. Both A and B





NSF REMITTANCE PROCESSING

HOW DO I RETURN FUNDS TO NSF?

1. ACM\$ Credit/Offset ★
Preferred Electronic Methods
2. Pay.gov (ACH Debit) ★
3. Credit Gateway (ACH Credit) ★ ***NEW* Alternate Electronic Method**
4. Check





NSF REMITTANCE PROCESSING - PAY.GOV REMINDERS



1. ACM\$ Credit/Offset
 2. **Pay.gov (ACH Debit)**
 3. Credit Gateway (ACH Credit)
 4. Check
- ▶ For first time Pay.gov users returning funds using a bank account, we recommend reaching out to your banking institution to ensure NSF is a valid entity to make ACH debits to the account.
 - ▶ NSF's identification number for your bank is "**National Science Foundation ALC: 49000001**". If your bank requires a 10-digit version, please use "**4900000101**" instead.





REMITTANCE SCENARIO

You submitted a Pay.gov transaction two days ago. You don't see the update reflected in your expenditure balance in ACM\$. Which of the following could explain this:

- A. The funds were swept back to Treasury's general fund
- B. The transaction failed to settle and is in a "Retired" status
- C. PAB staff are waiting for the transaction to clear Treasury collection
- D. All of the above
- E. B or C



Award Monitoring Notifications



FINAL UNLIQUIDATED BALANCES OF CONCERN

Final Unliquidated Balances of Concern (FUBS)

PAB sends out email notifications if your awards are within 3 months of expiring and have 75% or greater balances remaining

- ▶ Are there issues?
- ▶ Is an extension needed?
- ▶ Encourage PIs to reach out to their NSF Program or Grants Official





AWARDS WITH PAYMENT INACTIVITY (GNAP)

- ▶ NSF launched a new monitoring initiative on awards with over 12 months of payment inactivity to provide awareness to PIs of inactive awards and to support good stewardship of NSF grant funds.

475 NSF grants have had \$0 in ACM\$ payments after at least 1 year of performance.

Award Count by Last ACM\$ Draw Date						
Null	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Grand Total
475	1	24	99	319	84	1,002

As of August 26th, 277 NSF grants have had \$0 in ACM\$ payments after at least 1 year of performance.

Award Count by Last ACM\$ Draw Date						
Null	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Grand Total
277	2	9	25	115	345	773





QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS???

- ▶ Website
www.nsf.gov/bfa/dfm/cmeab.jsp

