

OMB Releases Much-Anticipated Reporting Guidance

The U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released much-anticipated reporting guidance yesterday for an estimated 90,000 recipients of funds distributed under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act). The document also provides guidance for federal agencies. Information gathered under the new guidance will include who is receiving Recovery Act dollars, how much they are receiving, what projects or activities are being funded, the completion status of each project and what impact the project is having on job creation and retention.

The reporting framework in the guidance has been modified to capture additional spending data from prime recipients and sub-recipients. It clarifies the mechanics and chronology of recipient reporting requirements and the recipient/sub-recipient reporting relationship. Among other things, the guidance clarifies that prime recipients may delegate certain reporting requirements to sub-recipients and makes it clear that the reporting requirements made to sub-recipients are not the same as the reporting requirements for payments made to vendors. Clarification is provided on the difference between sub-recipients and vendors.

The recipient reporting process is centralized by enabling all recipients (both prime and those sub-recipients who have been delegated reporting responsibility) to use www.FederalReporting.gov to submit their quarterly reports beginning Oct. 10, 2009. Federal agencies will review the submission using the same website and underlying central data repository. The federal government will be offering webinar training on how use www.FederalReporting.gov in July. AGA will provide additional information on the training as it becomes available.

The guidance is available online at www.whitehouse.gov/omb/recovery_default/.