



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET



GATA News

GATA Update

This is our second GATA newsletter, but for some readers, it may be their first. If you are new to information about the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA), the most important thing to understand is that it is already in force for federal grants, federal pass-through funds, and state grants.

In December 2014, the Federal Register published changes to the 2CFR 200, making new financial and audit requirements effective for all federal grants. GATA, which was passed by the Illinois Legislature and signed into law by the Governor in 2014, brought Illinois' state grants in line with the same financial and administrative requirements as federal grants.

Since early 2015, the Governor's Office of Management and Budget (GOMB), it's Grant Accountability and Transparency Unit (GATU), the Illinois Single Audit Commission (ILSAC) and 200+ volunteers from state agencies and the grantee communities have been working together to draft rules, interpret changes, develop implementation policy, and transition to new and improved ways of doing business. Along with increased transparency and accountability with taxpayer dollars, Illinois wants to build grantee capacity and provide the best services possible with the dollars we have available. The rule-making phase is coming to a close and the implementation phase is moving forward. GOMB, GATU, and the subcommittees continue to work on changes in the grant life cycle, tools to improve understanding, new business processes for efficiency, and the IT needs to make them work.

Inside this issue:

Update	1
Accomplishments	1
In the News	1
Implementation Phase	2
GATA Website	2
Small Grantees	2
Town Hall Webinar	2

GOMB/GATU STAFF

Carol Kraus
Jennifer Butler
John Rigg

Volunteers from other state agencies working part-time with GATA efforts:

Trudy Ingalls	HFS
Dianne Barghouti	DHS
Lisa LaBonte	DNR
Lori Beeler	IDOT
Joan Small	DHS

GATA in the News!

As the first state with legislation requiring a comprehensive set of standards and mandating accountability and transparency throughout the entire grant life-cycle, the Illinois Grant Accountability and Transparency Act caught attention right from the beginning. The federal government has consistently watched our progress and held up Illinois as an example to other states. They, in turn, have reached out to Illinois for guidance in passing similar legislation.

We are also catching the attention of several publications, GATA efforts were showcased in the following articles.

- Will Illinois Become a National Model for Grant Management? – October 22, 2015 — Government Technology: <http://www.govtech.com/state/Will-Illinois-Become-a-National-Model-for-Grant-Management.html>
- No Money for Nonprofit Contracts, but Report Efficiencies Still a High Priority in Illinois – October 23, 2015 — NonProfit Quarterly: <https://nonprofitquarterly.org/2015/10/23/no-money-for-nonprofit-contracts-but-report-efficiencies-still-a-high-priority-in-illinois/>
- Illinois Grant Reform Act: What IT Means for Government Grant Recipients—August 13, 2014—StreamLink Software Blog: <http://www.streamlinksoftware.com/blog/bid/185313/Illinois-Grant-Reform-Act-What-It-Means-for-Government-Grant-Recipients>

Accomplishments

- The Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (44 Ill. Administrative Code 7000), 39 Ill Reg. 05278-4/10/15 was certified at the 7/14/15 Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR) and the effective date of the rules is July 24, 2015.
- The ILSAC Subcommittees reviewed 2CFR 200 for needed modifications for state grants. Review allowed for more stringent changes to be made, however subcommittees could not reduce 2CFR 200 requirements. Only nine changes were recommended. The rules and their amendments were accepted by the ILSAC/GATA Steering Committee and are in process of being presented to JCAR.
- With grantee assistance, four Town Hall Meetings at locations in LaGrange, Chicago, Springfield, and Hoyleton, along with two webinars, took place to assist staff from both state agencies and the grantee communities in understanding GATA and the implementation plans.
- A database termed the Catalog of State Financial Assistance (CSFA) has been created and state agencies are providing information as required by GATA. Once completed, it will be publicly available as Illinois' first centralized repository of grant information.
- An RFP was published, IPB #22037194, seeking a vendor to provide administration, review and negotiation services of Indirect Cost Rate Proposals and Cost Allocation Plan submissions by Illinois grantees and subrecipients.

Address:
OMB/GATU
601 Stratton
Springfield, IL
62706

Phone:
217-782-4520
Fax:
217-524-4876

Email:
OMB.GATA
@Illinois.gov

Implementation — Phase 2 — is Underway!

The Implementation process — or Phase 2 — has begun. It involves the development of critical frameworks, processes and procedures to ensure that GATA objectives are met, while implementing the Federal and State rules.

Goals for Phase 2 include:

- Based on the rules (set in Phase 1), set forth a uniform framework for Statewide grant policies and procedures
- Ensure that policies and procedures framework allows flexibility for unique requirements for individual grant programs
- Ensure the policies and procedures meet the objectives of GATA to lessen the administrative burden and remove duplication of effort among grant making agencies and their grantees
- Ensure that the policies and procedures recognize the limitations of small providers and grant awards while helping to build capacity through training and technical assistance
- Ensure that the policies and procedures recognize the cost benefit of the degree of monitoring required to meet the state and federal grant rules and regulations

GATA Website is Live!

<http://www.illinois.gov/budget/Pages/GrantAccountability.aspx>

Where you will find news and resources

Help for the Small Grantee

One of the goals of GATA is to build capacity for Illinois' grantees and build it correctly. A frequently expressed concern is the need (and desire) to support the small grantee.

What characterizes a small grantee? At first, that question seemed difficult to answer. However, using the threshold the Attorney General requires for financial statement audit, GATA adopted the cut off point of \$300,000 to define a small grantee.

GOMB, state agencies and grantees alike recognize that small grantees may not have the staff or expertise to handle the financial and administrative requirements.

Tiered approaches in audit requirements, technical assistance with Indirect Cost Rates and more are planned to assist small grantees. As GATA moves forward and implementation plans are discussed, GATU and ILSAC will continue to invite small grantees to participate and make their needs known.

Miss the Town Hall Meetings?

In September and October, Town Hall meetings were hosted in four different locations of the state and one via Webinar. Carol Kraus presented information about the purpose of GATA and some of the changes that can be expected by adopting the federal rules for all grants.

You can still see and hear the Townhall webinar which was presented in October 2015. You will find the link to it on the GATA section of GOMB's website or by using the links below:

- Use this link to download the pdf slideshow: [http://www.illinois.gov/budget/Documents/GATA/Town Hall Presentation%20%80%93September and October 2015.pdf](http://www.illinois.gov/budget/Documents/GATA/TownHallPresentation%20%80%93SeptemberandOctober2015.pdf)
- To hear the webinar, go to the following link and "register": <https://cc.readytalk.com/cc/playback/Playback.do?id=24kdad>

Quick Links

Grant Accountability and Transparency Act, 30 ILCS 708/1 et seq.

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=3559&ChapterID=7>

Uniform Requirements, 2 CFR Part 200, Dated : December 26, 2013
(This link may need to be copied and pasted into your browser)

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-12-26/pdf/2013-30465.pdf>