

USDA FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Effective August 1, 2016, all new USDA Food and Nutrition Service grants and cooperative agreements, as well as amendments to existing awards, are subject to the following Standard Terms and Conditions.

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (hereinafter referred to as “Agency”) awards funding to the Grantee (hereinafter referred to as “Recipient”). By acceptance of this award, the Recipient agrees to comply with the terms and conditions of the award listed below. Important information regarding the award, including the Agency contact and CFDA number, is contained on the Grant/Cooperative Agreement Form FNS-529.

The Recipient shall conduct the project as described in its submission of the Officer of Management and Budget (OMB) Standard Form 424, 424A, proposal, and budget narrative, including any subsequent revisions, amendments and/or clarifications.

Effective January 1, 2020, the System for Award Management (Click Here: www.SAM.gov) will become the central repository for common government-wide certifications and representations required of Federal grants Recipients. As registration in SAM is required for eligibility for a Federal award and registration must be updated annually, Federal agencies will use SAM information to comply with award requirements and avoid increased burden and costs of separate requests for such information, unless the Recipient fails to meet a Federal award requirement, or there is a need to make updates to their SAM registration for other purposes.

STANDARD TERMS OF THE AWARD

- 1. Funding:** The Agency will provide funds to the Recipient in the amount stated on the Grant/Cooperative Agreement Form FNS-529, Box 11, and as specified in the award letter, for use in accordance with this agreement. Funds will be provided at the Agency’s discretion through the Letter of Credit, Reimbursement, or in advance of need, upon receipt of a properly executed Grant/Agreement Form FNS-529. The Total Amount of The Federal Award – Box 13 of the FNS-529 – includes both Federal and non-Federal funding, such as cost sharing, matching or a Recipient’s voluntary contribution.
- 2. Performance Period:** The period of performance for this project is listed on the Grant/Cooperative Agreement Form FNS-529, Box 20 and 21. The Recipient may only incur allowable costs during the period of performance. Any costs incurred prior to the period of performance must be approved in writing by the Agency.

All funds must be obligated and all program activities under the agreement (other than activities related to the close out of the agreement) must be completed by the Expiration Date listed on the Grant/Cooperative Agreement Form FNS-529, Box 21. The closeout of the agreement must occur within 90 days of the expiration date, and all obligations incurred under the agreement must be liquidated by this date.

- 3. Amendments/Revisions and Budget Changes:** The Recipient may request an amendment or revision to the agreement, including the proposal, in writing at any time during the duration of the agreement. Prior approval is required for any revision of the scope or objectives of the project (regardless of whether there is an associated budget revision), changes in key personnel, such as the project director, disengagement from the project for more than three months (or a 25 percent reduction in time devoted

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to the project) by the project director, transfer of funds budgeted for participant support costs, the subawarding, transferring or contracting any work (unless approved in the submitted application package) or changes to budget line cost/expenditure. All amendments or revision must be submitted in writing to the Agency Contact listed on the Grant/Cooperative Agreement Form FNS-529, box 7.

The Recipient may transfer costs within the approved direct cost categories to meet unanticipated requirements. However, as required in 2 CFR 200.308(e) the Agency requires that prior approval be obtained for any budget revision that involves a shift of funds among line-items in excess of 10% of the total approved project budget. Such revisions must be submitted in writing with a revised budget in the same format as the original budget. All other requirements within 2 CFR 200.308 shall also apply.

The Recipient must include justification with any proposed amendment/revision and budget changes. All requests for changes must be made at least 10 days before the end of the award period. Any request received after this time will not be considered.

4. **Non-agreement Funds:** The Recipient may seek and apply for funds from other sources in support of the mission of the agreement.

REPORTING

5. **Quarterly and Final Progress Reports:** Progress reports must be sent to the Agency 30 days following the end of each quarterly period, using the FNS-908 Performance Progress Report (PPR) form. These reports should cover the preceding quarterly period of activity. The final report is due 90 days after the end date of this Agreement. **Note:** Use of the FNS-908 PPR form is required for all progress and final reports. The FNS-908 PPR form will be sent with the award package and/or can be received upon request to the Grants Officer.

The Recipient must report immediately any problems, delays, or adverse conditions that impair the Recipient's ability to meet the project objectives. The notification must include information on action taken or contemplated in response to the problem.

All materials developed with funding from this Agreement must be submitted in an electronic format (preferably Microsoft Word).

The Recipient is strongly encouraged to submit Progress Reports via electronic mail to the Grants Officer listed on the FNS-529. If the Recipient wishes to send a hard copy, an original shall be sent to the address listed on the Grant/Cooperative Agreement Form FNS-529, box 18.

6. **Financial Status Reports:** The Recipient is required to electronically enter the quarterly and final financial status report (SF-425) into the FNS Food Programs Reporting System (FPRS). Detailed FPRS enrollment instructions are provided at: <https://fprs.fns.usda.gov/>. This report must be entered within 30 days after the close of each quarter. The Final Financial Report must be entered into FPRS within 90 days of the expiration of this agreement. This report must also be certified by the Recipient's chief fiscal officer or an officer of comparable rank.

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REGULATORY AND STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

- 7. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidance:** This Federal financial assistance award is subject to rules and regulations related to the Recipient’s organizational entity type as noted below.

Government-Wide Regulations

- 2 CFR Part 25: “Universal Identifier and System for Award Management”
- 2 CFR Part 170: “Reporting Sub-award and Executive Compensation Information”
- 2 CFR Part 175: “Award Term for Trafficking in Persons”
- 2 CFR Part 180: “OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Non-Procurement)”
- 2 CFR 200: “Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards”
- 2 CFR 400: “Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards”
- 2 CFR Part 415: USDA “General Program Administrative Regulations”
- 2 CFR Part 416: USDA “General Program Administrative Regulations for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments”
- 2 CFR Part 417: USDA “Non-Procurement Debarment and Suspension”
- 2 CFR Part 418 USDA “New Restrictions on Lobbying
- 2 CFR Part 421: USDA “Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Financial Assistance)”
- 7 CFR Part 3: “Debt Management”
- 7 CFR Part 16: “Equal Opportunity for Religious Organizations”
- 41 U.S.C. Section 22 “Interest of Member of Congress”
- Privacy Act. The Cooperator/Recipient shall follow the rules and procedures of disclosure set forth in the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a, and implementing regulations and policies, with respect to systems of records determined to be subject to the Privacy Act.
- Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Public access to Federal Financial Assistance records shall not be limited, except when such records must be kept confidential and would have been excepted from disclosure pursuant to the “Freedom of Information” regulation (5 U.S.C. 552)
- In accordance with Section 5 of the Executive Order on Combating Race and Sex Stereotyping (issued on September 22, 2020), the Recipient, as a condition of receiving a grant, shall certify that it will not use Federal funds to promote the concepts that (a) one race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex; (b) an individual, by virtue of his or her race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously; (c) an individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of his or her race or sex; (d) members of one race or sex cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race or sex; (e) an individual’s moral character is necessarily determined by his or her race or sex; (f) an individual, by virtue of his or her race or sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex; (g) any individual should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress on account of his or her race or sex; or (h) meritocracy or traits such as a hard work ethic are racist or sexist, or were

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created by a particular race to oppress another race. Although training and education for employee development may otherwise be an allowable cost under 2 CFR 200.472, training or education on the divisive concepts specified in the Executive Order is not an allowable cost unless otherwise provided by law.

PROPERTY STANDARDS

8. Insurance Coverage: The Recipient must provide the equivalent insurance coverage for real property and equipment acquired or improved with Federal funds.

9. Intangible Property:

- a. The Recipient may copyright any work that is subject to copyright and was developed, or for which ownership was purchased, under the award. The Agency reserves a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to reproduce, publish or otherwise use these materials for federal purposes and to authorize others to do so.

"Federal purposes" include the use of award products in activities or programs undertaken by the Federal Government, in response to a governmental request, or as otherwise required by federal law. However, the Federal Government's use of copyrighted materials is not intended to interfere with or disadvantage the Recipient or assignee in the sale and distribution of the award product."

The Agency may request copies of an award product for not-for-profit use. These copies will be provided at the cost of reproduction and shipping, and no royalties or other fees will be charged.

- b. The Agency has the right to:
 - 1. Obtain, reproduce, publish or otherwise use the data first produced under an award; and
 - 2. Authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data for Federal purposes.
- c. In addition, in response to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for research data relating to published research findings produced under an award that were used by the Federal Government in developing an agency action that has the force and effect of law, the Agency shall request, and the Recipient shall provide within a reasonable time, the research data so that they can be made available to the public through the procedures established under the FOIA. If the Agency obtains the research data solely in response to a FOIA request, the Agency may charge the requester a reasonable fee equaling the full incremental cost of obtaining the research data. This fee should reflect costs incurred by the Agency, the Recipient, and applicable sub-recipients. This fee is in addition to any fees the agency may assess under the FOIA (5 U.S.C. 552(a)(4)(A)).
- d. Title to intangible property acquired under an award or sub-award vests upon acquisition in the Recipient. The Recipient shall use that property for the originally authorized purpose and shall not encumber the property without Agency approval. The Agency reserves the right to determine the disposition of the intangible property when it is no longer needed for the originally authorized purpose.

10. Federally owned and Exempt Property: Title to federally owned property remains vested in the

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Federal entity. The Recipient must submit annually an inventory listing of federally owned property to the Agency. Upon completion of the project, or when the property is no longer needed, the Recipient must contact the Agency for disposition instructions.

- 11. Equipment:** Equipment is defined as tangible, nonexpendable personal property having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit. The purchase of equipment not included in the approved project budget is allowable only if it is specifically approved beforehand by the Agency and there is documentation to support that the purchase is necessary and reasonable to carry out project activities.

Equipment records must be maintained that include the description of the equipment, the serial number or other identification number, the source of equipment, the title holder, the acquisition date, the cost of the equipment, the location, use, and condition of the equipment, and any ultimate disposition data including the date of disposal and the sale price of the equipment. A physical inventory of the equipment must be taken, and the results reconciled with the equipment records at least once every two years. The Recipient shall share the results of this inventory. A Tangible Personal Property Report, SF-428, must be submitted at award closeout to report the status of the equipment, if requested.

The Recipient shall follow the Agency's equipment disposition guidance and procedures. Disposition procedures will be provided by the Agency.

- 12. Sub-recipient Compliance:** The Recipient shall ensure that sub-recipients are in compliance with applicable Federal administrative requirements and cost principles. No funds shall be provided to an eligible collaborator or contractor before such an agreement is signed by all parties.

PROCUREMENT STANDARDS

The Recipient shall adhere to all procurement standards, including those listed below, if applicable, as found in 2 CFR 200.318 through 2 CFR 200.326. When procuring property and services under a Federal award, a State must follow the same policies and procedures used for procurements from its non-Federal funds. State Recipients shall comply with 2 CFR 200.322.

- 13. General Procurement Standards:** The Non-Federal entity must use its own documented procurement procedures, which reflect applicable State and local laws and regulations provided that procurements conform to applicable Federal law and the standards identified in this section. The Recipient must maintain oversight over contractors to ensure performance in accordance with the terms, conditions and specifications of their contracts or purchase orders, including written performance standards of its employees engaged in the selection, award and administration of contracts. The non-Federal entity must award contracts only to responsible contractors possessing the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of a proposed procurement. In accordance with 2 CFR 200.318(j), the non-Federal entity may only use time and material type contracts after a determination that no other contract is suitable and if the contract includes a ceiling that the contractor exceeds at its own risk.
- 14. Competition:** All procurement transactions must be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition consistent with 2 CFR 200.319.
- 15. Suspension/Debarment:** The Recipient agrees to ensure that all sub-recipients are neither excluded

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nor disqualified under the Suspension and Debarment rules found at 2 CFR Parts 180 and 417 by doing any one of the following:

- a. Checking the System for Awards Management (SAM) to determine if the applicant or Recipient has been debarred or suspended. This information can be found at www.sam.gov.
- b. Collecting a certification that the entity is neither excluded nor disqualified. Because a Federal certification form is no longer available, the Recipient or sub-Recipient electing this must devise its own.
- c. Including a clause to this effect in the sub-recipient agreement and in any procurement contract expected to equal or exceed \$25,000, awarded by the Recipient or a sub-recipient within any agreements.

16. Nondiscrimination: The Recipient shall comply with the following nondiscrimination statutes and regulations, other related regulations and any USDA nondiscrimination directives:

- a. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d- *et seq.*) and USDA regulations at 7 CFR Part 15, Nondiscrimination, a Department of Justice regulations at 28 CFR Part 42, Nondiscrimination; Equal Employment Opportunity: Policies and Procedures;
- b. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681 *et seq.*) and USDA regulations at 7 CFR Part 15a, Education Programs or Activities Receiving or Benefiting from Federal Financial Assistance;
- c. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 1681 *et seq.*) and USDA regulations at 7 CFR Part 15a, Education Programs or Activities Receiving or Benefiting or Benefiting from Federal Financial Assistance, and Department of Justice regulations at 28 CFR Part 41, Implementation of Executive Order 12250, Nondiscrimination On the Basis of Handicap In Federally Assisted Programs; and
- d. Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101 *et seq.*) The Recipient assures that it shall immediately take any measures necessary to effectuate the requirements in these laws, regulations and directives. The Recipient gives this assurance in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining the funds provided under this agreement.
- e. The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) prohibits discrimination based on disability in employment (Title I), state and local government services (Title II), places of public accommodation and commercial facilities (Title III). (42 U.S.C. 12101-12213).

The following nondiscrimination statement shall be included, in full, on all materials that are produced by the Recipient for public information, public education, or public distribution.

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.”

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and USDA civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State

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or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: How to File a Complaint, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

RETENTION AND ACCESS

17. Evaluation and Access to Records: The Recipient shall cooperate with any evaluation of the program by providing the Agency requested data and access to records. The Recipient shall cooperate with any, as needed, on-site financial and/or technical reviews and audits at any time during the term of the agreement. In addition, the Recipient shall make all records pertaining to activities under the grant available for audit purposes.

The Recipient shall require any sub-recipient or contractors to comply with the requirements of this agreement and ensure that the Agency has access to any sub-recipient or contractors for purposes of evaluating, monitoring or reviewing other operations or records as they relate to this grant. When entering into a sub-award, the Recipient shall ensure that the sub-recipient agreement contains any clause required by Federal Statute or Executive Order and their implementing regulations.

NONCOMPLIANCE AND TERMINATION

18. Noncompliance: As provided in 2 CFR 200.338, the Agency may unilaterally terminate this grant agreement or recover, withhold, or disallow costs of up to 100 percent of the funds made available under the agreement if the Recipient fails to comply with any term of the agreement. **The Agency will consider failure to comply with the reporting requirements of this agreement to be a material failure to comply with the agreement and a basis for termination.** If the Agency decides to take action against the Recipient for noncompliance under this agreement, the Agency will provide the Recipient written notice of the basis for its determination.

If an award is suspended, and corrective action is not taken within 90 days of the suspension effective date, the Agency may issue a notice of termination. No costs that are incurred during the suspension period or after the effective date of termination will be allowable, except those that are specifically authorized by the suspension or termination notice or those that, in the opinion of the Agency, could not have been reasonably avoided.

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Within 30 days of the termination date, the Recipient shall furnish to the Agency a summary of progress achieved under the award, an itemized accounting of charges incurred against award funds and cost sharing prior to the effective date of the suspension or termination, and a separate accounting and justification for any costs that may have been incurred after this date.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

19. USDA/FNS Acknowledgement: Unless otherwise advised by the Agency, the Recipient shall acknowledge the support of USDA FNS whenever publicizing the work under this grant. To this end, the Recipient must include in any publication resulting from work performed under this grant an acknowledgment in substantially the form set below:

“This project has been funded at least in part with Federal funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the view or policies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.”

20. Liabilities: The Recipient may not seek any financial recourse from the Agency as a result of any liabilities the Recipient may incur for bodily injury or personal property damage resulting from negligent acts, errors, or omissions of the Recipient, their officers, agents or employees, or if applicable its sub-Recipients or their officers, agents, or employees, in performing this agreement. Liabilities of the United States are governed by the Federal Tort Claims Act, 28 U.S.C. 2671 *et seq.*

21. Privacy Act Policy: The Agency does not collect any personal identifiable information without explicit consent. To view the Agency’s Privacy Act Statement, visit: www.fns.usda.gov/privacy-policy.

22. Program Income: Program income is money that is earned or received by a Recipient or a sub-Recipient from the activities supported by award funds or from products resulting from award activities. It includes, but is not limited to, income from fees for services performed and from the sale of items produced under an award; usage or rental fees for equipment or property acquired under an award; admission fees; broadcast or distribution rights; and license fees and royalties on patents and copyrights. The Federal share of program income is determined by the percentage of total project costs that are supported by the Agency.

Income Earned During the Award Period: The Federal share of program income earned during the award period shall be retained by the Recipient and, unless the award specifies how such income shall be used, the Recipient must use it in the following way:

It may be added to the existing project funding to cover increased costs of the project.

A report of program income earned during the award period must be submitted with the final Federal Financial Report whenever program income is earned during the award period or when the terms and conditions of the award specifically require such a report. The report shall indicate the total amount of program income that was earned and how it was used.

If income is to be returned to the Agency, a check made payable to the Food and Nutrition Service must be submitted to the Accounting Division at the following address:

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USDA Food and Nutrition Service
ATTN: Accounting Division
P.O. Box 979027
St. Louis, MO 61397-9000

All checks must identify funds as program income and include the **Project Fiscal Year, Agency Name and FNS Grant Award Document (GAD) Number** (the GAD Number can be found on the FNS-495).

POST CLOSEOUT ADJUSTMENTS AND COLLECTIONS

23. Post-closeout Adjustments: The closeout of a Federal award does not affect:

- a. The right of the Agency to disallow costs and recover funds based on an audit or later review;
- b. The obligation of a non-Federal entity to return funds as a result of later cost adjustments;
- c. Audit requirements;
- d. Property management and disposition requirements; and
- e. Record retention requirements.

24. Collections: Any funds paid in excess of the amount in which the non-Federal entity is finally determined to be entitled will constitute a debt to the Federal Government. If these funds are not paid within 90 days, the Agency may make an administrative offset, withhold advance payments or take other necessary actions. In addition, interest will accrue on any overdue debt in accordance with the Federal Claims Collections Standards (31 CFR Parts 900 through 999).