

July  
2011

# Bu\$ine\$\$ Matter\$

The monthly newsletter of Ohio University Finance

## New Stories!!!

Thank You	1
Important Year End Dates	1
60 Day Payroll Acct Corrections	2
Year end Calendar Updated Forms	2
Foundation Deposits	2
Travel Policy	3
Payment Compliance Form Update	3
Capitalization Minimum Change	3
Ending Dates On Grants	4
Helpful Hints	4

## Monthly

## Reminders!!!

## Prior Stories!!!

Do you need to refer to a story from a Prior Month? Please access the link below. Click on the applicable month.

[http://www.ohio.edu/finance/gafr/business\\_matters.cfm](http://www.ohio.edu/finance/gafr/business_matters.cfm)

The June 2011 2<sup>nd</sup> Close Financial Management System (FMS) reports are now available, to those of you who are report recipients, at:

[https://epprod.cats.ohiou.edu:8900/OA\\_HTML/CustomEPRDLogin.html](https://epprod.cats.ohiou.edu:8900/OA_HTML/CustomEPRDLogin.html).

Be sure to read below for important information related to your reports and other Finance services.

If you need assistance accessing your reports or FMS in general, please contact the IT Service Desk at: 593-1222 or servicedesk@ohio.edu.

If you have further questions or comments, please email [fmsreporting@ohio.edu](mailto:fmsreporting@ohio.edu).

## Thank You!

Finance would like to extend a heartfelt *THANK YOU* to everyone who always responds with above and beyond efforts at year end close. Deadlines were tight this year end and you've all put in exceptional efforts over this past year (most especially during the months of June and July!) culminating in another successful year end close! For all those long hours and quick turnarounds on transactions please accept our gratitude for your efforts. Successful year end closes don't happen without YOUR time, effort and talents and the Finance staff would like to congratulate you on JOB WELL DONE! This just really confirms what we already know – that the staff of Ohio University is the best – dedicated to their jobs and to the students, faculty and staff that we serve.

## Year-End Important Dates to remember:

- (1) *Friday July 8th* – OUF Mail contributions postmarked June 30th were due in OUF Accounting Office
- (2) *Tuesday July 12th* – Final FY11 Direct Payments, PO Invoices, Accounting Corrections and Payroll Correction were due in Finance
- (3) *Friday July 15th* – June 2nd close – NO DEPARTMENTAL TRANSACTIONS WILL BE PROCESSED AFTER THIS DATE FOR FY11

## **60 Day Rule for Payroll Accounting Corrections**

To be consistent with our 60 day rule for Accounting Corrections, starting in FY12 Payroll Accounting Corrections greater than 60 days old will *not* be processed and will be returned to departments.

The 60 day rule is derived from federal regulations governing the accounting for federal dollars. While not all of our funding is from a federal source, we are required to adopt controls that are consistently applied across the University. The Federal government views extensive movement of dollars to mean that internal controls are weak in knowing what should be charged where. A transaction which lands in an account some time after its occurrence is viewed to be more about finding available funding than about whether the charge really belongs on that account.

Monitoring accounts on a monthly basis is an element of good internal controls and doing so allows one to meet the 60 day requirement.

For Payroll Accounting Corrections the 60 days will be calculated from the date the departmental reports are made available, i.e., for a July 1 pay or a July 15 pay if reports come out on August 9 that means a correction must be sent to Finance by October 9.

If you have any questions please contact Rhonda Hess at:  
[hessr@ohio.edu](mailto:hessr@ohio.edu)

## **Finance FY11 Year-End Calendar now Available!!!**

The Finance Fiscal Year 2011 Year-End Calendar has been posted on the finance website. Please review the important due dates for both Year-End close and Budget Development. Please note that as we get closer to year-end the time frame for submitting documents to finance will be shorter. If you have any questions about due dates or other year end items please contact Kris Sano at: 597-9933 or [sanok@ohio.edu](mailto:sanok@ohio.edu)

You can access the calendar using the link below; please click on "Finance Calendar FY2011"  
<http://www.ohio.edu/finance/gafr/fiscalyearendclosing.cfm>

## **Please Use Updated Forms:**

Please note that the Finance Department updates forms as necessary to meet business and compliance needs. It is imperative that you always access your forms online. Do not save forms to your desktop for reuse. Obsolete forms will be returned to the department for resubmission. Please resubmit using the most current version. For Campus convenience we have added revision dates to our forms website.

## **Deposits to Foundation Accounts:**

Please do not take Foundation deposits to Chubb Hall. Deposits should be brought to the Foundation Accounting Office in HDL 168. Foundation fund types include 100, 108, 130, 138, 160, 190 and 191. Please relay this information to all appropriate personnel within your area. If you have questions, please call the Foundation front desk at: 593-2671.

## **Travel Policy Update:**

Ohio University Finance will be performing a full review and update of the OHIO Travel Program, existing policy, and processes over the 2011 summer break. The objective is to publish an updated policy along with enhanced processes and options that will be available for you and/or the travelers in your units beginning with the Fall Quarter 2011. You may provide your input to the policy by sending your comments to: [procurement@ohio.edu](mailto:procurement@ohio.edu) by July 6, 2011.

In the meantime, please note that although we strongly encourage the use of Travel World as your preferred travel partner, this is not mandated by policy. As a reminder, all business airfare is required by PCard Policy to be purchased on your university PCard. If you are travelling with family and need to purchase your airfare on your personal card for logistics reasons, you must receive written approval prior to booking the flight by emailing your request with the details to: [purchasing.card@ohio.edu](mailto:purchasing.card@ohio.edu).

## **The Payment Compliance Form has been updated!**

It is common practice to use a substitute W-9 (Payment Compliance Form) - we do this for 3 specific reasons:

1. The W-9 only addresses the federal reporting requirements (e.e. 1099 reporting requirements)
2. The W-9 does not address the state reporting that Ohio requires (the Updated Payment Compliance form does and this reporting is mandatory)
3. With the move to Bobcat Buy, we need additional information to fulfill system requirements. Vendors must supply distinct remittance and purchasing site addresses and specify whether they are to receive faxed or emailed POs from our system in order to automate processes within Bobcat Buy.

The Updated Payment Compliance Form satisfies the 3 requirements above without the need for additional forms. Older versions of the payment compliance form do not meet current requirements and cannot be accepted. If the Business Service Center ("BSC") receives an old version of the form, BSC will contact the supplier to obtain an updated form causing a delay in the processing of any payments to the supplier. If the supplier does not return the updated form, BSC will return any DP for that supplier to the submitting department.

\*NOTE: A new payment compliance form must be completed when there is a change in vendor information.

The Updated Payment Compliance Form is located at: <http://www.ohio.edu/finance/forms/financeforms.cfm>

## **Equipment Capitalization Change to \$5,000 Minimum:**

Starting July 1, 2011 the capitalization level for University equipment is \$5,000. To qualify as equipment, the following criteria must be met:

- A. The item cost is at least \$5,000.
- B. The item is tangible, personal property.
- C. The useful life of the item is at least one year.
- D. The item is able to function by itself

Beginning with fiscal year 2012, any existing equipment with a purchase price less than \$5,000 AND fully depreciated will be removed from the department inventory listing. Equipment will be removed each fiscal year as it meets the criteria. The Equipment Policy is in the process of being rewritten along with the Equipment Inventory web pages.

## How to obtain end dates on grant projects!

The end date shown in PSI is the Oracle system end date, which is normally 90 days after the TRUE project end date. However, this system date is adjusted as needed to allow for transactions to be processed that fall outside the 90 day window, so you should NOT rely on just subtracting 90 days from the end date in PSI to arrive at the true end date.

The true end date appears on the FMS-210 report and also by using the Cost Center Lookup ("cc lookup") link found on the VP Finance webpage. When using cc lookup click on the calendar icon on the right with the "X" to access end dated accounts. See the link below for the Cost Center Lookup.

<http://portal.finance.ohiou.edu/cclookup/cclookup>

## Helpful Hints and Shortcuts:

When creating any accounting transactions, please verify the account numbers in advance. We have created the "Account Verification Tool" that will check your multi-line form account numbers for you. You can access this tool via the following link. <http://www.ohio.edu/finance/gafr/>

**IMPORTANT: DO NOT SAVE THE ACCOUNT VERIFICATION TOOL TO YOUR DESKTOP AS IT IS UPDATED WEEKLY AND YOU WILL NOT HAVE UP TO DATE INFORMATION!!!**

Another handy tool available on the web is Cost Center Lookup (cclookup). You may search by project number, by a combination of an account number, or by word. Example: Project UN0000000, Combination 010-0400-18010, or the word 'Provost'. You can access cc-lookup via the following link, <http://www.ohio.edu/finance>. Select the "Search For..." drop-down menu at the far right and select "Cost Center Lookup".

Both tools will allow you to see all segment combinations that are listed as valid in our system at the present time.

## Monthly Reminders!

**P-CARD:** P-Card transactions are now in the Concur Travel and Expense system. Transactions will be reflected in your FMS reports as your P-Card and Travel expense reports are submitted, approved, and processed by central Finance. Anything with an "Extracted for Payment" status by 5:00 p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> to last business day of the month will post to that month's FMS reports. The time a report is extracted for payment can be found on the e-mail received by the employee informing them of the report status change. Questions regarding this process can be directed to Tanya Hire at: [biblert@ohio.edu](mailto:biblert@ohio.edu).

**FINANCE ONLINE TRAINING:** Visit our Finance Training web site. You will find Finance Online Training demos, Practice Your Skills and handouts. The training topics include P-Card/Concur, Travel, Financial Management System (FMS), and WorkForce. The Finance Training web site contains information on accessing and using Oracle FMS, applying for a purchasing card, reviewing travel policies and forms, Purchase Order Lookup, Invoice Payments, approving Work Force timesheets, and more. We are currently working on additional training demos covering other Finance topics which will be

available soon. You may access the Finance Training web site at:  
<http://www.ohio.edu/finance/training/index.cfm>

**REPORT DISTRIBUTION MAINTENANCE:** When employees change jobs or leave the university, please ask your planning unit's Budget Unit Manager to contact Carrie Daines at: [daines@ohio.edu](mailto:daines@ohio.edu) to update FMS report distribution maintenance.

**ACCESS TO FMS:** Please contact Tanya Hire at: [biblert@ohio.edu](mailto:biblert@ohio.edu) to request online access to FMS. This request must come from the department head. Departments are responsible for making sure the employee completes the online training modules PRIOR to accessing the system.

**PREVIOUS ISSUES OF BUSINESS MATTERS:** Previous issues of Business Matters can be found at:  
<http://www.ohio.edu/finance/gafr/businessmatters.cfm>.