



Arizona Department of Administration Office of Grants and Federal Resources News Bulletin

March 2019

GSA announces new contract for entity validation services

Ernst and Young has been selected to replace Dun & Bradstreet's D-U-N-S

On March 18, the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) announced the award of a one-year base, and four option periods contract (worth more than \$41 million) to Ernst and Young LLP (EY) that will provide entity validation services for the federal award process. The federal government must validate the identity of each entity (company, agency, individual, etc.) wanting to do business with (or receive assistance from) the federal government. EY's entity validation services will replace Dun & Bradstreet's D-U-N-S numbering process.

The GSA indicates the new contract will streamline the process by ensuring individual agencies do not have to contract separately for these services; instead, they will receive the same service via the System for Award Management (SAM) portal at SAM.gov. Also, the new contract prohibits the use of proprietary software or data and names the federal government the owner of data produced under the contract. GSA re-negotiated its contract with D&B in 2016 to expand use of the proprietary D&B data obtained through the federal government's Integrated Award Environment (IAE) systems. The change was a result, in part, of the mandate under the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act (DATA Act).

Prior to awarding the contract, GSA released two Requests for Information (RFIs) to gather feedback from industry and other stakeholder organizations regarding the future structure of entity identification and validation services. Both RFIs received many responses from government agencies, industry, and other stakeholders.

The contract with EY will run through March 2024. During the transition to the new provider, Dun & Bradstreet will provide continued service to maintain award reporting and data integrity.

Reminder: agency subrecipient monitoring plans due to GFR by May 31

State agencies as grantors must submit their subrecipient monitoring plans to the Office of Grants and Federal Resources (GFR) by May 31. The agencies' plans are required under GFR's annual statewide monitoring plan, based on requirements under Uniform Guidance [§200.331](#) and authorization under Arizona Executive Order [\(EO\) 2013-09](#). The plan helps ensure state agencies are monitoring at least 10 percent of their open grants. The policy, included in the Grant Management Manual (GMM) Grantor ([Section 8.2.1](#)), applies to all state agencies that grant funding to subrecipients. GFR is providing training and technical assistance for grant program managers who need help developing and implementing a subrecipient monitoring plan for their respective agency. Additional resources, including a [training video](#) with [accompanying presentation](#) and a [subrecipient monitoring plan template](#), are available on GFR's website. Grant program managers in need of assistance (or who just want to run their plan by GFR staff before submitting) may email staff at GFR@azdoa.gov or call Compliance Manager Veronica Peralta at 602-542-7537.

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GAO draft policy addresses internal controls for state agencies as grantors

The ADOA General Accounting Office (GAO) sent out notification regarding a draft policy on March 21, 2019. The draft, [Internal Control Activities for Pass-through Grantors](#), is well-timed and aligns with GFR's subrecipient monitoring plan policy. The draft policy states, "A pass-through entity must have written policies and procedures on how subawards will be made and subrecipients managed." Further, the pass-through entity (state agency as grantor) must ensure their internal policies and procedures conform with the requirements under the State of Arizona Accounting Manual (SAAM), the GFR Grants Management Manual and relevant federal laws and regulations. The draft policy, once finalized, will provide detailed guidance to grant program managers who administer pass-through funding. The drafts are posted for comment and do not reflect policy statements that are in effect. Agencies are requested to review any drafts within sixty (60) days of initial posting and send their comments via email to gaopolicy@azdoa.gov.

Please use eCivis to solicit grants; APP is used for contracts

State policy ([SAAM 70.05](#)) mandates that "grants shall be established in eCivis." Only eCivis or an agency's legacy grants management solution may be utilized for soliciting grant applications. Please note: Grant program managers are not permitted to use procurement systems such as the Arizona Procurement Portal (APP) for grant solicitations.

eCivis SRM enhancements nearly done

GFR staff continues to work with eCivis to bring enhanced functionality to the Subrecipient Manager (SRM)

Following the successful implementation of the Acceptance functionalities in eCivis Subrecipient Manager (SRM) earlier this month, the fifth scheduled enhancement will roll out in April. This upgrade provides the Grant Amendment/Modification and Grant Closeout (de-obligation and revertments) functionalities, which will conclude the grant lifecycle enhancements within the eCivis SRM. As agencies wind down their legacy grant management solutions, GFR will assist grant program managers with the transition to the eCivis SRM for managing subrecipient funds in accordance with 2 CFR 200, Uniform Guidance.

The detailed deployment scheduled was described as a series of roll-outs in the [November issue of the GFR News Bulletin](#). The six scheduled eCivis SRM enhancements will conclude in May. GFR staff has scheduled another site visit with eCivis developers to work on further eCivis SRM enhancements in April. Staff will answer questions: Anna Haney, Anna.Haney@azdoa.gov or Dean Johnson, Dean.Johnson@azdoa.gov.

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