



FY 2025 YEAR-END CLOSE AND FINANCIAL CRITICAL DATES

Wednesday, August 27, 2025

We will begin at 2 PM

All attendees will be joined in listen-only mode with the ability to submit questions via Zoom Q&A. Please feel free to submit your question while the presentation is being conducted. We will have a dedicated Q&A session at the conclusion of the webinar.

This event is being recorded. The presentation slides and the recording will be available 2-3 weeks after the webinar.

For help, external participants contact Zoom Technical support at +1-833-966-6468 (+1-833-Zoom-Gov) or email support@zoom.us. All NSF staff contact IT Help Central at 703-292-4357 (HELP) or email ITHelpCentral@nsf.gov.





National Science Foundation
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

FY 2025 YEAR-END CLOSE AND FINANCIAL CRITICAL DATES

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 27, 2025



PAB

PAYMENTS AND ANALYTICS BRANCH

BUDGET, FINANCE AND AWARDS MANAGEMENT | DIVISION OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT



INTRODUCTIONS



Naomi Jackson



Tia Davidson



Sehrish Shah





AGENDA

- 1 | General Information/Frequent Questions**
- 2 | Canceling Appropriations**
- 3 | Year-End ACM\$ Shutdown Critical Dates**
- 4 | Award Monitoring Notifications**
- 5 | Recent Updates**



General Information/Frequent Questions



PAYMENTS AND ANALYTICS BRANCH (PAB)

PAB falls within the Division of Financial Management at NSF.

Our branch supports the NSF mission by leading comprehensive post-award grant and commercial financial processes, including:

- Payment Operations,
- Financial Analytics,
- Monitoring and Compliance, and
- Stakeholder Outreach.





MEET THE PAYMENT & OUTREACH TEAM

Cheryl Coppet

District of Columbia (DC), Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia

Tia Davidson

Arizona, Alaska, American Samoa, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Virginia, Washington

Sherri Payne

Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Colorado, Iowa, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Wyoming

Sehrish Shah

Connecticut, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Texas, Vermont, Virgin Islands, Foreign Grantees



YOUR ROLE IN PROTECTING FEDERAL FUNDS

- ▶ Institute Robust Internal Controls
- ▶ Increase Fraud and Security Awareness
- ▶ Strengthen Security and Mitigate Risk
- ▶ Each user is required to have a unique ID
- ▶ Never share ID and/or password
- ▶ Only one account per user
- ▶ Group user accounts and passwords are not permitted
- ▶ Keep your users up to date



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

GRANT

FAQ

AWARD CASH MANAGEMENT SERVICE (ACMS)

1 What is the Award Cash Management Service (ACMS)?

ACMS is NSF's system for awardees to manage award payment and post-award financial processes. The system allows users to submit cash requests and adjustments to open and closed awards on a grant by grant basis. Additionally, users have timely access to award level information on payments and award balances improving reconciliations and award monitoring.

2 How do I request funds on my award?

The majority of awardees must submit their payment request through the NSF Award Cash Management Service (ACMS) at: www.research.gov

Once a user has accessed ACMS, a request may be submitted by selecting "Submit New Transaction" and identifying the "Payment Date Requested". A user may select from the available open awards on the first tab called "Step 1. Payments" or from available financially closed awards on the second tab called "Step 2. Adjustments". All transactions must be certified by an authorized official on the third tab called "Step 3. Review". Navigate between the tabs by clicking on the tab label. NSF will not process a transaction until it has been certified and submitted. A transaction with a status of "Draft" or "Awaiting Certification" will not be processed.

Additional instructions and user guides can be found on the ACMS information webpage at:
https://www.research.gov/research-portal/appmanager/base/desktop?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=research_node_display&_nodePath=researchGov/Service/Desktop/AwardCashManagementService.html

3 Is my organization required to submit a quarterly FFR or are there any additional financial reporting requirements for my NSF award?

With the implementation of ACMS, NSF eliminated the requirement for organizations to submit quarterly Federal Financial Reports (FFR). The FFR was considered to collect duplicate information since expense data for each award is collected with the submission of ACMS payment transactions.

Program income reports for NSF are collected annually instead of quarterly via an FFR submission. For more information, please see the Program Income Reporting section of this FAQ.

Cost Share reports are collected through the submission of a Notification to the Program Office via FastLane. For more information, please see the About Notifications and Requests on Research.gov:
https://www.research.gov/research-portal/appmanager/base/desktop?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=research_node_display&_nodePath=researchGov/Service/Desktop/NotificationRequest.html

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PAYMENTS AND ANALYTICS BRANCH

Office of Budget, Finance, and Award Management (BFA)
 Division of Financial Management (DFM)

2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22314
 703.292.8280 | www.nsf.gov/bfa/dfm



National Science Foundation
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

▶ 16 pages of the most common questions

▶ **Download from our website:**

<https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dfm/cmeab.jsp>

▶ **Direct link:**

https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dfm/docs/DFM_PABGrantFAQ.pdf

PAB

PAYMENTS AND ANALYTICS BRANCH

BUDGET, FINANCE AND AWARDS MANAGEMENT | DIVISION OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT





NSF GRANT PAYMENT PROCESS

NSF Grantees

Submit and certify
ACM\$
Transactions

+1
Business
Day

NSF

Reviews
transactions and
transmits payment
schedules

+1
Business
Day

Dept. of Treasury

Disburses funds to
NSF grantees

For Organizations
with a recent
bank change -
NSF REVIEW HOLD



Bank change
verified

Additional Delay



Impacts of Canceling Appropriations



CANCELING APPROPRIATIONS

- ▶ Each fiscal year end, millions of dollars of obligated funds must be de-obligated
- ▶ Federal appropriations cancel five years after their period of availability.
 - ▶ Public Law 101-510: States Federal agencies must financially close fixed year appropriation accounts and cancel any remaining balances by September 30th of the 5th year after the period of availability.

| FY | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|-----------|------|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Available | Open | Open | Expired | Expired | Expired | Expired | Expired | Cancelled |

- ▶ **AFTER SEPTEMBER 30th, NEITHER THE AWARDEE OR NSF CAN ACCESS ANY REMAINING FUNDS**





AWARDS WITH CANCELING FUNDS IN ACM\$

| Federal Award ID | Recipient Account Number | PI/PD Name | From | To | Total Federal Funds Authorized | Previous Cumulative Cash Disbursement | Net Available Funds | Payment Amount Requested | Expected Close Date | Final Flag |
|--|--------------------------|------------|------|----|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| 0939454 | | | | | | | \$135,551.50 | \$11,426.22 | 11/28/2022 | No |
|  1340048 | | | | | | | \$1,130,785.45 | \$1,092.84 | 01/28/2024 | No |
| 1430152 | | | | | | | \$441,989.79 | \$19,115.88 | 06/28/2023 | No |
| 1432563 | | | | | | | \$116,308.49 | \$41,464.44 | 04/30/2023 | No |
|  1443165 | | | | | | | \$104,698.44 | \$1,421.71 | 11/28/2022 | No |
| 1452479 | | | | | | | \$8,154.43 | \$5,496.04 | 12/29/2022 | No |
| 1546617 | | | | | | | \$160,984.08 | \$14,443.29 | 11/28/2022 | No |





CANCELING APPROPRIATIONS CRITICAL DATE

- ▶ ACM\$ (NSF's Grant Payment System) is closing **Tuesday, September 23, 2025 at 2:00 PM EDT.**
 - ▶ After this date (for awards with canceling funds):
 - ▶ no adjustments
 - ▶ no extensions
- ▶ NSF will continue to reach out to awardees who have canceling funds throughout FY 2025.
- ▶ Normal operations will resume **October 1, 2025**





CANCELING APPROPRIATIONS

Edit Notification/Request

Grantee-Approved No-Cost Extension

[← Back to Notifications & Requests Home](#)

! Appropriated Funds have expired for this award. No Notification/Request can be submitted for this award.

Award Number: [REDACTED] **Award Title:** [REDACTED]
End Date: 11/30/2016
Status: Forwarded to AOR [REDACTED]

i Reminder: This one time extension may not be exercised merely for the purpose of using the unliquidated balances.

Required

Revised End Date: (Always expires on the last day of the month)

Justification for Grantee-Approved No-Cost Extension:
[REDACTED]

Characters remaining: 978 (out of 1200 max)



HYPOTHETICAL SCENARIO – TRUE OR FALSE?

University is managing award 1912334 with initial funds obligated in FY2019 (FY2019/2020 appropriation)

Subsequent funding was received in FY2022.

University receives a no-cost extension for the award that extends the period of performance of the award from May 31, 2025 to May 31, 2026.

During the spring of 2025, the University receives a letter from the NSF Payments and Analytics Branch, Payments and Outreach Section notifying the University that the award (1912334) has canceling funds, which will cancel on September 30, 2025.

True or False:

The University can ignore the canceling funds email. The Payments and Analytics Branch must have made a mistake in sending this notice.



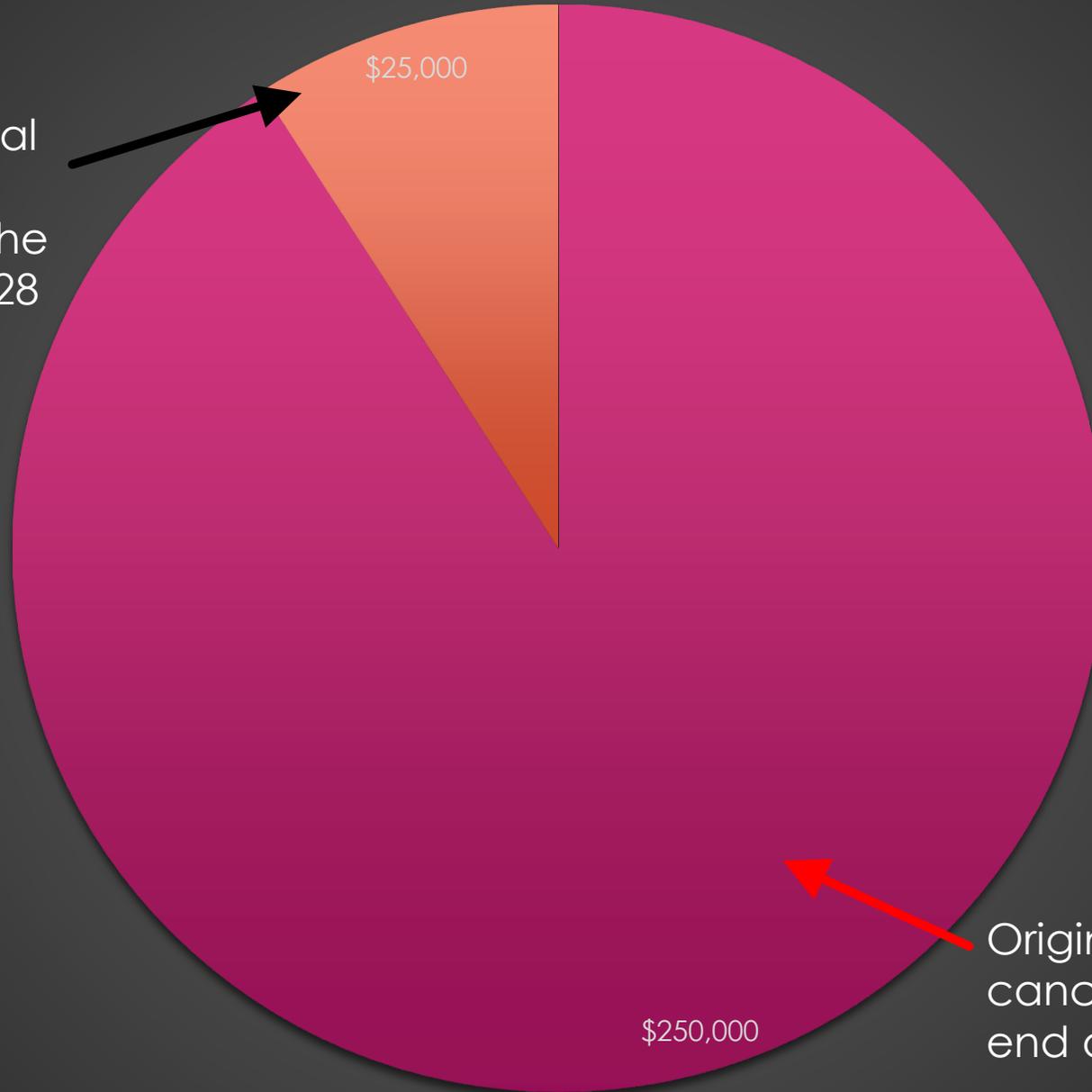


HYPOTHETICAL SCENARIO – TRUE OR FALSE?



Award Example

Supplemental
funding
cancels at the
end of FY2028



■ FY 2019 ■ FY 2022

Original funding
cancels at the
end of FY 2025



APPROPRIATION LIFE CYCLE

| Appropriation | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| FY19/20 Research | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | |
| FY22/23 Research | | | | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |



Budget Authority **AVAILABLE** (allowed to make new obligations)



Budget Authority **EXPIRED** (allowed to adjust or liquidate existing obligations – NO NEW OBLIGATIONS)



Budget Authority **CANCELLED** (NO OBLIGATIONS OR OUTLAYS/EXPENSES)





ADVANCED PAYMENT OF CANCELING FUNDS

University was granted a No-Cost Extension to May 31, 2026 for an award involving canceling funds. There is \$100,000 available on the award, with \$50,000 canceling September 30, 2025. The University estimates \$30,000 of the canceling funding will be spent by the end of September 2025 and would like to request advanced payment of the canceling funds prior to the ACM\$ shutdown period. How much should their advance payment be for?

- A. **\$0** – advance payments are not permitted
- B. **\$30,000** – advance payment should be limited to the expected expenditures
- C. **\$50,000** – advance payment should include all of the canceling funding so the PI can continue to spend the remaining \$20,000 after September 2025 since the new award end date is 05/31/2026



Year-End ACM\$ Shutdown Critical Dates



YEAR-END CLOSE AND ACM\$ SHUTDOWN

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD AT 2:00 PM EDT

ACM\$ will go offline

- ▶ All payment requests must be made by 2:00 pm to be processed for payment
- ▶ If your award has cancelling funds, this is the last chance at making a payment request for these funds
 - ▶ Remember these awards will have a red flag next to them in ACM\$ 





ACM\$ REOPENING SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1ST

ACM\$ is planned to come back online the morning of October 1st

- ▶ If your award had cancelling funds, they are no longer available
- ▶ Due to fiscal year opening budget activities, we recommend that you do not make Upward Adjustments against financially closed awards until October 23rd. Upward adjustments requests made prior to this date may fail to process and you will need to resubmit this request
- ▶ Updated annual Program Income Report Excel file available for download
 - ▶ This report is due on Monday, November 17th





YEAR-END CLOSE SCENARIO

It's 1:55pm on September 23rd and you just logged into ACM\$ to make your final draw before the cutoff. You receive a phone call that takes 12 minutes of your time. It's now past the 2pm cutoff, but you're still in ACM\$ and able to navigate within. Which of the following is true?

- A. You can continue to submit your transaction and will be successful in making the request
- B. There's a 30-minute grace period after 2pm to allow users to process their requests
- C. You will encounter a message stating funds are not available. This is due to a system wide threshold.
- D. Both A and B



Award Monitoring Notifications



FINAL UNLIQUIDATED BALANCES OF CONCERN

Final Unliquidated Balances of Concern (FUBS)

PAB sends out email notifications if your awards are within 6 months of expiring and have 50% or greater balances remaining

- ▶ Are there issues?
- ▶ Is an extension needed?
- ▶ Encourage PIs to reach out to their NSF Program or Grants Official





AWARDS WITH PAYMENT INACTIVITY (GNAP)

- ▶ NSF launched a new monitoring initiative on awards with over 12 months of payment inactivity to provide awareness to PIs of inactive awards and to support good stewardship of NSF grant funds.

When notification began, 475 NSF grants had \$0 in ACM\$ payments after at least 1 year of performance.

| Award Count by Last ACM\$ Draw Date | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------|
| Null | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | Grand Total |
| 475 | 1 | 24 | 99 | 319 | 84 | 1,002 |

As of August 26th, 283 NSF grants have had \$0 in ACM\$ payments after at least 1 year of performance.

| Award Count and Undisbursed Amount (\$) by Fiscal Year of Last ACM\$ Draw Date [?] | | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|-------------|
| Null | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Grand Total |
| 283 | 1 | 6 | 19 | 109 | 397 | 815 |



Recent Updates



RECENT UPDATES AND CHANGES

▶ ACM\$ Security Update

▶ **Implementation of Executive Order 14247 - Modernizing Payments To and From America's Bank Account**

- ▶ Phase Out of Paper Check Disbursements
- ▶ Phase Out of Paper Receipts





OVERVIEW – ACM\$ SECURITY UPDATE

In order to improve security around issuing payments to an organization's appropriate bank account, NSF has released ACM\$ security enhancements in April 2025.

- New fields were added for bank change updates to all the pages in ACM\$
- Warning messages were added to make external users aware of recent banking changes, as well as error messages to notify users of actions that need to be taken.
- Transaction Details PDF summary file was updated to reflect the addition of new fields for banking updates similar to the ACM\$ pages.
- To protect your organization and NSF, new cash requests will be held for review in ACM\$, providing time for the organization to notify NSF when there are concerns with an unverified bank change.





OVERVIEW – AWARDEE EMAIL SAMPLE

NSF is now sending an automated notification email to your:

- ACM\$ Awardee Preparer(s)
- ACM\$ Awardee Certifier(s)
- ACM\$ Awardee Financial Representative(s) and
- Your organization's official award email address

to inform you that NSF has detected a banking change in SAM.gov. Organizations should promptly review their banking information in SAM.gov to confirm the changes are authorized.

NOTE: The ACM\$ Getting Started guide has been updated to reflect the updated screenshots and instructions related to the new banking verification process





EXECUTIVE ORDER 14247 - PHASE OUT

Paper Check Disbursements (Outgoing Checks)

- Effective 10/1/2025 – outgoing checks will be eliminated
- *Impacted Stakeholders:*
International Recipients without US Banking

Paper Receipts (Incoming Checks)

- Incoming checks will continue to be accepted, but considered the exception
- Continued check users will be directed to use electronic options:
 - ACM\$ Adjustment
 - Pay.gov
 - Credit Gateway



NSF REMITTANCE PROCESSING

HOW DO I RETURN FUNDS TO NSF?

1. ACM\$ Credit/Offset ★ **Preferred Electronic Methods**
2. Pay.gov (ACH Debit) ★
3. Credit Gateway (ACH Credit) ★ **Alternate Electronic Method**





NSF REMITTANCE PROCESSING - PAY.GOV REMINDERS



1. ACM\$ Credit/Offset

2. **Pay.gov (ACH Debit)**

3. Credit Gateway (ACH Credit)

- ▶ For first time Pay.gov users returning funds using a bank account, we recommend reaching out to your banking institution to ensure NSF is a valid entity to make ACH debits to the account.
- ▶ NSF's identification number for your bank is "**National Science Foundation ALC: 49000001**". If your bank requires a 10-digit version, please use "**4900000101**" instead.





REMITTANCE SCENARIO

You submitted a Pay.gov transaction two days ago. You don't see the update reflected in your expenditure balance in ACM\$. Which of the following could explain this:

- A. The funds were swept back to Treasury's general fund
- B. The transaction failed to settle and is in a "Retired" status
- C. PAB staff are waiting for the transaction to clear Treasury collection
- D. All of the above
- E. B or C





QUESTIONS???

- ▶ Website
www.nsf.gov/bfa/dfm/pab

