



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
Washington, D.C. 20240



Directive: GMT-10

Title: Federal Financial Assistance Manual

Approval: Thomas D. Shope, Acting Deputy Director

1. Purpose

The Federal Financial Assistance Manual (FFAM) provides guidance to the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) and recipients of financial assistance awards on how to manage federal grants and cooperative agreements. The FFAM is applicable to all grants and cooperative agreements awarded by OSM.

2. Summary of Changes

This directive was reissued to update terminology and guidance inconsistent with recent executive and secretarial orders and clarify procedures for real property and agreement amendments. The updates include:

- a. Ensuring the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-58) is consistently referenced by its legal title or “IIJA” rather than any other informal alternatives throughout the FFAM.
- b. Removing guidance related to environmental justice including Justice40 initiatives and references to at risk populations per Secretary’s Order (SO) 3416, *Ending DEI Programs and Gender Ideology Extremism*.
- c. Removing references to now rescinded OSM directive REG-1, *Handbook on Procedures for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)*. The FFAM now directs users to the most recent [Department of Interior NEPA procedures](#) for additional NEPA information.
- d. Removing references to the following revoked Executive Orders:
 - i. Executive Order 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations* from Chapter section 2-150-10.
 - ii. Executive Order 13166, *Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP)* from Chapter section 2-150-10.
 - iii. Executive Order 11246, *Equal Employment Opportunity* from Chapter section 2-240-50.

- e. Chapter 2-210 *Real Property* clarifications:
 - i. Adding an additional CFR link to [2 CFR 1402.329](#) as a resource for users.
 - ii. Updating the land-eligibility language to specify that “The land to be acquired must meet a requirement or objective of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act or other statutorily directed activities,” thereby allowing broader applicability across AML funding types.
 - iii. Updating procedures to make clear that approval for real property acquisition should be coordinated through the Field Office Director of the appropriate reviewing office.
- f. Updates to clarify amendment procedures including:
 - i. Updating Chapters 4-220 and 4-300 to clearly state:
 - What documents are requested for amendments.
 - That funding can only be adjusted within the same type of grant.
 - That transferring funds from one subaccount to another is done in two separate actions due to system constraints.
 - ii. The addition of the following sections to clarify that funding can only be adjusted within the same type of grant:
 - 4-600-30 Monetary Amendments Between AML-Fee Awards
 - 4-650-30 Monetary Amendments Between IJJA Awards
 - 4-700-30 Monetary Amendments Between AMLER Awards

Note: Subsequent chapter sections were renumbered to accommodate this change.
- g. Updating Chapter 4-500 *Subaccounts and Fund Types* to include Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act subaccounts.
- h. Suspending Chapter 5-130 *Small Operator Assistance Program* due to the absence of current funding for the Small Operator Assistance Program.
- i. Updating to “OSM” as the preferred acronym throughout the FFAM.
- j. Updating the sections *Conclusion and Contacts* and OSM responsibilities to recognize ongoing organizational changes.

3. **Policy**

The Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) provides many avenues for the expenditure of federal funds to promote the reclamation of abandoned mine lands and prevent adverse environmental effects of coal mining. To ensure the appropriate distribution of federal funds and the compliance with laws and regulations governing federal grants and cooperative agreements, OSM developed the Federal Financial Assistance Manual available in Appendix A. OSM will use the FFAM to manage all of its federal financial assistance programs.

4. Responsibilities

See FFAM Chapter 1-110, *OSM Responsibilities for the Administration of Financial Assistance Agreements*.

5. Procedures

The FFAM chapters provide specific procedures for application, award, amendment, monitoring, reporting, and closeout of OSM financial assistance agreements. The FFAM provides specific guidance for Title V Coal Regulatory Administration and Enforcement grants, Title IV AML grants to uncertified states and to certified states and tribes, and various types of Cooperative Agreements. Use the FFAM Annex A, *Table of Contents*, to locate procedures regarding a specific topic.

6. Reporting Requirements

The general reporting policies and procedures for all grants and cooperative agreements are in FFAM Chapter 1-170, *Overdue Reports*. The following chapters detail specific reporting requirements for each type of financial assistance:

- a. Chapter 4-230 for AML agreements
- b. Chapter 4-650 for IIJA agreements
- c. Chapter 4-700 for AMLER agreements
- d. Chapter 5-230 for Regulatory program agreements
- e. Chapter 6-100 for Watershed Cooperative agreements
- f. Chapter 6-110 for Applied Science Cooperative agreements
- g. Chapter 6-120 for Mine Drainage Technology Initiative agreements
- h. Chapter 6-130 for Youth agreements
- i. Chapter 6-140 for Passive Treatment Protection Program agreements

7. Effect on Other Documents

When issued, this version of Directive GMT-10 supersedes all previous versions and their subsequent Change Notices, if applicable.

8. References

- a. The Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA).

- b. Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act (Public Law 95-224).
- c. 2 CFR 200 - Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards.
- d. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58).
- e. Build America, Buy America Act (Public Law 117-58, §§ 70901-52).
- f. The Davis-Bacon Act, as Amended.
- g. 30 CFR 700 - 887 - Mineral Resources.
- h. National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Public Law 91–190).
- i. See individual FFAM Chapters for additional references.

9. Effective Date

Upon signature.

10. Distribution

By electronic format. All OSM directives are publicly available at <https://www.osmre.gov/laws-and-regulations/directives>.

11. Appendices

See the OSM directives page linked in the “Distribution” section for links to appendices.

- a. Federal Financial Assistance Manual.

12. Contact

Assistant Director Georgene Thompson or see FFAM section titled *Conclusion and Contacts* for more detailed contact information.