



ARRA GUIDANCE UPDATE JANUARY 22, 2010



alabamastimulus@finance.alabama.gov

(334) 242-7160

Revised ARRA timelines now available

The State Recovery Office has recently updated ARRA timelines. The revised versions are available on the Agency Login page at www.stimulus.alabama.gov (User Name: Alabama, Password: ARRA2009). These timelines extend through the next federal reporting period in April and highlight notable dates and events between now and then. They also offer detailed summaries of required information and all state issued and Section 1512 reporting due dates. The Recovery Office asks that agencies and institutions print and review the revised timelines to remain current with the latest deadlines and requirements.

ARRA whistleblower posting requirements

ARRA recipients are reminded that the following whistleblower posting requirements are included in the Recovery Act and are required by federal law:

ARRA §1553(e): Protecting State & Local Government and Contractor Whistleblowers- Requirement to Post Notice of Rights & Remedies states, “Any employer receiving covered funds shall post notice of the rights and remedies provided under this section.”

Agencies and institutions, along with sub-recipients and vendors, are asked to comply with these ARRA requirements by placing a copy of the whistleblower information poster in a common area of their office. A printable example of an acceptable poster may be found using the following link:
<http://www.recovery.gov/Contact/ReportFraud/Documents/Whistleblower+Poster.pdf>.

To ensure compliance, please forward this link and appropriate instructions to sub-recipients and vendors receiving ARRA funds.

Procedures for certification, recertification of Section 1511 Infrastructure Projects

As stated in the December 10, 2009, memorandum to agencies and institutions, projects that fall under the infrastructure definition provided by the federal funding agency are required to be certified by the Governor. The certification form that was attached to the memo contains a list of the requirements that must be met to certify that the investment “has received the full review and vetting required by law.” The certification, along with a description of the investment, estimated total project cost, and the total amount of ARRA funds to be

expended, should be posted and linked on the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board Web site at www.Recovery.gov.

For those agencies and institutions that have previously submitted projects to be certified, or for those that may receive future awards for infrastructure projects, please be aware that changes to a list of certified projects will constitute the re-certification of a new list. Recertification can be achieved by following the same steps that are taken for the initial certification. The process for certifying or recertifying your agency or institution's projects under Section 1511 is as follows:

Download the certification form from the Agency/Institution Login page at www.Stimulus.Alabama.gov.

Print and complete the 1511 Certification Form and the Infrastructure Project List. (Attached to this e-mail and also found under the login section of www.Stimulus.Alabama.gov.)

Send the signed form and the list of projects to the Finance Director's Office, attn: Alycia Hill. Alycia will submit the forms and project lists to be signed by the Governor and remit a copy to your agency.

Keep the completed form on file for compliance reviews, complaint investigations, or audits. Post the signed form on your agency's Recovery web page. A copy of your certification, along with your project list, will be posted on www.Stimulus.Alabama.gov and will also be forwarded to the Recovery and Transparency Board to be posted on www.Recovery.gov by the Recovery Office.

State Fiscal Stabilization Fund FAQs now available

The State Recovery Office and State Budget Office have issued a revised list of FAQs regarding the State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF). The FAQs include detailed information on the most common areas of concern among SFSF recipients. The information in the FAQs is current and accounts for policy revisions from the most recent OMB guidance, dated December 18, 2009. The FAQs can be found on the Agency Login page at www.Stimulus.Alabama.gov or directly accessed by clicking the following link: <http://stimulus.alabama.gov/EPO/pdfs/SFSF%20FAQs.pdf>.