
ARC Monthly Bulletin March 2017
Valuable information for ARC's customers

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FULL STORIES

1. Common Core

We are participating in an initiative called 'Common Core' that is being led by Treasury's Office of Financial Innovation and Transformation (FIT). The goal of Common Core is to increase the adoption of financial management shared services through optimizing functional, technical, and operational components of each Federal Shared Service Providers (or FSSP) solution. Use cases were developed to establish the requirements of an optimized financial management solution. Oracle FSSPs conducted demonstrations on how their solutions met the defined use cases and during FY 17 FIT will develop recommendations for optimizing each Oracle FSSP's solution. Also during FY 17, the non-Oracle FSSPs will conduct demonstrations and receive solution optimization recommendations from FIT.

For additional information, contact Michele Sims at 304-480-7195 or Michele.Sims@Fiscal.Treasury.Gov.

2. Citibank Rebate Changes

In an effort to streamline the Citibank rebate process, we will be recording the rebates as an expense refund, against the accounting strings that originally incurred the expense. We have eliminated the costly manual entry of miscellaneous receipts by utilizing the AR Miscellaneous Receipt interface. By taking this approach, we are accurately recording the expense refunds and allowing our customers to access the funds for immediate use for future purchases.

For additional information, contact AcctgCardProgram@Fiscal.Treasury.Gov.

3. Standardizing FECA & Imputed Costs

Beginning in FY17, Payroll, Vendors & Cards Branch (PVC), standardized FECA & Imputed Cost journals using the following criteria.

Per Section 8 of Chapter 4700 of the TFM, Department of Labor (DOL) and its trading partners are to process:

- Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA) activity on a quarterly basis
- Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA) Actuarial activity on an annual basis

- Imputed Cost activity on a quarterly basis

Imputed Cost Activity includes:

- CSRS – Civil Service Retirement System
- FERS – Federal Retirement System
- FEHB – Federal Employee Health Benefits
- FEGLI – Federal Employee Group Life Insurance

Streamlining our processes allows us to post entries in a timely manner and assists in reducing costs.

For additional information, contact Pamela Kenney at 304-480-8411 or PayrollAccounting@Fiscal.Treasury.Gov.

4. DATA Act

In January, the DATA Act team was pleased to travel to Washington, DC to meet with almost every customer. The meetings were very informative and productive. Some of the topics that we spoke to were:

1. DATA Act Background
2. The DATA Act files and information flow
3. The use of the PIID/PAID or FAIN/URI to link files
4. The reporting process
5. Reconciliation tool
6. The use of MAX.gov for communication
7. Basic timeline

Our meetings also gave us the opportunity to get to know our customers better and interact with those with whom we typically only speak to on the phone.

We have also begun testing the DATA Act Broker using test files from the DEV15 instance. So far, we have been able to identify and remediate several small issues in the system and process to ensure accurate broker files. Overall, the testing is going smoothly and we do not foresee any issues reporting on time.

For additional information, contact Gary Lackney at 304-480-7991 or Gary.Lackney@Fiscal.Treasury.Gov.

5. PRISM Requisition and buyer Refresher Training

We provide PRISM Requisition and Buyer refresher training to assist our customers in their efforts to effectively transition newly hired staff and meet other potential training needs. This training is provided to our customers at no additional charge. We will conduct PRISM refresher training sessions March 13, 2017 - March 16, 2017 in Washington, DC. All current PRISM users will receive information, via email, about how to sign up for the classes.

For additional information, contact PRISM Support at 304-480-8000 (Option 2) or PrismSupportTeam@Fiscal.Treasury.Gov.

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