

## **Questions from April 12<sup>th</sup> RWC:**

### **Plan of Work and Annual Report of Accomplishments (Katelyn Sellers)**

**Q: Is there going to be clarification on how FTEs should be reported in Plans of Work and Annual Reports? Past guidance has appeared contradictory.**

A: Yes. NIFA will ensure there is an emphasis put on clarifying the reporting of FTEs in future POW Newsletters, Trainings, and Reporting Web conferences. We realize that certain terminology used and explanations in the past, while not meant to be contradictory, could have appeared that way, and our intent is to make sure that in the next few months, we help our partners achieve an absolute understanding of what to include for FTEs and how to calculate them in different sections of the POW/AR. Specifically we will make sure that the exact same guidance is given in newsletters, a specific FTE guidance document, and the help box sections in the software.

**Q: Are the newly developed 4-H National Outcomes going to be included along with national outcomes in the 5 Priority Areas in the POW software for the next (FY13) reporting cycle?**

A: NIFA's plan when it comes to these new outcomes (as well as new national outcomes developed by two other groups in Family & Consumer Science and Health & Nutrition areas) is to publish them as "official" and make sure to disseminate them via newsletters and our website. By doing this, we will be providing the states the ability to review them, decide which ones they might want to voluntarily adopt, and then manually enter them in the "state defined outcomes" section of whichever programs they choose. Thus, states will have the ability to adopt them next year, along with the 5 Priority Area outcomes, but they will not be included in the new forms we will be using for the 5 Priority Areas (which will be an entirely separate section of the Annual Report).

**Q: The Q&A above indicates there will be 3 sets of new national outcomes and indicators in the areas of: Youth/4H, Family & Consumer Sciences, and Health & Nutrition. When will these be decided upon and released as "official"?**

A: There are three separate groups working on these outcomes and indicators, and these groups all have different schedules. At this point in time, NIFA expects that the Family and Consumer Science outcomes will be released mid-summer (July-August) and the Youth/4H outcomes in September. We do not yet have an expected time frame for the Health & Nutrition outcomes, but we will let you know via newsletters as soon as possible.

## **REEport (Bart Hewitt)**

**Q: What about 416s and 417s that have been entered but not submitted prior to REEport deployment? Will the data be automatically transferred to REEport, or will the PI have to re-enter the forms?**

A: Only those active projects that have been completed and are in the CRIS database will be transferred. Unsubmitted forms will not be transferred from the CRIS Webforms site in Vermont to REEport.

**Q: Does the 5-year limit apply to Multistate projects?**

A: Yes. Since these are still Hatch projects, the 5-year limit still applies.

**Q: The guidelines say “If you fail to submit a final project report upon termination of the project, you will not be eligible to have another project approved until that report is received.” Does this mean final reports on formula projects will have to be submitted when the project ends, even if it is prior to September 30? E.g., a project has a termination date of June 30; the PI and the Station would like to start the replacement project on July 1. Will the PI have to submit the final report on June 30 rather than waiting for the request for annual/final reports to come from NIFA? It may take a while to compile data and compose the report, so does this mean the replacement project cannot begin immediately after the old one ends?**

A: Formula grant projects are different in this case from non-formula grant projects since projects on formula grants are not due on the anniversary date of the project's start date. The progress/termination reports on formula grant projects are due on March 1 of each year beginning with the FY 2012 progress/termination report. Because of this you can continue to be eligible to submit new formula grant projects since they are not due yet until March 1. Once the March 1 deadline for the formula grant projects which terminated by the end of the previous Fiscal Year arrives, the rule takes effect.

**Q: Will we still have to submit Form 419 – Financial Report**

A: Yes. The Financial Report will still have to be submitted on February 1 as usual. There will be some changes to the report, however. And it will no longer be called Form AD-419. It will just be called what it actually is; the Formula Projects Financial Report.