

Bulletin

2009-13B

TO: Local Municipal and School District Accounting and Finance Officials

FROM: Gerard D. Perry, Director of Accounts

DATE: May, 2009

SUBJECT: Certain Accounting Entries and Required Supporting Form for Chapter 70 Aid

Reduction and Stimulus Funding

This *Bulletin* addresses accounting entries and a required supporting form regarding the anticipated reduction in the FY09 Chapter 70 state aid allotments for cities, towns, and regional school districts and use of federal stimulus funds to offset the reduction. This matter was anticipated in the May 14, 2009 joint <u>Bureau of Accounts/Department of Elementary and Secondary Education</u> memo to local municipal and school officials.

Accounting entries will transfer eligible spending from the General Fund to the Special Revenue Fund – Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (A.R.R.A.) Grant Fund on June 30, 2009. The entries will offset the General Fund aid reduction, revert the expenditure and create neither a positive nor negative affect on the jurisdiction's bottom line.

The supporting form attached to the Bulletin is required submission with both the jurisdiction's June 30, 2009 Balance Sheet and the FY2010 Pro Forma/Tax Rate Recapitulation form, where applicable.

If you have any questions on the accounting entries, please contact Ellis FitzPatrick of the Bureau of Accounts at 617-626-2378.

If you have any questions on the supporting form, please contact your Bureau of Accounts field representative.

If you have any questions on the May 14, 2009 memo regarding grant eligibility, please contact Jeff Wulfson of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education at 781-338-6500.

The Division of Local Services is responsible for oversight of and assistance to cities and towns in achieving equitable property taxation and efficient fiscal management. The Division regularly publishes IGRs (Informational Guideline Releases detailing legal and administrative procedures) and the Bulletin (announcements and useful information) for local officials and others interested in municipal finance.

The city, town or regional school district receives notice of a \$300,000 reduction in Chapter 70 state revenue and an award of a \$300,000 federal stimulus grant. The jurisdiction is instructed to transfer \$300,000 of General Fund school expenditures to the Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (A.R.R.A.) Grant Fund as of June 30th. The General Fund revenue reduction is offset by the General Fund unspent appropriation in the closing entries.

General Fund

1. Expenditure entries equal to the federal grant received are reversed as of June 30th.

001-1040 Cash – Unrestricted 300,000

300,000 001-3930 **Expenditures**

To record the expenditure reversal

Subsidiary ledger entry for this journal entry would be:

001-300-5000 Subsidiary Appropriation

> Control 300,000

001-300-5320 Tuition 300,000

Special Revenue - Federal A.R.R.A. Grant Fund

1. The federal stimulus grant is received.

> 278-1040 300,000 Cash – Unrestricted

278-3910 Revenue 300,000

To record receipt of the federal stimulus grant

Subsidiary ledger entry for this journal entry would be:

278-300-4000 Revenue Control 300,000 Other Federal Revenue -

278-300-4580

Through the State 300,000

Expenditures are charged to the grant as of June 30th. 2.

> 278-3930 Expenditures 300,000

Cash - Unrestricted 278-1040 300,000

To record expenditures to the grant

Subsidiary ledger entry for this journal entry would be:

278-300-5320 Tuition 300,000

278-300-5000 **Subsidiary Appropriation**

> Control 300,000

ACCOUNTING OFFICER'S LETTER

City/Town/District
I have examined the general ledger for the city/town/district and the entries made regarding the offset to Chapter 70 aid with A.R.R.A. funds are consistent with
Bureau of Accounts and Department of Elementary and Secondary Education guidance.
Journal entries were made as of June 30, 2009 and created a budgetary reversion that exactly offset the revenue deficit created by the Chapter 70 aid reduction. I understand that the grant did not allow additional spending authority.
The full amount of the grant was expended by June 30, 2009. There was no carry-over into FY2010. No A.R.R.A. surplus in this matter closed to any fund balance.
Accounting Officer
Date