

# State Digital Equity Planning Grant Program Closeout

Funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

Administered by the Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)





## Disclaimer



This document is intended solely to assist recipients in better understanding of State Digital Equity Planning Grant Program and the requirements set forth in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for these programs. This document does not and is not intended to supersede, modify, or otherwise alter applicable statutory or regulatory requirements, or the specific application requirements set forth in the NOFO. In all cases, statutory and regulatory mandates, and the requirements set forth in the NOFO, shall prevail over any inconsistencies contained in this document.





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# CLOSEOUT PROCESS AND TIMELINE

## What is Closeout?



Closeout is the process by which NTIA and NIST determine that a recipient has completed all **programmatic**, **administrative** and **financial** requirements of their award.



Closeout Period is **120** days after the end of the recipient's period of performance.



Recipients must submit all **final administrative and financial** grant documentation.



Subrecipients must submit closeout reports to recipients within **90 calendar days** of period of performance end date.



Recipients must submit a **Final Annual Report\*** within 120 days.

#### PREPARING FOR CLOSEOUT

As recipients prepare for closeout, they should:

- ☑ Discus the closeout process and period of performance end date with their FPO.
- Verify that all funds necessary for project completion will be obligated, meaning committed to a programmatic activity, by the period of performance end date.
- Verify that all project activities will be completed by the period of performance end date

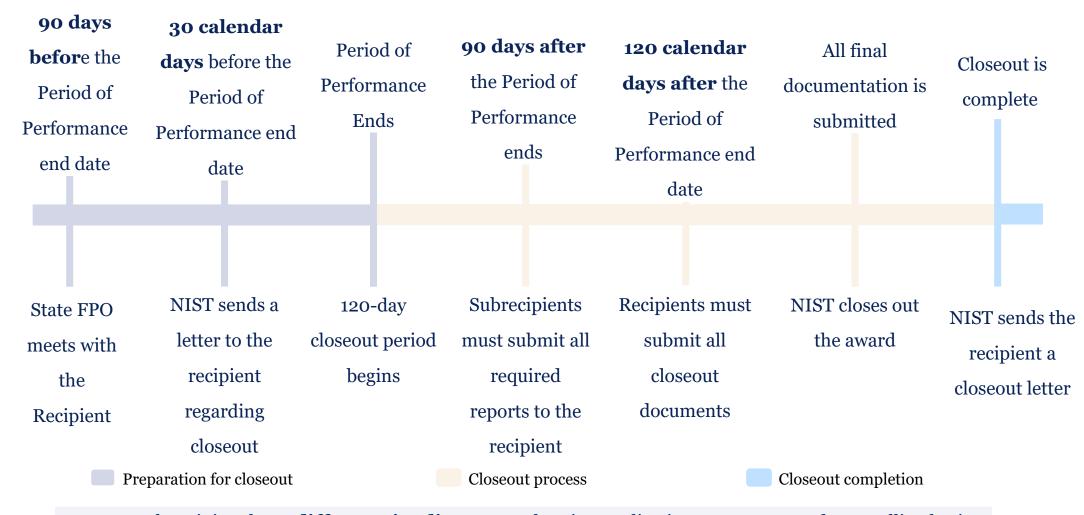
\*Note: Recipients will submit an Interim Annual Report in addition to the Final Annual Report, if applicable





### **Closeout Timeline**





Note: Each recipient has a **different timeline** as DE Planning applications were approved on a rolling basis





### **Extensions for Closeout Period**



Recipients may request an extension to the 120-calendar day closeout period from the NIST Grants Office in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.344(a), which requires the recipient to provide a sufficient justification supporting the requested extension.

#### REQUESTING AN EXTENSION

- In coordination with NIST and NTIA, recipients can request and extension to the closeout window. Recipients must be prepared to provide a justification for an extension to their DE Planning closeout period as soon as possible within the 120-day closeout period.
- Recipients should submit closeout period extension requests to <u>closeout@nist.gov</u> with the subject line: (1) Recipient name, (2) NIST award number, (3) Principal Investigator/Project Director, and (4) Action being requested (i.e., Closeout Extension).
- ✓ If approved for an extension, recipients will **be notified by the NIST Grants Office** in writing with the new deadline for closeout.





## **Allowable Closeout Costs**



Only necessary, allowable and allocable administrative award closeout costs are authorized during the 120-day closeout period. Further guidance can be found in Section B.07.b of the <u>DOC Standard</u> <u>Terms and Conditions</u> and 2 CFR 200.344.

#### **EXAMPLES OF CLOSEOUT ACTIVITIES**

- Costs related to the preparation of financial reports and/or audit reports
- ✓ Preparation of the State Digital Equity Planning Grant Program Annual Performance Progress Report or Interim Annual Performance Progress Report
- ✓ Final drawdowns to pay final bills/invoices (the activities described in the invoices must have occurred *during* the period of performance to be allowable)
- Costs related to closing corrective actions

Note: Recipients and their subrecipients and contractors cannot charge for work conducted or incur programmatic costs for Federal reimbursement after the period of performance end date.





# Overview of Closeout Roles and Responsibilities



ROLE	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMELINE
STATE FPO	<ul> <li>Sends a reminder email to recipients notifying them that their grant closeout is approaching</li> </ul>	120 calendar day s before period of performance end date
	<ul> <li>Meets with recipient to assess any outstanding financial and programmatic responsibilities and outstanding Special Award Conditions (SACs). Assess for any outstanding corrective actions to ensure they are resolved prior to closeout</li> </ul>	90 calendar days before period of performance end date
	• Reviews final performance reports. All FPOs will also need to review <i>interim</i> performance reports, if applicable	Ongoing as reports come in
	• Approves all programmatic, financial, and administrative documentation.	Ongoing as documentation comes in
RECIPIENT	<ul> <li>Meet with its FPO to assess outstanding SACs and financial and programmatic responsibilities</li> </ul>	90 calendar days before period of performance end date
	Ensure receipt of all required reports from its subrecipients	90 calendar days after period of performance end date
	Submit all closeout programmatic, financial, and administrative documents	120 calendar day after the period of performance end date
NIST	<ul> <li>Sends a letter to recipient outlining specific documents required for closeout and submission instructions</li> </ul>	30 days before the period of performance end date
	<ul> <li>De-obligates any remaining funds and closes out the award. Once the award is closed, no further financial transactions will be permitted</li> </ul>	Upon submission of final reports
	Send the recipient a formal closeout letter	Upon completion of closeout





# DE PLANNING GRANT CLOSEOUT REQUIREMENTS

# DE Planning Grant Closeout Requirements Overview



Recipients must ensure to complete all programmatic, financial, and administrative requirements under <u>2 CFR § 200.344</u> and those included in DE Planning Grant NOFO.



#### **PROGRAMMATIC**

- Submit Final Report to cover the last reporting cycle
- Submit Interim Annual Report, if applicable
- Submit subrecipient closeout reports, if applicable
- ✓ HSR paperwork, if applicable



#### FINANCIAL

- Submit all Financial Reports
- Refund any unobligated cash balances, if applicable.
- Liquidate all financial obligations, if applicable.



#### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

- Submit all Property Reports
- Account for all real and personal property
- ✓ Meet all Record Retention requirements





## **Closeout Documentation Overview**



The following table summarizes key closeout documents by category, applicability, and submission.

Document Type		Category	Applicable to	Where to Submit
	Interim (if applicable) and Final Performance Progress Report	Programmatic	All DE recipients	Upload in the NGP
	Human Subject Report (HSR) Closeout Letter	Programmatic	DE recipients with HSR	Upload to the NGP
	Institutional Review Board (IRB) Closure Letter	Programmatic	DE recipients with HSR IRB	Upload to the NGP
•••	Form SF-425 (Final Federal Financial Report)	Financial	All DE recipients	Upload to the NGP
	Form SF-428 ( <u>Tangible Personal Property Report</u> )	Administrative	All DE recipients	Upload to the NGP
	Form SF-428-B ( <u>Tangible Personal Property Report Final Report</u> )	Administrative	All DE recipients	Upload to the NGP
	Form SF-428-S ( <u>Tangible Personal Property Report Supplemental Sheet</u> )	Administrative	DE recipients with equipment/supplies of \$5,000 or greater to report	Upload to the NGP
	Form SF-429 (Real Property Status Report)	Administrative	DE Recipients that acquired or improved real property with DE funds	Upload to the NGP





# PROGRAMMATIC REQUIREMENTS

# Annual Performance Progress Report



Recipients must submit a State Digital Equity Planning Grant Program Annual Performance Progress Report, and some must submit an Interim Annual Performance Progress Report in the <a href="https://www.nterimage.com/NTIA-Grants">NTIA-Grants</a>
<a href="Portal (NGP)">Portal (NGP)</a>.

#### REMINDERS

- Note, although reporting periods differ, all Interim and Final Annual Performance Progress Reports undergo **identical review processes**.
- ✓ Therefore, all reports are referred to as the "Annual Performance Progress Report.
- ✓ If recipients require their subrecipient(s) to complete a closeout report, ensure they complete their closeout report *prior* to closeout.





# Interim vs. Final Annual Performance Progress Report



While the Interim Annual Performance Progress Report and the Final Annual Performance Progress Report are similar, there are a few important differences.

# Interim Annual Performance Progress Report

- **Grant recipients**, if applicable, are required to submit an Interim Annual Performance Progress Report, as they all received an extension.
- The Interim Annual Performance
   Progress Report is due within 120
   calendar days of the original period of performance end date.
- The Interim Annual Performance Progress Report covers activities during the first year of the award.

# Final Annual Performance Progress Report

- All Grant Recipients are required to submit a Final Annual Performance Progress Report.
- For Grant Recipients that <u>received an extension</u>: The Final Annual Performance Progress Report is due within **120 calendar days** of the **extended period** of performance end date. It covers activities during the extension period, which is from the end of the original period of performance end date until the extended period of performance end date.
- For Grant Recipients that <u>did not receive an extension</u>: The Final Annual Performance Progress Report is due within **120 calendar days** of the **period of performance** end date. The Interim Annual Performance Progress Report covers activities during the first year of the award.





# Human Subject Research



Recipients that did Human Subject Research (HSR) will have different closeout requirements, based on the Category of HSR and if they worked with an Institutional Review Board (IRB).

#### REMINDERS

- ✓ If you had **HSR Category 1**, please coordinate with your FPO if there were any deviations or changes to your HSR activities from your original HSR designation.
- If you had **HSR Category 2** where you **did not work** with IRB, please coordinate with your FPO if there were any deviations or changes to your HSR activities or your original HSR designation
- If you had **HSR Category 2** and you **did work** with an IRB, please submit an IRB closure letter with your closeout package
- If you had **HSR Category 3**, please submit an IRB closure letter.





# FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

# **Common Financial Closeout Questions**



#### Some common questions on financial closeout include:

#### When should recipients stop drawing down funds?

O Before the 120-day closeout period ends, the recipient must request all final costs through the Automated Standard Application for Payment (ASAP). The final Federal Financial Report (FFR) must reflect all expenditures, so it is recommended that recipients make their final drawdown as soon as possible to allow for more time to complete the final closeout reports.

#### When will the award be closed out?

• NIST will de-obligate any remaining funds and close out the award after the final reports are submitted. Once the funds are de-obligated, they will not be legally available for incurring new obligations.

#### • What happens after the award has been closed?

• When the award has been closed, no further transactions will be permitted, and no reports may be submitted or replaced. Once the closeout process is complete, NIST will send the State Digital Equity Planning Grant Program recipient a closeout letter.

#### • What happens after the award has been closed?

Any leftover funds are returned to United State Treasury.





# SF-425(Final Financial Status Report)

#### FEDERAL FINANCIAL REPORT (Follow form instructions) Federal Agency and Organizational Element to Which 2. Federal Grant or Other Identifying Number Assigned by Federal Agency (To eport multiple grants, use FFR Attachment Recipient Organization (Name and complete address including Zip code 4a. DUNS Numbe Recipient Account Number or Identifying Basis of Accounting Number (To report multiple grants, use FFR ☑ Cash ☐ Accrual Semi-Annual Annual B. Project/Grant Period (Month, Day, Year) 'Use lines a-c for single or combined multiple grant reporting) Federal Cash (To report multiple grants separately, also use FFR Attachment): Cash on Hand (line a minus h Ise lines d-o for single grant reporting) d. Total Federal funds authorized e. Federal share of expenditures f. Federal share of unliquidated obligation: Recipient share of expenditures k. Remaining recipient share to be provided (line i minus j m. Program income expended in accordance with the deduction alternative Program income expended in accordance with the addition alternative Unexpended program income (line I minus line m or line r Amount Charged Federal Share eriod To 13. Certification: By signing this report, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the report is true, complete, and accurate, and the expenditures, disbursements and cash receipts are for the purposes and intent set forth in the award documents. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001) a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official Telephone (Area code, number, and extension d. Email Address b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year) Agency use only

#### Who must complete this form?

All DE recipients must complete this form.

#### What is this report used for?

- The SF-425 (Final Financial Status Report) collects information related to the financial status of the grant. Since this is the *final* federal financial report, it is cumulative and should include all financial transactions that occurred during the life of the award, including closeout costs.
- Note: Once the final form is submitted, NIST may de-obligate remaining funds.
- Note: Please use form with expiration date of 2/28/2025.

#### Where do I find this report?

 The Final Financial Status Report form can be found on grants.gov and is linked in this presentation.





# ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

# Tangible Property



Recipients are required to submit Tangible Property Reports. Tangible Property includes both **equipment** and **supplies**.

#### **EQUIPMENT**

Equipment is tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a perunit acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the non-Federal entity for financial statement purposes, or \$5,000." (see definition of "Equipment" in 2 C.F.R. § 200.1).

#### SUPPLIES

Supplies are all tangible personal property other than those that fall within the definition of equipment (see definition of "Supplies" in <u>2 C.F.R. § 200.1</u>).





# Equipment



DE-funded property must remain in use for its estimated useful life for the purposes of the award under which it was acquired for, with limited exceptions. Some common questions on equipment include:

#### Can equipment continue to be used following closeout?

 Recipients must continue to use DE-funded equipment for the purpose of their award as long as it is needed and as long as it is used in compliance with the previously approved historical and environmental assessments and scope.

#### What should be done with DE-funded property that was replaced or upgraded?

• The recipient must request permission from the Grants Office to dispose of the replaced equipment.

# • What should be done with DE-funded property that is no longer needed for use in the project?

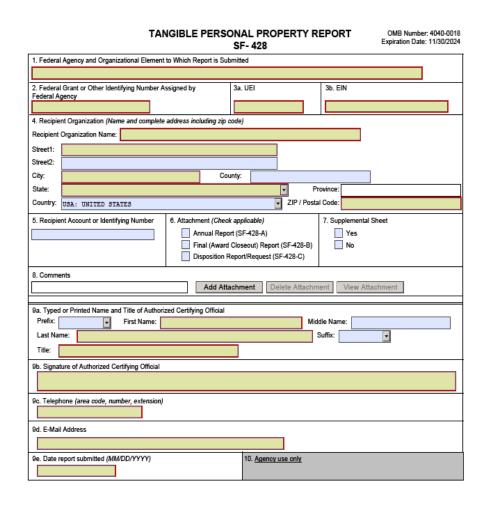
o NTIA may require the submission of the applicable common form for equipment. "When no longer needed for the original program or project, the equipment may be used in other activities supported by the Federal awarding agency." <u>2 C.F.R. § 200.313(c)</u>





# SF-428 (Tangible Personal Property Report)





#### Who must complete this form?

All DE recipients must complete this form.

#### What is this report used for?

 The SF-428 (Tangible Personal Property Report) collects information related to tangible personal property (equipment and supplies).

#### Where do I find this report?

 All tangible property report forms can be found on grants.gov and are linked in this presentation.

Note, recipients may also need to submit an SF-428-S, Tangible Personal Property Report Supplemental Sheet, if needed





# **Supplies**



Some common questions on supplies include:

#### What should recipients do with residual inventory of unused supplies?

- If the residual inventory has an aggregate value of \$5,000 or greater at closeout, then the recipient may:
  - 1. Use the supplies on another Federally-sponsored project or program,
  - 2. Dispose of those supplies and compensate NTIA for its Federal share of sale proceeds, or
  - 3. Retain the supplies for the recipient's non-Federal use and compensate NTIA for the Federal share of the fair market value of the supplies (per 2 CFR § 200.314, see 2 CFR § 200.313(e)(2) for the calculation methodology).

#### Can supplies continue to be used following closeout?

 A reasonable amount of undeployed supplies may be retained to support the maintenance of DE-funded facilities. The use of DE-funded supplies beyond these limited parameters may be subject to disposition.





# Report SF-428-B (Final Report)



#### TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY REPORT Final Report SF-428-B

OMB Number: 4040-0018 Expiration Date: 11/30/2024

Final i	Report SF-428-B	Expiration Date: 1 1/00/2021		
Federal Grant or Other Identifying Number Assigned by Feder	al Agency (Block 2 on SF-428).			
1. Report (Select all that apply)				
a. Federally-owned Property (List on Supplemental Sheet SF-428S or recipient equivalent and complete Section 2a below)				
b. Acquired Equipment with acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more for which the awarding agency has reserved the right to transfer title (List on Supplemental Sheet SF-428S or recipient equivalent and complete Section 2b below).				
c. Residual Unused Supplies with total aggregate fair sponsored programs or projects (Complete Section 2c		ed for any other Federally		
d. None of the above				
2. Complete relevant section(s)	For Agency U	se Only		
2a. Federally-owned Property (Select one or more).	Agency response to requested disposition	on of Federally owned property:		
(i) Request transfer to Award	(i) Recipient request approved	denied		
With the state of	(ii) Dispose in accordance with attached instructions:			
(ii) Request Federal Agency disposition instructions	Agency response to requested disposition of acquired equipment:			
(iii) Other (Provide detail in Block 3 or attach request)	(i) Recipient request approved denied			
2b. Acquired Equipment with current fair market value of	(ii) Dispose in accordance with attached instructions:			
\$5,000 or more: (Select one or more and attach Supplemental Sheet SF-428S	Authorized Awarding Agency Official:			
or recipient equivalent)	Signature:	Date:		
(i) Acknowledge equipment acquired under this federal award will be retained for use as originally approved.	Name:	Phone:		
(ii) Request Federal Agency disposition instructions.	Title:	E-Mail:		
Add At	tachment Delete Attachment View	/ Attachment		
2c. Reportable Residual Unused Supplies				
(i) Sale proceeds or Estimate of current fair market value				
(ii) Percentage of Federal participation				
(iii) Federal share				
(iv) Selling and handling allowance\$				
(v) Amount remitted to the Federal Government				
3. Comments				
Add Att	achment Delete Attachment View	Attachment		
FINAL REPORT ATTACHMENT TO SF-428	Agency Use Only			

#### Who must complete this form?

- All DE recipients must complete this form.
- Recipients that did not use project funds to purchase equipment must mark "None of the above."

#### What is this report used for?

- This report collects information related to the tangible personal property a recipient has at the time of report closeout.
- Please note, if the institution wants to transfer tangible property to a different award, they must ask for permission. This can be found under section 2a of the form.

#### Where do I find this report?

 All tangible property report forms can be found on grants.gov and are linked in this presentation.

# SF-429 (Real Property Status Report)



#### REAL PROPERTY STATUS REPORT SF-42S

			(COVER I AO	-1				
					Pa	ge:	of:	Pages
1. Federal Agency and Org	2. Federal Gra		er Idei	ntifying Num	ber(s) Ass	igned by		
Report is Submitted:	Federal Agenc	y(ies):						
3. Recipient Organization (	name and complete ad	ldress includir	ng zip code):					
4a. DUNS Number:	4b. EIN:	5. Recipient	Account or Iden	tifying 6.	Cont	act Person	for this Rep	port:
		Number:		N	Name:			
				P	hone:			
				E	mail:			
				F	ax:			
7. Report End Date:								
(MM/DD/YYYY)  8. Real Property Status Re	anort – Attachments: [/	check the ann	licable block/s)1:					
: Attachment A (Ge	neral Reporting) attach	ed						
	quest to Acquire, Impro		) attached					
: Attachment C (Dis	position Request) atta	cnea						
9. Comments (attach addit	ional sheets if necessa	ary):						
10. Certification: 1 certificant complete and constitutions								true, correct
and complete and constit 11a. Typed or Printed Nan			fact upon which			ernment m (area code,		evtension):
Official:	ie and The of Addiona	ed Gertifying		TTO. TETES	none	(area code,	number, e	xteriolory.
				11d. Emai				
11b. Signature of Authoriz	ed Certifying Official:			11e. Date	Repo	rt Submitted	(MM/DD/	YYYY):
				12. Agenc	y use	only		

#### Who must complete this report?

- Recipients that did not acquire or improve real property with DE Funds must mark "None of the above."
- Infrastructure Deployment recipients that acquired or improved real property with DE funds must complete this report.

#### What is this report is used for?

- Attachment A is used to report real property status.
- Attachments B and C are used to request agency instructions on real property that was/will be provided as Government Furnished Property (GFP) or acquired (i.e., purchased or constructed) in whole or in part under a Federal financial assistance award.

#### Where do I find this report?

This report form can be found on grants.gov and is also linked in this presentation.





## **Record Retention**



Some common questions on record retention include:

#### What records should be retained?

• Recipients are required to retain <u>certain documentation</u> pertinent to their DE award in accordance with <u>2 CFR § 200.334</u>.

#### How long should records be retained?

Recipients should retain the requisite documentation for a retention period of three years.
 The retention period starts the day the recipient submits their final financial report.
 Supporting documentation, financial records, and other documents may be subject to future review.

#### Are there any exceptions?

o In cases where litigation, claims, or an audit is initiated prior to the expiration of the threeyear period, records must be retained until either the completion of the action and resolution of any issues associated with it or the end of the three-year retention period, whichever is later.





## Record Retention continued



The documentation recipients are advised to retain after closeout includes but may not be limited to the documents listed below.

#### **RECORD RETENTION DOCUMENTS:**



**Award Package** 



Evidence of Program Accomplishments



Records supporting all costs charged to the award



**Final Closeout Letter** 



**Property Disposition Forms** 



Programmatic Reports: Baseline, Technical, & Annual



**Financial Records** 



**Procurement Records** 



**Monitoring Records** 



Record of Reconciliation



Written determinations and Preapprovals between NIST/NTIA and recipient



Subawards issued by the recipient & all documentation supporting subgrantee management and oversight



Audit Follow-Up Records





# RESOURCES

# **Closeout Terms and Definitions**



Term	Definition
Award Closeout Documents Due Date	The due date of the closeout documents occurs 120 calendar days after the period of performance end date. The date is listed in the NIST letter outlining the specific documents required for the closeout process.
Closeout Letter	The closeout confirmation letter is the letter from NIST to the recipient confirming the award has been closed.
Closeout Period	The closeout period is a 120-day window, beginning immediately following the period of performance end date, during which the recipient must submit all required documentation, perform any final financial accounting of the award, and receive final review by NTIA and NIST.
Period of Performance End Date	The period of performance end date is the last day of the recipient's award period on the recipient's CD-450 or, if the award has been amended, as modified by the most recent award amendment CD-451.





# Additional Closeout Resources



Resource	Link
2 CFR § 200.344: Closeout	https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle- A/chapter-II/part-200/subpart-D/subject-group- ECFR682eb6fbfabcde2/section-200.344
DOC Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions (dated November 12, 2020)	https://www.commerce.gov/sites/default/files/2020- 11/DOC%20Standard%20Terms%20and%20Conditions%20- %2012%20November%202020%20PDF_0.pdf
<b>Broadband USA Website</b>	https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/
Standard Forms (SF-428, SF-428B, SF-428-S, and SF-429)	grants.gov/forms/forms-repository/post-award-reporting-forms







# **THANK YOU**



