Financial Management Service

memorandum

Date: APR 10 2003

To: Chief Financial Officers and Deputy Chief Financial Officers

From: Judith Tillman
Assistant Commissioner
Financial Operations

Subject: Changes in Audit Timeframes for GOALS II/IPAC

The Financial Management Service's (FMS') Government On-Line Accounting Link System II (GOALS II) and the Intra-governmental Payment and Collection (IPAC) System requires a reauthorization of users on either an annual or quarterly basis. This audit is performed in order to ensure that only authorized users are accessing the systems and that their access level is appropriate to their responsibility. The purpose of this memorandum is to inform our users of our plan to standardize the timeframes for agencies to perform their system access audits.

In September of 2002, FMS notified our GOALS II users of our requirement to perform a re-authorization of our system users on an annual basis. In this letter, we enclosed a list of your agencies users and requested that you validate that each of your users still needed access to the applications noted and that their role was appropriate.

With the implementation of IPAC in December 2001, agencies were required to designate an IPAC Agency Administrator (IAA) for each organization. Part of the IAA responsibilities includes conducting a quarterly access audit. This process includes validating and correcting system access privileges for each user within the IAA's authority.

In an effort to standardize this process, FMS has decided that effective immediately; agencies will be required to perform access audits on both the GOALS II and IPAC systems on an annual basis. The next audit will be required for the period January 1, 2003 – December 31, 2003, and each year thereafter. The audit must be completed, and results submitted to the Financial Management Service (FMS), by the following January 31st. The audit for the GOALS II system will continue to be conducted via paper correspondence, while the IPAC audit will continue to be conducted via IPAC on-line screens. Coordinating our audit dates for both of our systems will reduce the strain on agency resources and allows FMS to meet all of our audit requirements.

We appreciate your continued support and cooperation in the audit effort for the GOALS II and IPAC systems. If you have any questions concerning the new audit dates, please contact the GOALS Customer Support Staff on (202) 874-8270 or via email at GOALS.Help@fms.treas.gov.

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