The Brookings Institution

Metropolitan Policy Program Andrew Reamer, Fellow



OMB's Congressional Mandates to Provide Information on Federal Spending

NAS Workshop on Modernizing the Infrastructure of the National Science Foundation Federal Funds Survey September 5, 2008

OMB has eight interrelated Congressional mandates for collecting, organizing, and providing information on federal spending

Primary Information and Data Repositories Grants – CFDA, FAADS, FAC Procurement – FPDS

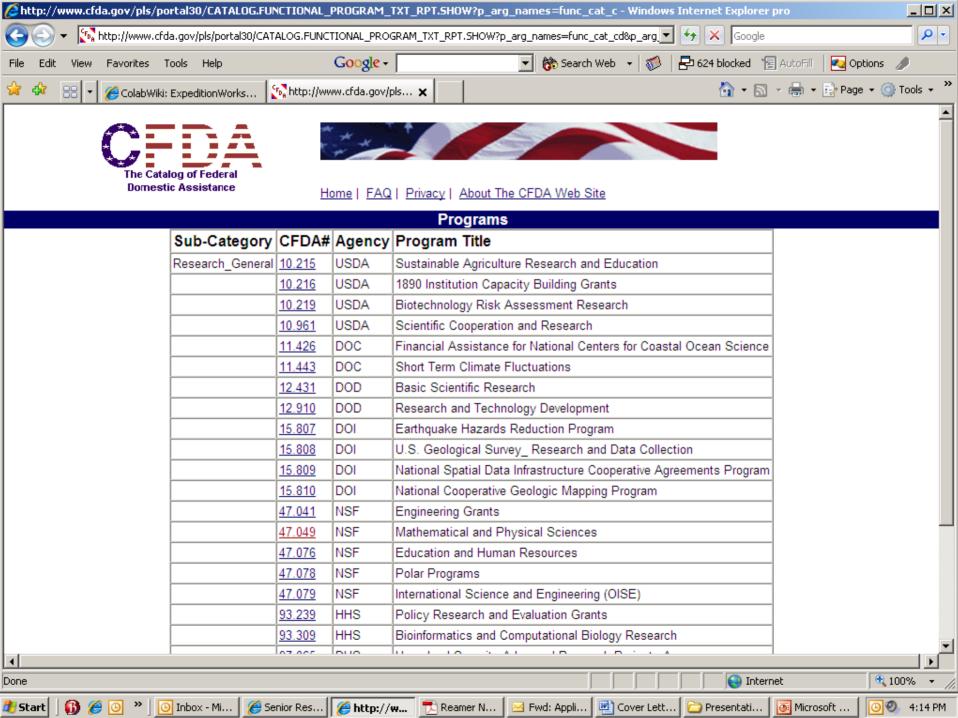
Reports – 31 USC 1112(f), CFFR

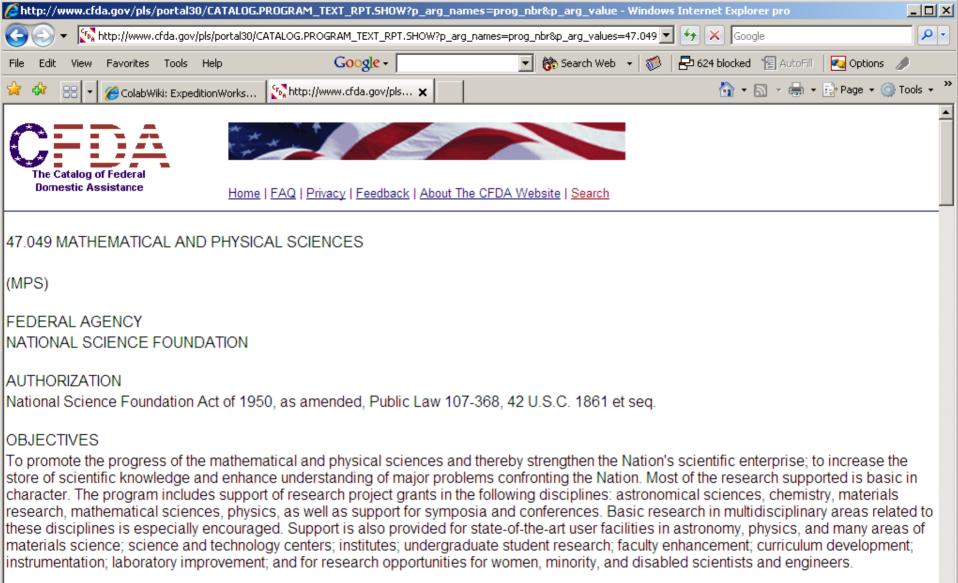
Secondary Data Repositories - RaDiUS, FFATA

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA)

"The Director [of OMB] shall collect and review information on domestic assistance programs and shall provide such information to the Administrator (of General Services). . . . The Director shall be responsible for ensuring that the Administrator incorporates all relevant information received on a regular basis." (31 USC 6102)







TYPES OF ASSISTANCE

Project Grants. 4

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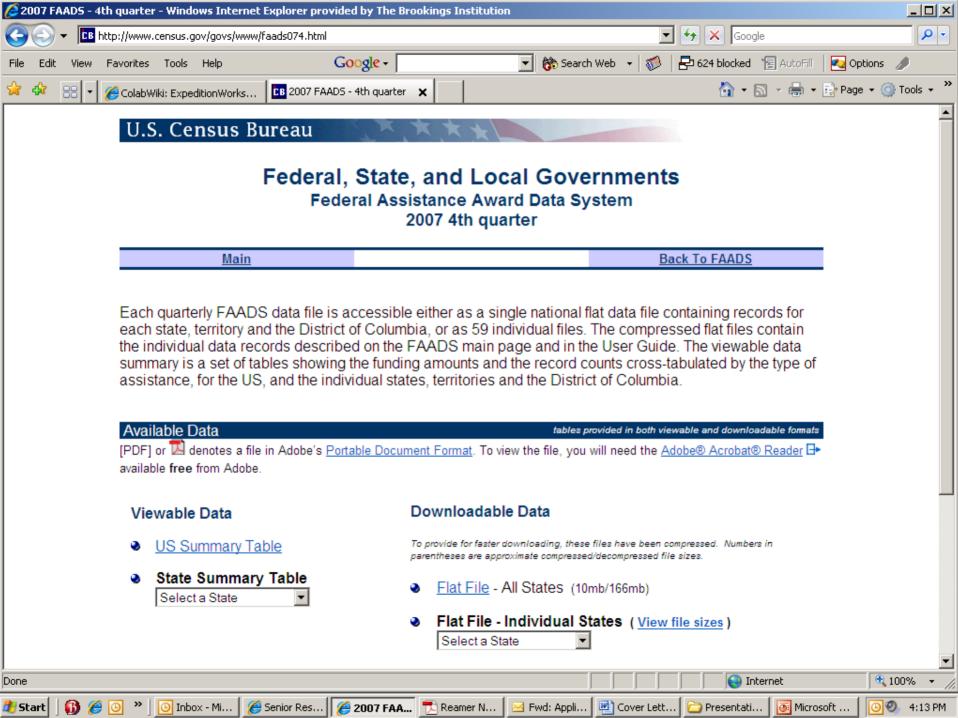
Federal Assistance Award Data System (FAADS)

"The Director shall (1) maintain the United States
Government assistance awards information system
established as a result of the study conducted under section
9 of the Federal Program Information Act; and (2) update the
system on a quarterly basis. . . . The Director shall transmit
promptly after the end of each calendar quarter . . . the data
in the system . . . to the Committee on Rules and
Administration of the Senate and the Committee on House
Oversight of the House of Representatives." (31 USC 6102a)

The Contents of FAADS

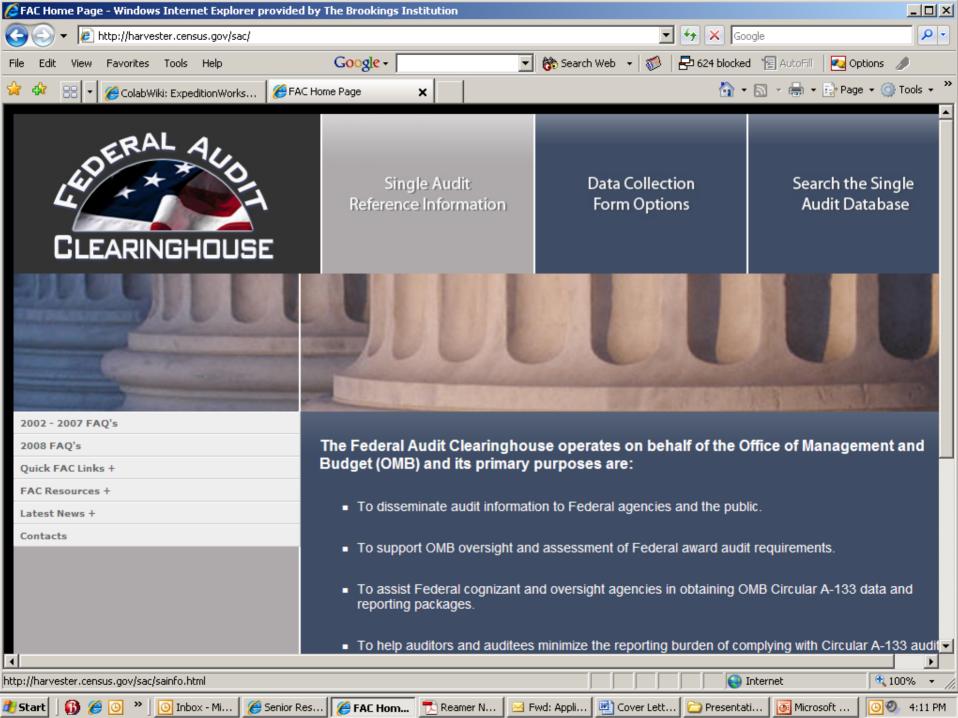
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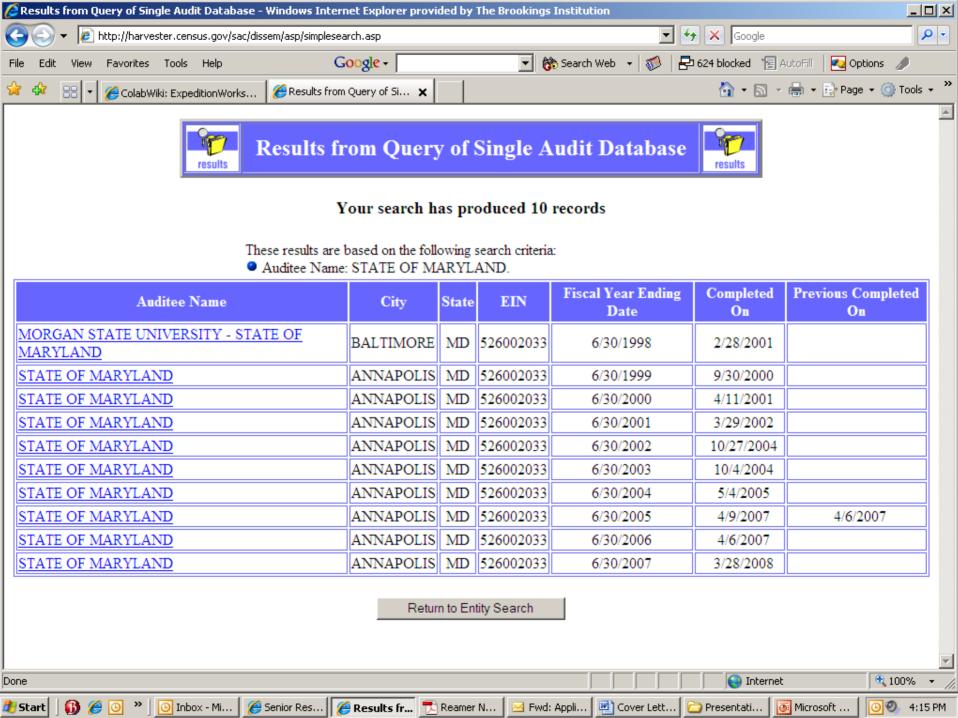
- approximately 600 Federal assistance programs managed by 33 federal departments and agencies
- all assistance programs listed in the CFDA as well as federal financial assistance not included in the CFDA, to the extent allowed by data availability
- ransfer payments to individuals (e.g., Social Security, food stamps), other direct payments (e.g., commodity supports), grants (e.g., block, formula, project), loans, and insurance

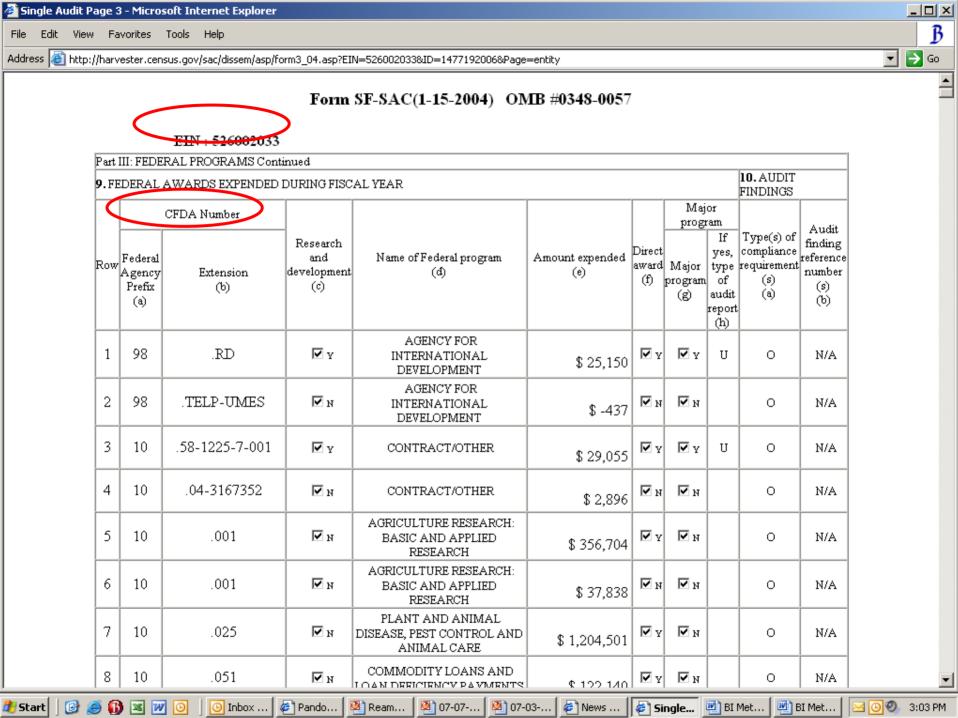


Federal Audit Clearinghouse (FAC)

Under federal single audit (SA) requirements, all non-federal entities (defined as state and local governments and nonprofit organizations) that receive over \$500,000 annually in federal financial assistance (whether as a direct recipient or subrecipient) are to submit an audit reporting package "to a federal clearinghouse designated by the Director [of OMB]." (31 USC 7502(h))







Federal Procurement Data System (FPDS)

"The functions of the Administrator (of the OMB Office of Federal Procurement Policy) shall include . . . providing for and directing the activities of the computer-based Federal Procurement Data System (including recommending to the Administrator of General Services a sufficient budget for such activities), which shall be located in the General Services Administration, in order to adequately collect, develop, and disseminate procurement data." (41 USC 405(d)4(A))



Information on Federal Assistance to State and Local Governments

"In cooperation with the Director of the Congressional Budget Office, the Comptroller General, and appropriate representatives of State and local governments, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (to the extent practicable) shall provide State and local governments with fiscal, budget, and program information necessary for accurate and timely determination by those governments of the impact on their budgets of assistance of the United States Government." (31 USC 1112(f))

BUDGET INFORMATION FOR STATES



422-page document – 180 pages of program tables by state, plus state-specific tables

Covered about 85 percent of grant funding for state and local governments

Maryland

(obligations in thousands of dollars)

Agency and Program	FY 2001 Actual	Estimated FY 2002 obligations from:			FY 2003
		Previous authority	New authority	Total	(estimated)
Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service					
Cooperative Forestry Research (10.202)	241 2,355 1,019		241 2,352 1,068	241 2,352 1,068	241 2,352 1,068
Animal Health and Disease Research (10.207) Cooperative Extension Service (10.500)	25 4,979		25 5,086	25 5,086	25 5,086
Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service					
School Breakfast Program (10.553)	20,227 75,748 443	8,308	22,081 73,927 482	22,081 82,235 482	23,290 86,870 470
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) (10.557)	50,916	929	53,320	54,249	57,366
Child and Adult Care Food Program (10.558)	29,262		31,281	31,281	33,102
Summer Food Service Program for Children (10.559)	3,227 1,897 39,673	94	3,723 1,901 38,288	3,723 1,995 38,288	3,996 2,057 39,338
Commodity Supplemental Food Program (10.585)	612		685	685	685
The Emergency Food Assistance Program (Commodities) (10.569)	1,319 1,991 303	10 11	1,323 1,961 144	1,323 1,971 155	1,323 (1)

Information on Federal Assistance to State and Local Governments

As of FY04, Budget Information for States (422 pages) replaced by expanded Aid to State and Local Governments chapter (52 pages) of President's Budget.

Consolidated Federal Funds Report (CFFR)

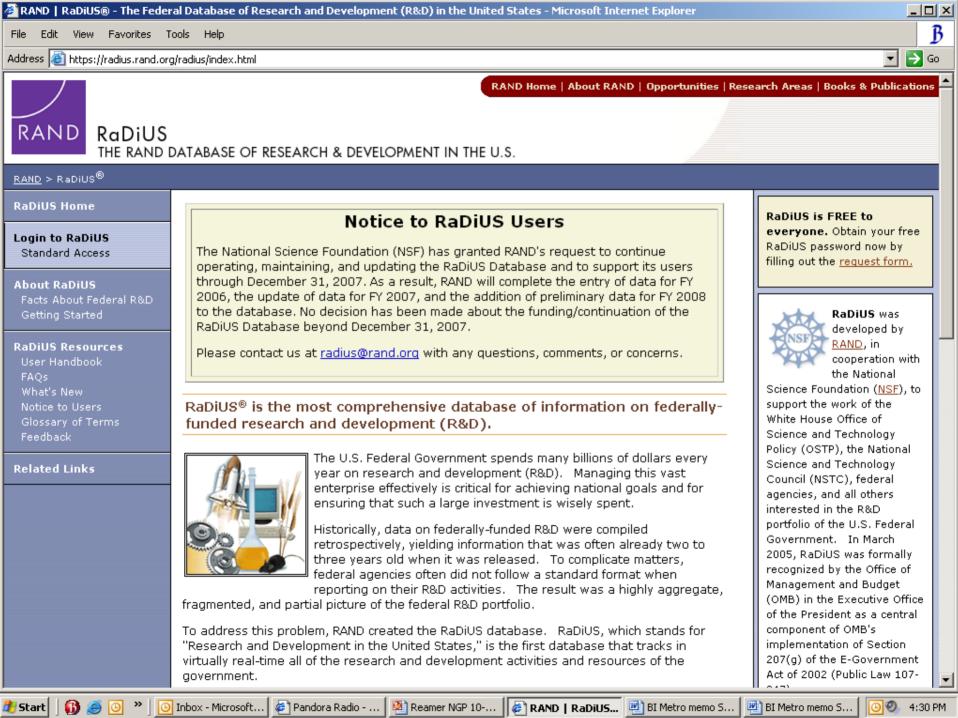
"(N)ot later than 180 days after the end of each fiscal year, the Director [of OMB] shall prepare a Consolidated Federal Funds Report presenting the total amount of Federal funds that were obligated for expenditure or expended in each State, county or parish, congressional district, and municipality of the United States in appropriate general categories of Federal funds during the preceding fiscal year." (31 USC 6202)

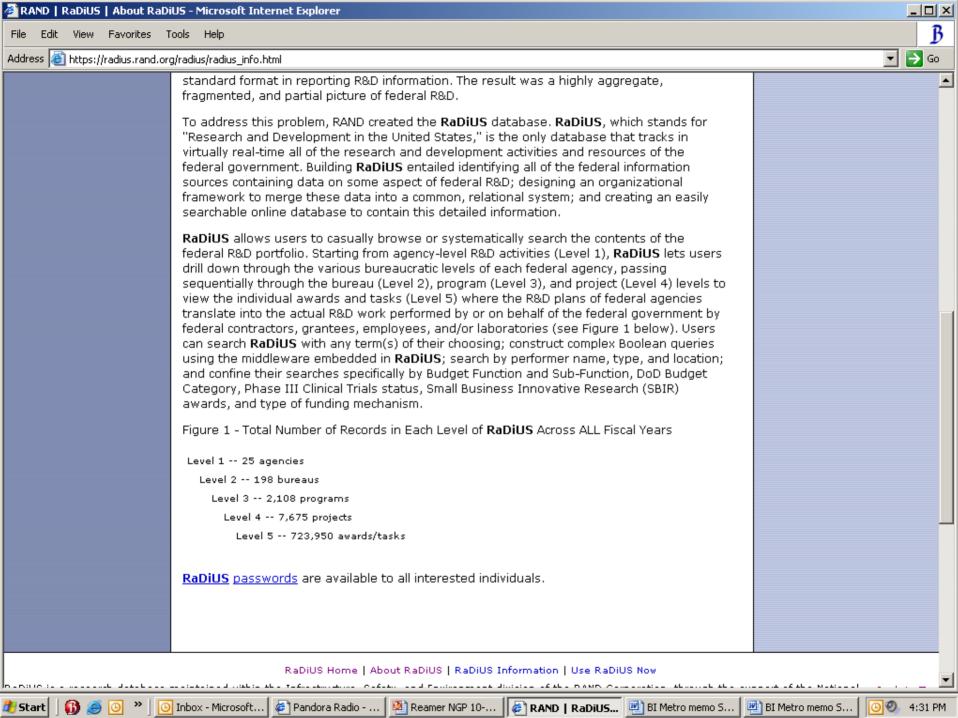


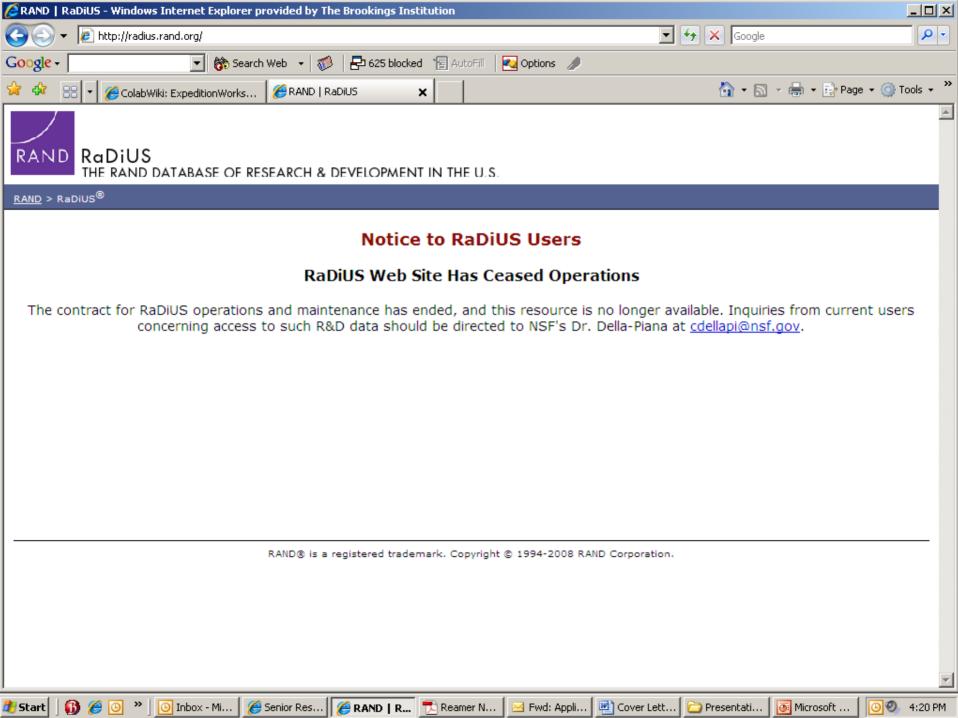


Federally-Funded R&D Data Repository (RaDiUS)

"The Director [of OMB], in consultation with the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy and other relevant agencies, . . . shall ensure the development and maintenance of a [searchable web-based] repository that . . . shall include information about research and development funded by the Federal Government, and . . . integrate information about each separate research and development task or award" (P.L. 107-347, Section 207(g))







Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) web site

"(T)he Office of Management and Budget shall . . . ensure the existence and operation of a single searchable website, accessible by the public at no cost . . . and that includes for each Federal award [a series of specific data elements such as receiving entity, amount, funding agency, transaction type, CFDA number, and location by city, state, and congressional district]" (P.L. 109-282, Section 2)

FFATA Dates and Requirements

July 1, 2007 – pilot project for subawards

January 1, 2008 – searchable website covering financial assistance and contract awards to other than individuals, with posting within 30 days of each award

January 1, 2009-July 1, 2010 – subawards to be available

FFATA may rely on FAADS, FPDS, and Grants.gov

Not to include information on awards below \$25,000, but to include credit card transactions after October 1, 2008





FFATA Requirements and Other OMB Mandates

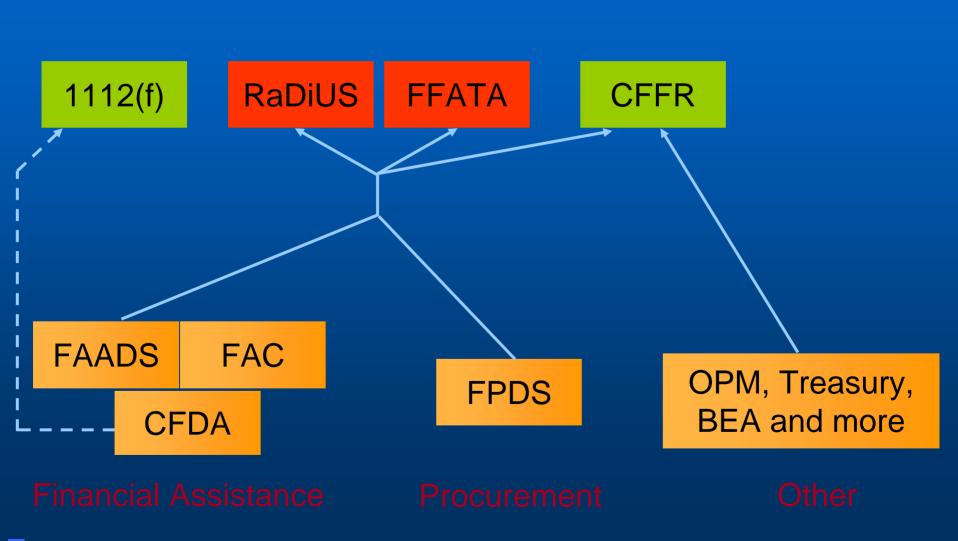
FFATA dependent on accuracy and completeness of CFDA

FAADS and FPDS only existing cross-government building blocks for FFATA—at present do not meet FFATA requirements, but can if properly supported and enhanced

FFATA must adhere to Data Quality Act and OMB Web Content Standards

RaDiUS a prototype for FFATA site

FAC includes subgrants



OMB has a series of Congressional mandates that provide context for its federal spending data mandates

Federal Information Policy

Data Quality

Web Content Standards

Interagency Data Sharing

Context – Federal Information Policy

"(T)he Director shall . . . (A) develop, coordinate and oversee the implementation of Federal information resources management policies, principles, standards, and guidelines; and (B) provide direction and oversee-- . . . (ii) agency dissemination of and public access to information; (iii) statistical activities; (iv) records management activities . . . " (44 USC 3504)

Context – Data Quality

"The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall ... issue guidelines ... that provide policy and procedural guidance to Federal agencies for ensuring and maximizing the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information (including statistical information) disseminated by Federal agencies in fulfillment of the purposes and provisions of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code " (P.L. 106-554, H.R. 5658, Section 515)

Context - Web Content Standards

"(T)he Director [of OMB] shall promulgate guidance for agency websites that includes— . . . minimum agency goals to assist public users to navigate agency websites, including—(i) speed of retrieval of search results; (ii) the relevance of the results; (iii) tools to aggregate and disaggregate data " (P.L. 107-347, Section 207(f))

Context – Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination

The Director [of OMB], in consultation with agency heads and representatives of non-Federal entities, shall direct, coordinate, and assist Federal agencies in establishing . . . an interagency process for addressing . . . improved interagency and intergovernmental coordination of information collection and sharing of data pertaining to Federal financial assistance programs" (P.L. 106-107, Section 6)

OMB also has two mandates to manage systems that complement systems created under its federal spending data mandates

Grants.gov

Earmarks

Complement – Grants.gov

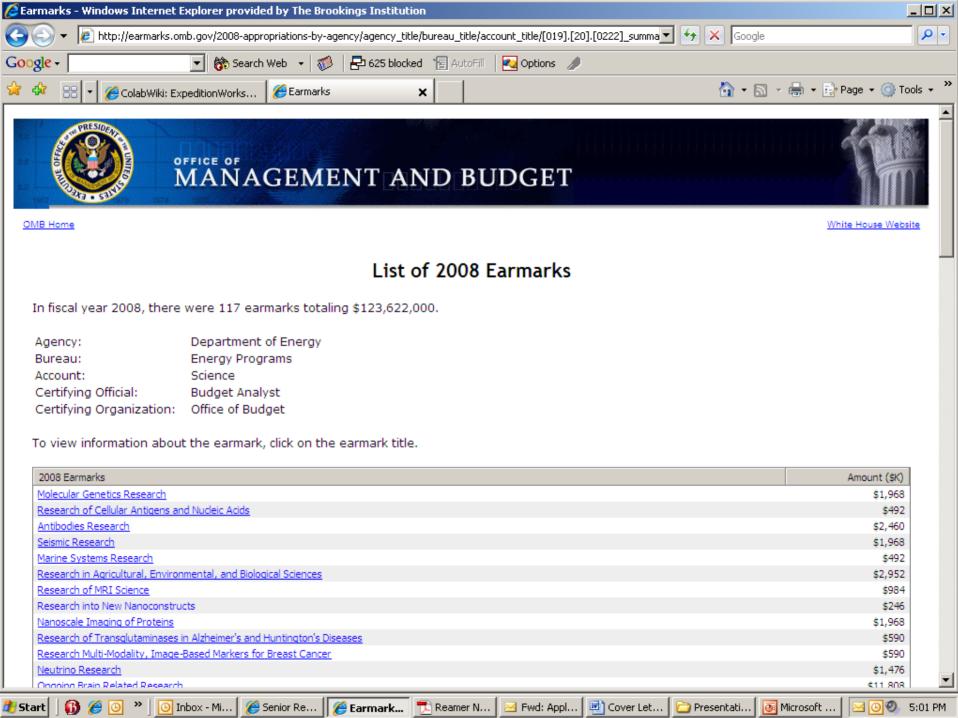
The Director [of OMB], in consultation with agency heads and representatives of non-Federal entities, shall direct, coordinate, and assist Federal agencies in establishing . . . a common application and reporting system, including . . . electronic processes, wherein a non-Federal entity can apply for, manage, and report on the use of funding from multiple Federal financial assistance programs that serve similar purposes and are administered by different Federal agencies." (P.L. 106-107, Section 6)



Complement – Earmarks

"On January 3, 2007, the President called on the Congress to enact earmark reform, including reducing the number and cost of earmarks by at least half. To provide a transparent baseline from which the cut-in-half goal will be measured, agencies will be required to: 1) identify and catalogue earmarks in all appropriations bills and certain authorization bills, including report language; 2) submit that data to OMB; and 3) provide rapid analysis of the earmarks in each bill as they move through the legislative process" (OMB M-07-09)









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