Grants Management Issues for Preparedness Funding

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Agenda

- **General Grants Issues**
  - Use of Preparedness Staff and Funds During a Response
  - Managing Overtime Costs
  - Redirecting Funds

- **Zika Funding**

- **Current Issues**

- **Future Issues**
Using Preparedness Funds During a Response

- **Can you use PHEP-funded and other-funded staff?**
  - Staff paid with PHEP funds can be used both for planning and response activities
  - Voluntary reassignment from another Public Health Service-funded program for up to 30 days, paid by home program, is possible under certain circumstances

- **Using a real incident as an exercise must connect to your work plan and test your capabilities; after-action report (AAR) still required**

- **If there is a change in scope, prior approval from CDC Office of Grants Services (OGS) is required**
How to Manage PHEP Overtime Costs

- **What you can do depends on what you’re doing it for**
  - You can’t budget for an unplanned event or emergency
  - You CAN plan and budget for regularly scheduled events
    - Exercises, drills, marathons, festivals, community events
    - Include it in your work plan and budget

- **OGS requires prior approval for emergencies**

- **But! We’ve worked out a compromise**
  - Submit a request for redirection, with cover letter, in PERFORMS
  - List individual line items, justified in cover letter
    - Total cost for overtime with reduction in other funding line
  - Or can list a bulk “personnel” line
    - Cover letter lists the people and justification
Redirecting Funds During the Year

- Previous limit was 25% or 30% without prior approval unless there was a change in scope, key personnel, etc.
- Recent guidance lowered this to 10%
- But! We worked out another deal
- OGS agreed to revert to the 25% rule
  - The onus is on the awardee to manage the amount
  - Exercising your prior approval authority does not guarantee post approval
  - You are at risk for adverse audit findings
  - Amounts are subject to change
- Prior approval for change of scope, etc., still required
Zika Funding

- Current funding of $25 million awarded to 53 awardees, largely based on risk and population
- Current spend rates are low; drawdown around 3%
- Second round of funding will be based on need
  - Ranked based on actual or risk of local transmission, type of vector, number of travel cases, current spending rates
  - Expectation is that funds can be used by June 30, 2017
  - Specific information about funding for locals and tribes must be noted
  - Coordination with ELC and other funding sources
  - Not all applicants will be fully funded or funded at all
- Clarification on pre-award costs
  - Applies to first release of funds, not the second
Current Issues

- Budget Period 5 (BP5) ends a project period, but PAHPRA makes it clear that funds are available in the current and subsequent year.

- Grants policy makes it clear that you can’t have two awards at the same time for the same thing.

- But! We’ve worked out a solution:
  - We will have a no-cost extension of BP5 to run concurrently with Budget Period 1 (BP1).
  - Work plan and budget for each funding year should reflect different activities.
  - Recommend keeping personnel costs in BP1.

- One area we know spending is needed is equipment replacement for chemical labs.
Future Funding Issues

- CDC actively tracks how much unspent money goes back to the Treasury
- Starting in BP1, we’ll work with DPHP Executive Committee, ASTHO, and others to look at options to address the issue
- We’ll be looking at a rolling average spend rate and may adjust funding where appropriate
- Quarterly Federal Financial Reports (FFRs) will be required for awardees with significant lapsed funds
Discussion