

# ARRA “Stimulus” Weekly Update, July 17, 2009

## **I. Federal and State Reporting**

### *UNC GA Reporting:*

UNC-GA has been providing a consolidated report of ARRA proposals and awards to the N.C. Office of Economic Recovery and Investment since mid-spring. The report is aimed at leadership in OERI and the Governor’s office for information purposes only. Campuses should send their weekly reports to Sarah Smith ([smsmith@northcarolina.edu](mailto:smsmith@northcarolina.edu)) with a copy to Courtney Thornton ([cthorton@northcarolina.edu](mailto:cthorton@northcarolina.edu)). Please provide the CFDA # for all proposals and awards and the federal award ID for awards. Data is reported cumulative for all ARRA proposals and awards since the passage of the Act. This week’s report is located under the Reporting/UNC ARRA Report tabs on the UNC-GA Recovery site:

<http://www.northcarolina.edu/recovery/index.php> - click on the PDF symbol.

### *State Reporting:*

Staff from NCSU, UNC-CH, UNC-G and UNC-GA met with the technical team for the NC OpenBook project on July 16<sup>th</sup> to discuss how the UNC System can provide ARRA award data for inclusion in the data warehouse being developed by the Office of State Budget Management. More information will be sent to the campuses next week on possible options for providing OSBM our ARRA award data.

### *Federal Reporting:*

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Recovery, Accountability and Transparency Board announced that webinars will be held the week of July 20, 2009 to provide information on implementing the guidance set forth in OMB Memorandum M-09-21, Implementing Guidance for the Reports on Use of Funds Pursuant to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 that was released on June 22, 2009. Each webinar will focus on a major section of the Guidance as well as on the technology solution. The intended audience for these webinars includes Federal agency personnel, prime recipients and sub-recipients. Go to the following URL to view the schedule and to register: <http://www.recovery.gov/?q=node/658>

UNC GA recently made an inquiry to OMB requesting clarification on reporting “Jobs Retained” and faculty/staff salary expenditures (release or summer salary). Following is the response from Hai. M “Gil” Tran:

“Sarah, if an individual works on a project and the institution charges associated personnel costs (i.e., faculty salary support) to the ARRA project this should be reported as a job retained (or created if hired for the project). Regards, gil.”

## **II. N.C. Office of Economic Recovery and Investment**

Mr. Jimmy Carter from OERI recently announced there will not be an ARRA reporting pilot in July and he reported on the Recovery Reporting Readiness Assessment results. The full text of his email communication is attached.

## **III. Other Resources**

A contract has been awarded to Smartronix, Inc., a Maryland information technology firm to build the new website for the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board, an independent agency that manages Recovery.gov and monitors spending under the \$787 billion Recovery program. The following is reprinted from [www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov):

"With the assistance of GSA," said Earl E. Devaney, the Recovery Board chairman, "we proceeded in a careful fashion to find the best value for the taxpayers' dollar." He went on to say: "In the end, this website, above all else, must be user friendly and provide the public with the necessary information on how its money is being spent."

Devaney explained that the Recovery Board needed also to move swiftly because recipients of Recovery funds—perhaps 200,000 or more—will begin submitting reports to the Recovery Board in October. That information will be posted almost immediately on Recovery.gov, he said.

Devaney and the 12 Inspectors General who comprise the Recovery Board described the contract as firm fixed and competitively bid for operations and maintenance, providing a full solution package to include:

- Develop the next generation of Recovery.gov, which will be visually pleasing, user friendly and highly interactive.
- A mapping capacity that will allow users to search for spending all the way down to their own neighborhoods.
- The capacity to store and easily download massive amounts of data.
- A state-of-the-art security platform that will protect the integrity and availability of the data and a back-up system in the event of a major catastrophe such as 9/11 or a large-scale power outage.
- Contract support to perform a wide array of hosting, maintenance and operational services.

<http://www.recovery.gov/?q=node/668>

**Subject:** OERI Readiness Assessment Complete

**From:** "Carter, James A" <jimmy.carter@nc.gov>

**Date:** Fri, 10 Jul 2009 11:26:39 -0400

**To:** "Caler, Kathryn" <kathryn.caler@ncdcr.gov>, "rraney@nccrimecontrol.org" <rraney@nccrimecontrol.org>, "McMillan, Valerie W" <valerie.w.mcmillan@doa.nc.gov>, "elizabeth.colcord@dornc.com" <elizabeth.colcord@dornc.com>, "Simes, Amy" <amy.simes@ncdenr.gov>, "Stogner, Catherine M" <catherine.stogner@ncagr.gov>, "cdavis@doc.state.nc.us" <cdavis@doc.state.nc.us>, "Dillard, Bruce" <bdillard@ncdot.gov>, "jdietzel@dpi.state.nc.us" <jdietzel@dpi.state.nc.us>, "Dickerson, Arnetha" <arnetha.dickerson@osbm.nc.gov>, "Smith, Elizabeth" <esmith@nccommerce.com>, "smsmith@northcarolina.edu" <smsmith@northcarolina.edu>, "Mandeville, John" <john.mandeville@dhhs.nc.gov>

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From: Carter, James A  
 Sent: Friday, July 10, 2009 11:11 AM  
 To: Carter, James A  
 Subject:

Thank you for completing the OERI Reporting Readiness Assessment. We received 40 responses. All were received on time but one. The agency that was past deadline had legitimate cause beyond their control. Thirty responders are prime recipients, ten are not. Of the ten who are not prime recipients, eight understand the ARRA reporting requirements and will be ready to report if they receive ARRA funds.

Of the 30 responding as prime recipients, 29 understand the reporting requirements and one is still reviewing guidance. Twenty five will be ready to report by the end of July. One will be ready to report by the end of August, one expects delays with a grant amendment, one is pending assessment of eligibility for funds, two indicated "NO", but have limited reporting requirements for federal enhanced match funds for which they will be ready.

As a general assessment, the responses indicated that each prime recipient (and eight who are not prime recipients) are ready or will be ready to report.

OMB's latest guidance on the topic of reporting (M-09-21, June 22, 2009), confirmed that July reporting is not required as indicated in previous OMB guidance. Instead OMB and the Transparency Board will have a series of forums, meetings, and small-scale data collection pilots in July. It is believed that the forums will be webinars, since time is critical (it is already July) and most states have strict travel restrictions.

Although a full-scale reporting exercise is not planned in July, your early readiness is an advantage because prime recipients are required to collect and maintain Section 1512 reporting elements "since the enactment of the Recovery Act", including activities for the quarter ending June 30, 2009. This information along with information on subsequent activities will be reported on a cumulative basis and submitted to

FederalReporting.gov on October 10, 2009.

Please take time to read the OMB Guidance found at links below:

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/memoranda\\_fy2009/m09-21.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/memoranda_fy2009/m09-21.pdf)

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/memoranda\\_fy2009/m09-21-suppl1.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/memoranda_fy2009/m09-21-suppl1.pdf)

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/memoranda\\_fy2009/m09-21-suppl2.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/memoranda_fy2009/m09-21-suppl2.pdf)

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