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## What's changing in GTAS and GFRS!

The releases for this Fiscal Year End for both GTAS and GFRS highlight some significant changes to existing business processes and functionality required to produce the Financial Report of the United States Government (FR).

Last year the FRB St. Louis and Fiscal Service worked

together to produce a “roadmap” for combining functionality of GFRS and GTAS as a part of a larger project called the “FR System Consolidation Project”. The goal of this effort was to examine the different pieces of each application and see where efficiencies could be gained and redundant efforts eliminated where possible.

This year's GTAS and GFRS release reflect the changes required for the initial phase of this multi-year effort to improve and streamline certain business processes and improve the FR.

## What's New (GTAS Version 2.8)

The GTAS 2.8 release will feature the merging of some key functionality previously completed by agencies in GFRS into the GTAS application.

The new functionality allows Significant Entities ATB data in GTAS to be used without manual entry in GFRS through modules GF001 through GF004, and allows agencies certifying reclassified statements based on GTAS ATB submission plus any applicable manual adjustments in GTAS.

Highlights of the GTAS 2.8 release are as follows:

Authorizing FR Entities for Manual Adjustments – A new mechanism to allow Fiscal Service to

provide authorization for Significant Entities, during Period 12, to manually adjust amounts on three Reclassified Statements.

Providing and Certifying Manual Adjustments to Reclassified Statements – A new mechanism for Agencies to Prepare and Certify Manual Adjustments to their Reclassified Statements by FR entity during Period 12 for a given Fiscal Year.

◦ All three Reclassified Statements, by FR Entity, are to be provided for Manual Adjustments.

◦ The Revision portion of Period 12's Reporting Window will be utilized for Manual Adjustments and Authorizations.

◦ Only Certified TAS information is utilized to form the basis of Manual Adjustments.

Reconciliation Statement Report – This is a new report which allows an Agency to review their Adjusted GTAS Reclassified Statements alongside their audited Financials to ensure both are in agreement.

◦ A Reconciliation Statement Report will be provided for each of the three Reclassified Statements.

◦ The supporting USSGL(s) line detail that provides the Bulk File/TAS information will also be included.



Have General Questions or Need Help in GTAS or GFRS? (i.e. access issues, system requirements, feature questions) Contact the Treasury Support Center at:

GTAS:  
Phone: 1-877-440-9476  
Option 1, then Option 3  
Email: [gtas@stls.frb.org](mailto:gtas@stls.frb.org)

GFRS:  
Phone: 1-877-440-9476  
Option 1, then Option 4  
Email: [gfrs@stls.frb.org](mailto:gfrs@stls.frb.org)

## What's New (GTAS Version 2.8): Continued

Modify GFRS Closing Package Line Amounts File to include Certified Adjusted Amounts – Update the Closing Package Line Amounts file to include certified Manual Adjustment amounts to assist in eliminating the need for GFRS Module 4 (Trading Partner Assignment).

◦ If an Agency cannot upload Bulk Files and is reliant on providing Manual Adjustments, that information will be sent to GFRS when the Manual Adjustments are certified.

◦ If no Reclassification Statement Manual Adjustment amounts are present, GTAS data will be sent to GFRS as long as the TAS is certified.

## What's New (GFRS Version 7.2)

The GFRS 7.2 release will feature the elimination of modules 1-4 which will eliminate the requirements of Significant Entities having to enter their Financial Statement Template, Audited Financial Statement, Reclassification and Federal Trading Partner Note in GFRS for this fiscal year end. GTAS data will be used for both Significant and Other Entities for use in lieu of manual entry. All entities will review the GTAS Closing Package Lines Loaded Report for accuracy of data and to continue on to FR notes modules, Other Data module, and Completions and Approvals module in GFRS.

Highlights of the GFRS 7.2 release are as follows:

Module GF005G-New GTAS Data Report – The system will provide a new module in GFRS for FR Entities to request the GTAS to GFRS Data Report. This report will contain attributes required for entities to be able to check on the accuracy and inclusiveness of the data being sent from GTAS to GFRS.

Module GF006-FR Notes – This notes data for Significant Entities will now be populated using GTAS data sent over to GFRS and not from Modules 1-4. Other entity data will continue to be populated using GTAS data as in the past.

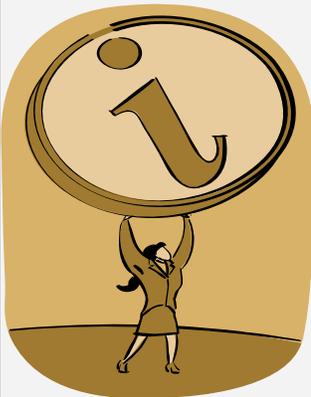
Module GF008-Completions and Approvals – This module has been modified due to the elimination of modules 1-4. All connected reports for this module will be changed accordingly. Several modifications to the existing module are a part of the 7.2 release and include the following:

◦ Removal of Agency Audited Financial Statements tab

◦ Removal of Reclassification tab

◦ Change the Trading Partner tab to “Certify GTAS Data tab”

◦ Systematic undoing of completions in GF008 when the GTAS file causes an FR Note status to be changed to “in-progress”



**For GTAS inquiries regarding accounting guidance and/or edit and validation issues, please contact the Fiscal Service Accountant assigned to your agency using the following list:**  
<http://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/fsservices/gov/acctg/gtas/contacts.htm>

**For GFRS inquiries regarding general information or Financial Reporting, please contact the Fiscal Service Accountant assigned to your agency using the following list:**  
<http://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/fsservices/gov/acctg/gfrs/contacts.htm>

**For Intragovernmental inquiries in GTAS, please contact the Fiscal Service Accountant assigned to your agency using the following list:**  
[http://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/fsservices/gov/acctg/gtas/intragovt\\_contacts.htm](http://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/fsservices/gov/acctg/gtas/intragovt_contacts.htm)

**For USSGL Guidance, please visit the following web page at:**  
[http://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/fsreports/ref/ussgl/ussgl\\_home.htm](http://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/fsreports/ref/ussgl/ussgl_home.htm)

## Process Changes in Assigning Agency Identifier's (AIDs)

Many statutes require the Treasury Department and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to collect and report on the finances of Federal agencies. Among these is 31 USC 3513.

The fundamental building block for recording and reporting is the Treasury Account Symbol (TAS), which includes, among other things, a 3-digit code for Agency Identifier (AID). The Treasury Federal Account Symbols and Titles (FAST) II book includes a comprehensive list of the government's AID and TAS codes. The Treasury Department has historically assigned AID codes to align with the organic, or initial, statute establishing the TAS.

At the same time, OMB and Treasury publish financial reports that do not always align with the AID codes. For instance, the President's Budget includes an agency, Other Defense-Civil Programs, that groups together agencies with different AID codes. In another example, the Treasury Department uses Financial Report (FR) entities that do not always align with existing AID codes.

There are also instances when a single AID code corresponds to what are effectively different operating agencies. For example, the AID code for the Executive Office of the President (e.g. the White House and OMB) is also used for Peace Corps and the African Development Foundation.

Requiring two or more discreet operating agencies to share the same AID code adds to the challenge of FR reporting, which now requires a crosswalk between AID and FR Entity (see Appendix 5 of I TFM 2-4700). Having two or more operating agencies share the same AID code also adds to the challenge of reconciling intragovernmental transactions, which is a long-standing material weakness of the FR. In addition, in preparing for new reporting required by the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act, Treasury and OMB concur with comments by agencies that reporting will be easier if operating agencies have unique AID codes.

Treasury and OMB will change the process used to assign AID codes in the future and will consult with agencies

about changing existing AID codes. The changes will eliminate the need for a crosswalk between AID and FR Entity; reduce agency workload in reporting and reconciling intra-governmental transactions; and, facilitate improved transparency across the government. Treasury and OMB will follow two guiding principles in assigning AID codes. First and most important, AID codes will comport with statute whenever practical (This will cover the vast majority of cases). Second, when Treasury and OMB in consultation with the affected agency find that the use of alternate AID code facilitates governmentwide reporting or improves transparency, Treasury and OMB will assign a code to facilitate the reporting (In general, this will cover a small number of cases).

If your agency has questions and/or concerns with this new reassignment designation, please contact Cheryl Dixon ([Cheryl.dixon@fiscal.treasury.gov](mailto:Cheryl.dixon@fiscal.treasury.gov)) or Luke Sheppard ([luke.sheppard@fiscal.treasury.gov](mailto:luke.sheppard@fiscal.treasury.gov)).



**Have Feedback to provide?**

- \* Newsletter Ideas
- \* Experience with GWA systems
- \* Improvement/Enhancement Ideas

Please reach out to the GTAS Team at the following email [GTAS.Team@fiscal.treasury.gov](mailto:GTAS.Team@fiscal.treasury.gov).

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Stay informed of GTAS, GFRS, or USSGL website updates by subscribing to our E-Mail Notification Service: <https://www.fms.treas.gov/fmsweb/EmailSubscribeAction.do>

## New Agency Financial Report to Closing Package reconciliation reporting template

In conjunction with the recent webinar presented by Luke Sheppard during the month of June, 2016, “Improving the Financial Report of the U.S. Government – 2016 Plans with GTAS and GFRS”, agencies are required to reconcile their Closing Package data, based on their GTAS ATB upload and

Manual Adjustments, if any, to their General Purpose Financial Reports (GPFR).

Fiscal Service has devised an Excel template for Agencies to tie their GPFR to GTAS data. The template may be found at the following locations along with instructions for use.

Under Updates Section:

<https://fiscal.treasury.gov/reports-statements/financial-report/>

Under Main Home Page:

<https://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/gtas/>

## Intragovernmental:

### New General Fund Reciprocal Categories

Two new Reciprocal Categories (RCs) have been added to Appendix 7 for fiscal year 2016 to facilitate better elimination pairings with the General Fund of the U.S. Government (General Fund). These changes can be seen in the newly published TFM 2-4700 located at <http://tfm.fiscal.treasury.gov/v1/p2/c470.html>.

RC37 “Other Financing Sources – General Fund” is TAS restricted and strictly reserved for reporting between the General Fund and the Bureau of the fiscal Service (Fiscal Service) Debt Accounting. The pairs of eliminating

USSGLs included in RC37 are 579001 “Other Non-budgetary Financing Sources For Debt Accruals/Amortization” which Fiscal Service will report the General Fund as its trading partner, and 579010 “Other Financing Sources for the General Fund” which the General Fund will report with Fiscal Service as its trading partner. RC37 will be effective for Period 11 FY 2016 reporting.

RC38 “Expended Appropriations” includes USSGLs 570000 “Expended Appropriations” which

Federal program agencies will report with the General Fund as its trading partner and 570005 “Appropriations-Expended” which the General Fund will report with other Federal agencies as its trading partner. It is important to note that these USSGLs were originally in RC39 “Appropriations-Used”. They have been moved to the new RC38 in order to properly reflect the elimination. RC38 will be effective for Period 9 FY 2016 reporting.

## Intragovernmental:

### Intragovernmental GTAS Updates

GTAS 2.7 was released in April, 2016. With this release, a Raw Data file became available for agencies to use as a research tool to evaluate intragovernmental differences. The Raw Data file includes the same data as in the Intragovernmental Module of GTAS, but in an Excel extract. The file can be found under the Intragovernmental Reports section of GTAS and is entitled "IGT Raw Data File". Please note, users are only able to see the data they have access to in GTAS and that was certified.

GTAS 2.8 will be released in the Fall of 2016.

With this release, just like each quarter, the year-end Material Difference Reports (MDRs) will be completed and certified in the Intragovernmental Module of GTAS. Agencies will also be able to make manual adjustments to their year-end data in GTAS. If a manual adjustment has been made, the amount in the Intragovernmental Module will be highlighted in yellow, and will show up on the MDRs and the Comparative Status of Disposition Report which will also be obtained from GTAS.

Please note, if a manual adjustment does not exist for a particular RC 29 financial statement line, then the MDR Part III should be explained and certified in GTAS per the usual process. If a manual adjustment is created for an RC 29 financial statement line, agencies must provide the USSGL(s) affected as justification for the manual adjustment. Agencies will receive a manual MDR Part III to explain and certify if a manual adjustment impacts an RC 29 financial statement line.

### Treasury Financial Manual (TFM) 2-4700 Update

The TFM 2-4700 for Fiscal Year 2016 was published in May, 2016. The link for this TFM can be found at <http://tfm.fiscal.treasury.gov/v1/p2/c470.html>.

Please review this TFM to ensure you are up to date on all reporting and intragovernmental changes. A second update publication will occur in July, 2016. Appendix 8 of TFM 2-4700 is in revision and

will be made available with the July publication.

## Financial Reporting:

### Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Standards (SFFAS)

The Bureau of the Fiscal Service will be implementing several new Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Standards (SFFAS) for fiscal year 2017 and 2018 Financial Report of the U.S. Government. Below is a summary of these new standards and some of the new reporting requirements for the standards. Agencies should review the TFM 2-4700 and specific standards in an effort to see all the reporting requirements and changes as a result of these standards.

SFFAS No. 47, Reporting Entity establishes principles to identify organizations for which elected officials are accountable. The standard also guides preparers of general purpose federal financial reports in determining what organization to report upon, whether such organizations are considered “consolidation entities” or “disclosure entities” and what information should be presented about those organizations. The standard also requires information to be provided about related party relationships of such significance that it

would be misleading to exclude information. SFFAS No. 47 is effective for periods beginning after September 30, 2017 and early implementation is not permitted. In July 2016 the working group will post additional questions, (1) who is considered a consolidated entity, (2) who is considered disclosure, (3) who is considered related party, (4) and who falls into the no reporting category. A governmentwide email will be sent once the Q&A has been updated on all websites. These determinations have been confirmed at the agency level; please use this data as a second review to confirm your agency agrees with how the SFFAS No. 47 working group will classify the agency’s reporting in FY 2018. SFFAS No. 47 Q&A has been uploaded to the Fiscal Service website, Treasury Financial Manual website, and Max.gov to help assist agencies throughout the implementation process of the SFFAS No. 47.

The SFFAS No. 47 working group will be responsible for updating as more questions are received by agencies.

For more information regarding SFFAS No. 47 contact Janis Doak at 304-480-6939.

Fiscal Service website link: <https://fiscal.treasury.gov/reports-statements/financial-report/>

Treasury Financial Manual website link: [https://tfm.fiscal.treasury.gov/content/tfm/related-resources.html#related\\_links](https://tfm.fiscal.treasury.gov/content/tfm/related-resources.html#related_links)

MAX.gov website link: <https://community.max.gov/display/TREASExternal/Bureau+of+the+Fiscal+Service+Financial+Report+of+the+United+States>

SFFAS No. 48, Opening Balances for Inventory, Operating Materials and Supplies, and Stockpile Materials permits a reporting entity to apply an alternative valuation method in establishing opening balances. This method is permitted when presenting financial statements on one or more line items addressed in the standard. This standard can be applied for the first time or after a period during which existing systems could not provide the information necessary for producing GAAP-based financial statements without use of the alternative valuation method.

## Financial Reporting:

### Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Standards (SFFAS): Continued

This is intended to provide an alternative method to adoption of GAAP when historical records and systems do not provide a basis for valuation of opening balances in accordance with SFFAS No. 3, Accounting for Inventory and Related Property.

A questionnaire was sent to all agencies to determine which agencies will be early implementing the new standard, based on the agencies responses there will not be an early implementation for this standard in FY 2016.