

State Superintendent of Schools

TO: MSDE Headquarters Staff

FROM: Justin Dayhoff, Assistant State Superintendent, Financial Planning, Operations, and Strategy

DATE: April 1, 2023

SUBJECT: Invoice Process Guidance and Expectations

MSDE Business Hub

The MSDE business hub reflects a consolidated hub for key MSDE finance processes that intersect internal and external stakeholders. The hub supports a consolidated place for information related to vendor/organization/interagency payments and includes the MSDE-designed end-to-end invoice tracking and monitoring system, accountability for MSDE Programs and MSDE Accounting for invoice processing, and support for MSDE program staff tasked with completing invoice review and approval.

Invoice Processing Guidance and Expectations

When program staff review an invoice for approval, program staff should:

1. Check the vendor name, Federal ID, and vendor legal address in the FMIS system 51 screen and make sure each match the information in the invoice as submitted.

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REGION:

CONTACT:

TELEPHONE:

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a. If the vendor's name, Federal ID, and/or legal address information in FMIS is different from the remittance information included in the invoice, program staff must reach out to the MSDE Vendor Coordinator (listed on the MSDE business hub) to update the vendor information in FMIS. Please be aware it may take the General Accounting Division (GAD) of the Comptroller one to two weeks to update the vendor information in FMIS.

2. Check the mail code for the payment address. Sometimes, the payee may request the payment to be sent to an address other than the legal address. FMIS uses mail code to track different addresses.

After clicking functional key F6 in the FMIS system 51 screen, FMIS will show all the current (A-Active) and historical (I-Inactive) vendor addresses (MC- Mail Code). Ensure that the mail code selected matches the desired payment address.

3. Check the remaining balance in the Purchase Order/encumbrance in FMIS 64 screen and confirm there are sufficient funds to process the requested payment.

The first screenshot, below, shows the FMIS system 64 screen for regular PO payments. The "Doc Balance" must be equal or greater than the approved payment amount.

The next screenshot, below, shows the FMIS system 64 screen for regular grant payments. The "**Doc Balance"** must be equal or greater than the approved payment amount.

If there are not sufficient funds left in the P.O./encumbrance, the program should hold the invoice and work with its respective Business Services Partner and Planning and Budget Analyst from their Core Services Team to resolve the issue.

- 4. Review the invoice and the supporting documentation. Confirm that: goods and services were received; the costs were allowable; and the expenditures were charged to the proper grant, proper grant phase, and within the proper grant performance period.
- 5. Update the invoice update request for the corresponding invoice, including invoice Status, for Accounting Branch processing to process and remit corresponding payment.

Additional Tips and Reminders

- The federal fiscal year runs from October 1 through September 30 each year while the State fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30 each year.
- The effective date of the invoice should be consistent with the time when the good and services are received and can only be charged to a grant while the effective date falls within the grant period.