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may be terminated because of circumstances beyond the control of the contractor.

(c) Except as otherwise required by statute, an award that requires the contracting (or subcontracting) for construction or facility improvements must provide for the recipient to follow its own requirements relating to bid guarantees, performance bonds, and payment bonds unless the construction contract or subcontract exceeds \$100,000. For those contracts or subcontracts exceeding \$100,000, SSA may accept the bonding policy and requirements of the recipient, provided SSA has made a determination that the Federal Government's interest is adequately protected. If such a determination has not been made, the minimum requirements are as follows:

(1) A bid guarantee from each bidder equivalent to five percent of the bid price. The "bid guarantee" must consist of a firm commitment such as a bid bond, certified check, or other negotiable instrument accompanying a bid as assurance that the bidder will, upon acceptance of his bid, execute such contractual documents as may be required within the time specified.

(2) A performance bond on the part of the contractor for 100 percent of the contract price. A "performance bond" is one executed in connection with a contract to secure fulfillment of all the contractor's obligations under such contract.

(3) A payment bond on the part of the contractor for 100 percent of the contract price. A "payment bond" is one executed in connection with a contract to assure payment as required by statute of all persons supplying labor and material in the execution of the work provided for in the contract.

(4) Where bonds are required in the situations described in this section, the bonds must be obtained from companies holding certificates of authority as acceptable sureties pursuant to 31 CFR part 223, "Surety Companies Doing Business with the United States."

(d) All negotiated contracts (except those for less than the simplified acquisition threshold) awarded by recipients must include a provision to the effect that the recipient, SSA, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives, will have access to any books, documents, papers and records of the contractor which are directly pertinent to a specific program for the purpose of making audits, examinations, excerpts and transcriptions.

(e) All contracts, including small purchases, awarded by recipients and their contractors must contain the procurement provisions of Appendix A to this part, as applicable.

REPORTS AND RECORDS

§ 435.50 Purpose of reports and records.

Sections 435.51 through 435.53 set forth the procedures for monitoring and reporting on the recipient's financial and program performance and the necessary standard reporting forms. They also set forth record retention requirements.

§ 435.51 Monitoring and reporting program performance.

(a) Recipients are responsible for managing and monitoring each project, program, subaward, function or activity supported by the award. Recipients must monitor subawards to ensure subrecipients have met the audit requirements as delineated in §435.26.

(b) SSA will prescribe the frequency with which the performance reports must be submitted. Except as provided in paragraph (f) of this section, performance reports will not be required more frequently than quarterly or, less frequently than annually. Annual reports are due 90 calendar days after the grant year; quarterly or semi-annual reports are due 30 days after the reporting period. SSA may require annual reports before the anniversary dates of multiple year awards in lieu of these requirements. The final performance reports are due 90 calendar days after the expiration or termination of the award.

(c) If inappropriate, a final technical or performance report will not be required after completion of the project.

(d) When required, performance reports must generally contain, for each award, brief information on each of the following:

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(1) A comparison of actual accomplishments with the goals and objectives established for the period, the findings of the investigator, or both. Whenever appropriate and the output of programs or projects can be readily quantified, such quantitative data should be related to cost data for computation of unit costs.

(2) Reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate.

(3) Other pertinent information including, when appropriate, analysis and explanation of cost overruns or high unit costs.

(e) Recipients will not be required to submit more than the original and two copies of performance reports.

(f) Recipients must immediately notify SSA of developments that have a significant impact on the award-supported activities. Also, notification must be given in the case of problems, delays, or adverse conditions, which materially impair the ability to meet the objectives of the award. This notification must include a statement of the action taken or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation.

(g) SSA may make site visits, as needed.

(h) SSA will comply with clearance requirements of 5 CFR part 1320 when requesting performance data from recipients.

§435.52 Financial reporting.

(a) Authorized forms. The following forms or such other forms as may be approved by OMB are authorized for obtaining financial information from recipients:

(1) SF-269 or SF-269A, Financial Status Report. (i) SSA requires recipients to use the SF-269 or SF-269A to report the status of funds for all nonconstruction projects or programs. However, SSA has the option of not requiring the SF-269 or SF-269A when the SF-270, Request for Advance or Reimbursement, or SF-272, Report of Federal Cash Transactions, is determined to provide adequate information to meet its needs, except that a final SF-269 or SF-269A will be required at the completion of the project when the SF-270 is used only for advances.

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(ii) SSA may prescribe whether the report will be on a cash or accrual basis. If SSA requires accrual information and the recipient's accounting records are not normally kept on the accrual basis, the recipient will not be required to convert its accounting system, but must develop such accrual information through best estimates based on an analysis of the documentation on hand.

(iii) SSA will determine the frequency of the Financial Status Report for each project or program, considering the size and complexity of the particular project or program. However, the report will not be required more frequently than quarterly or less frequently than annually. A final report is required at the completion of the agreement.

(iv) SSA will require recipients to submit the SF-269 or SF-269A (an original and no more than two copies) no later than 30 days after the end of each specified reporting period for quarterly and semi-annual reports, and 90 calendar days for annual and final reports. Extensions of reporting due dates may be approved by SSA upon request of the recipient.

(2) SF-272, Report of Federal Cash Transactions. (i) When funds are advanced to recipients, SSA will require each recipient to submit the SF-272 and, when necessary, its continuation sheet, SF-272a. SSA will use this report to monitor cash advanced to recipients and to obtain disbursement information for each agreement with the recipients.

(ii) SSA may require forecasts of Federal cash requirements in the "Remarks" section of the report.

(iii) When practical and deemed necessary, SSA may require recipients to report in the "Remarks" section the amount of cash advances received in excess of three days. Recipients must provide short narrative explanations of actions taken to reduce the excess balances.

(iv) Recipients are required to submit not more than the original and two copies of the SF-272 15 calendar days following the end of each quarter. SSA may require a monthly report from those recipients receiving advances totaling \$1 million or more per year.