GOVERNMENTWIDE ADMINISTRATIVE STATUTORY AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS FOR U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AWARDS

OVERVIEW

This portion of the Grant Award Notification (GAN) Attachment describes Federal government-wide sources of laws and policies that apply to grantees and subgrantees of Federal awards issued by the U.S. Department of Education (Department). The sources of Federal government-wide laws and policy include the U.S. Constitution, statutes, regulations, executive orders, and statements of policy.

This Attachment compiles many of the laws and policies that apply to awards; however, it is not intended to be an exhaustive list or to reproduce the full text. Some laws and policies are only applicable to awards with certain types of activities or to certain types of recipients. Additionally, Department award terms and conditions may incorporate statutes, regulations, or policies specific to an award.

Please note that some sources use different terms for grantee such as recipient. Per <u>34 CFR Part 77—Definitions that Apply to Department Regulations</u>, the Department uses grantee to mean the legal entity to which a grant is awarded and is accountable to the Federal Government for the use of the funds provided. Subgrantee means the government or other legal entity to which a subgrant is awarded and that is accountable to the grantee for the use of the funds provided.

APPLICABILITY OF LAWS AND POLICIES

The legal order of precedence determines the order in which laws and policies may apply to Federal awards. The following list includes examples of the types of laws and policies, and is not an exhaustive list:

- U.S. Constitution
- Program-Specific Authorizations and Appropriations
- Single Audit Amendments Act of 1996
- Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA)
- Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014 (DATA Act)
- Grant Reporting Efficiency and Agreements Transparency Act of 2019 (GREAT Act)
- Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements: 2 <u>CFR Part 200</u> as adopted as regulations of the Department in 2 <u>CFR 3474</u>.
- Education Department General Administrative Regulations: 34 CFR Parts 75, 76, 77, 79, etc. (Department-specific)
 - o 34 CFR Part 75–Direct Grant Programs
 - o 34 CFR Part 76–State-Administered Formula Grant Programs
 - o 34 CFR Part 77–Definitions that Apply to Department Regulations

¹ The content in this portion of the GAN Attachment consolidates information previously included in GAN Attachments 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16, and Enclosure 4.

- o 34 CFR Part 79–Intergovernmental Review of Department of Education Programs and Activities
- Executive Orders
- Office of Management and Budget Memorandum (OMB Memos)
- Department and Program-specific guidance such as Notices Inviting Applications (NIAs), Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), and other program announcements

The following condition is applicable to all grantees:

Grantees must not use federal funds under this project in any manner that violates the United States Constitution, Title VI or Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq. or 42 U.S.C. § 2000e et seq.), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.), section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. § 794), the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.), Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. § 12131 et seq.), the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act of 2001 (20 U.S.C. § 7905), section 117 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (20 U.S.C. § 1011f), or other applicable federal law. To the extent that a grantee uses grant funds for such unallowable activities, the Department intends to take appropriate enforcement action including under section 451 of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA), which may include the recovery of funds under section 452 of GEPA.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GENERAL CERTIFICATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

All applicants, grantees, and subgrantees of Federal financial assistance are required to register in the System for Award Management (SAM.gov) and obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) before receiving an award per <u>2 CFR Part 25</u>, <u>Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management</u>.

Entities must be registered in SAM.gov before submitting applications, include their UEI in each application, maintain current and active registration in SAM.gov at all times during which it has an active Federal award, and review and update its information in annually as a recipient or an application under consideration by a Federal agency. The applicant or recipient must review and update its information in SAM.gov annually from the date of initial registration or subsequent updates to ensure it is current and accurate.

Grantee authorized organization representatives agree to the Financial Assistance General Certifications and Representations that are binding on every award as part of registration and annual certification in SAM.gov. However, grantees may be exempted by Federal statute or the exceptions listed in 2 CFR Part 25.110, Exemptions to this part.

When applicants register or annually recertify in SAM.gov, your authorized organization representative agreed to the Financial Assistance General Certifications and Representations (Certifications). These are binding on every award. Laws and policies identified in these Certifications are identified in this document with the statement, "See Certifications." The Certifications in SAM.gov can be found in Appendix I of the SAM.gov Entity Registration Checklist and are incorporated by reference herein.

LAWS AND POLICIES

This section outlines various laws and policies that may apply to Department awards (including grantees and subgrantees). It is not intended to be an exhaustive list.

Requirement	Description	Source
Cash Management	Grantees are required to manage Federal grant funds in compliance with the requirements in the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 (PIIA), Cash Management Improvement Act of 1990 (CMIA), and as further clarified in Department and governmentwide regulations.	 Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 (PIIA) Cash Management Improvement Act of 1990 (CMIA)
Conflict of Interest	Federal agencies must establish conflict of interest policies for Federal awards and grantees and subgrantees must disclose in writing any potential conflict of interest to the Federal agency or pass-through entity in accordance with established Federal agency policies.	 2 CFR Part 200.112, Conflict of interest See Certifications
Debt Collection	After providing reasonable notice, Federal agencies or pass-through entities may withhold payments to grantee or subgrantees for financial obligations incurred after a specific date until conditions are corrected or the debt is repaid to the Federal Government.	 OMB Circular A-129, Policies for Federal Credit Programs and Non- Tax Receivables See Certifications
Drug-Free Workplace	Related to maintaining a drug-free workplace and notifying the awarding agency if an employee is convicted of violating a criminal drug law. Failure to follow these requirements may be cause for debarment.	 Drug-Free Workplace Act (41 <u>USC 8101-8106</u>) 2 CFR Part 182, Government-Wide <u>Requirements for Drug-Free</u> <u>Workplace (Financial Assistance)</u> See Certifications
Executive Compensation Reporting	Related to requirements to report certain information on compensation for executives.	 Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) 2 CFR Part 170, Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation Information See Certifications
Environmental Protections – Assess and Mitigate Environmental Impact	The National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) includes policies to conduct reviews to assess and mitigate environmental impact. Applies to construction or major renovation activities. Does not apply to subcontractors.	 National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 USC 4321 et seq) See Certifications

Requirement	Description	Source
Fair Housing Practices	Related to protecting people from discrimination in housing under federally funded programs	 <u>Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of</u> 1968 (42 USC 3601 et seq) See Certifications
Faith-Based Organizations	Related to protections for faith-based organizations to apply and receive Federal funds without discrimination or interference with their mission. Describes limitations on the use of Federal funds.	 Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 (42 USC 2000bb et seq) Executive Order 13279, Equal Protection of the Laws for Faith-Based and Community Organizations Executive Order 13559, Fundamental Principles and Policymaking Criteria for Partnerships with Faith-Based and Other Neighborhood Organizations Executive Order 13831, Establishment of a White House Faith and Opportunity Initiative 28 CFR Part 38, Partnerships with Faith-Based and Other Neighborhood Organizations
Lobbying Disclosures	Related to requirements to disclose lobbying activities.	 <u>Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2</u> <u>USC 1601 et seq</u>, <u>Disclosure of Lobbying Activity</u>) See Certifications
Procurement – American- Manufactured Goods	Related to required preferences for certain products and materials made in the US. Waivers may be possible.	 Buy American Act (41 USC 8301 et seq) Build America, Buy America Act 2 CFR Part 200.322, Domestic preferences for procurements
Procurement – Fly America Act	Related to requirements for travelers to use certified U.S. airlines for award-funded air travel.	• 49 USC 40118 • 41 CFR 301-10.131 - 143
Procurement – Prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment	Related to restrictions on using Federal funds for telecommunications equipment produced by certain companies.	 41 USC 3901 et seq 2 CFR Part 200.216

Requirement	Description	Source
Protections Against Discrimination	Related to protecting people from discrimination based on different criteria under Federal grants and programs.	 Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 USC 6101 et seq) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (29 USC 794) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act (42 USC 2000d) Church Amendments (42 USC 300a-7) Coates-Snowe Amendment (42 USC 238n) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 USC 1681 et seq) See Certifications
Publications and Acknowledgement of Support	Describes requirement for grantees to publicly disclose when Federal funds from the Department are used in documents such as press releases, requests for proposals, and publications.	• <u>34 CFR 75.620(b)</u>
Subaward Reporting	Related to requirements to report certain information on subawards.	 Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) 2 CFR Part 170, Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation Information See Certifications
Suspension and Debarment	Regulations restrict issuing Federal awards, subawards, and contracts to certain parties that are debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from receiving or participating in Federal awards.	 2 CFR Part 180, OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) 2 CFR Part 200.214, Suspension and debarment Executive Orders 12549 and 12689, Debarment and suspension See Certifications
Trafficking Victims Protection	Related to bans providing funds to organizations involved in human trafficking.	 Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended, (22 USC 7104(g)) 2 CFR Part 175, Award Term for Trafficking in Persons See Certifications

Requirement	Description	Source
Violations of Federal Criminal Law and Civil Actions	Related to requirements to disclose certain violations of Federal criminal law.	 False Claims Act (31 USC 3729-3733, False claims and 31 USC 3730, Civil actions for false claims) Program Fraud and Civil Remedies Act (31 USC 3801 et seq) 2 CFR Part 200.113, Mandatory disclosures See Certifications
Wage Protections – Copeland Anti- Kickback Act	Related to protections that require requiring contractors to follow construction, alteration, and renovation and weekly compliance statements on the wages paid to each employee in support of Federal awards.	 Copeland Anti-Kickback Act (18 USC 874 and 40 USC 3145) 48 CFR 22.403, Copeland Act
Wage Protections – Davis-Bacon Act	Related to protections that require using contractors that pay prevailing wages and benefits under awards that fund construction, alterations, or repairs.	• The Davis-Bacon Act (40 USC 3141 et seq)
Whistleblower Protections	Related to protecting employees from reprisal for disclosing information about violations.	 Protection from Reprisal of <u>Disclosure of Certain Information</u> (41 USC 4712) See Certifications

SPECIFIC GRANT TERMS FOR U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AWARDS

OVERVIEW

The U.S. Department of Education (Department) terms within this portion of the Grant Award Notification (GAN) Attachment describe grant terms specific to awards issued by the Department (ED-Specific Terms). ED-Specific Terms are applicable to all awards issued by the Department.²

AUTHORITIES

2 CFR Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards

2 CFR Part 3474, Department of Education, Adoption of 2 CFR Part 200

34 CFR Part 75, Education, Direct Grant Programs

34 CFR Part 76, Education, State-Administered Formula Grants

ED-SPECIFIC TERMS

- I. Specific Grant Terms and Conditions for Financial and Performance Reports
- II. Participation of Faith-Based Organizations
- III. Written Notice of Beneficiary Protections

I. SPECIFIC GRANT TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR FINANCIAL AND PERFORMANCE REPORTS

Financial and performance reports required for grants awarded by the U.S. Department of Education (Department), and described in this term and condition, can be accessed on the <u>Grant Application and Other Forms</u> page of the Department website. Governmentwide reports can be accessed on the <u>Post-Award Reporting Forms</u> page of the Grants.gov website.

PERFORMANCE REPORTS

FINAL REPORTS

ALL RECIPIENTS are required to submit a final performance report within 120 days after the expiration or termination of grant support in accordance with submission instructions provided in box 10 of the Grant Award Notification (GAN), or through another notification provided by the Department (2 CFR Part 200.329(c)).

ANNUAL, QUARTERLY, OR SEMIANNUAL REPORTS

Your education program contact will provide you with information about your performance report submissions, including the due date, as a grant term or condition in box 10 on the GAN, or through another notification provided by the Department. The grant term or condition in box 10 on the GAN, or another notification, may reflect any of the following:

² The content in this portion of the GAN Attachment consolidates information previously included in GAN Attachments 2F, 17F, and 18F.

- 1. That an annual performance report is required, and it shall provide the most current performance and financial expenditure information that is sufficient to meet the reporting requirements in the governmentwide requirements located in 2 CFR Part 200. The terms reflected in this document are also consistent with:
 - <u>2 CFR Part 200.328</u>, Financial reporting;
 - 2 CFR Part 200.329, Monitoring and reporting program performance;
 - 2 CFR Part 200.332, Requirements for pass-through entities;
 - 34 CFR Part 75.720, Education, Direct Grant Programs, Financial and performance reports; and
 - Applicable reporting requirements stipulated in program statutes or regulations.
- 2. That an interim performance report is required because of the nature of the award or because of statutory or regulatory provisions governing the program under which this award is made, and that the report is due more frequently than annually as indicated. For example, more frequent reports may be due quarterly and submitted within 30 days after the end of each quarter, or due semiannually and submitted within 30 days after the end of each 6-month period (2 CFR Part 200.329(c)(1)).
- 3. That other reports are required. For example, program-specific reports may be required in a program's statute, regulation, or specific conditions of the Federal award (2 CFR Part 200.208).

FINANCIAL REPORTS

If a financial report is required, your Department program contact will provide you with information about your financial report submission, including the due date, as a grant term or condition in box 10 on the GAN, or through another notification.

The Department uses the governmentwide Standard Form (SF) 425, also known as the Federal Financial Report (FFR), for final reporting. Governmentwide reports can be accessed on the <u>Post-Award Reporting Forms</u> page on the <u>Grants.gov</u> website.

FINANCIAL REPORT OVERVIEW

A Standard Form (SF) 425 Federal Financial Report (FFR) is required if:

- 1. A grant involves cost sharing, and the ED 524B, which collects cost sharing information, is not submitted or a program-specific report approved by U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) does not collect cost sharing information;
- 2. Program income was earned;
- 3. Indirect cost information is to be reported and the ED 524B was not used or a programspecific report approved by OMB does not collect indirect cost information;
- 4. Program regulations or statute require the submission of the FFR; or
- 5. Specific Award Conditions, or specific grant or subgrant conditions for designation of "high risk," were imposed in accordance with <u>2 CFR Part 200.208</u> and <u>2 CFR Part 3474.10</u> and required the submission of the FFR.

SUBMISSION TIMELINES

If the FFR is required, the notification may indicate one of the following reporting frequencies and timelines:

- 1. Quarterly FFRs are required for reporting periods ending on 12/31, 03/31, 06/30, 09/30 and are due within 30 days after each reporting period.
- 2. Semi-annual FFRs are required for reporting periods ending on 03/31 and 09/30 and are due within 30 days after each reporting period.
- 3. Annual FFRs are required for the reporting period ending 09/30 and is due within 30 days after the reporting period.
- 4. Final In coordination with the submission of a final performance reports, grantees must submit FFRs no later than 120 calendar days after the conclusion of the period of performance. A subgrantee must submit a final financial report to a pass-through entity no later than 90 calendar days after the conclusion of the period of performance (2 CFR Part 200.328).

SUBMISSION GUIDANCE

When completing an FFR for submission in accordance with the above referenced selection, the following must be noted:

- 1. Multiple Grant Reporting Using SF 425A Not Required:
 - While the FFR is a governmentwide form that is designed for single grant and multiple grant award reporting, the Department's policy is that multiple grant award reporting is not permitted for Department grants.
 - Grantees are instructed to not use the FFR attachment (SF 425A), which is available for reporting multiple grants, for reporting on Department grants.

2. Completing an SF 425 for Each Grant

- Department grantees are required to submit an FFR in accordance with any of the above referenced selections.
- Grantees must complete and submit one FFR for each of its grants.
- FFR Form, Field 2: Grantees are instructed to disregard the note about using the SF 425A to report multiple grants.
- FFR Instructions, Report Submissions: With regards to item 1 of the note found in the FFR Instructions, a grantee must complete items 10(a) through 10(o) for each of its grants. The multiple grants and FFR attachment references found in item 2 of the Line Item Instructions for the FFR is not applicable to Department grants.

3. Program Income

- Unless disallowed by statute or regulation, a grantee will complete item 10(m) or 10(n) in accordance with the options or combination of options as provided in 2 CFR Part 200.307.
- A grantee is permitted, in accordance with <u>2 CFR Part 200.307</u>, to add program income to its Federal share to further eligible project or program objectives, use program income to finance the non-Federal share of the project or program; and deduct program income from the Federal share of the total project costs.

4. Indirect Costs

- A grantee will complete item 11(a) by listing the indirect cost rate type identified on its indirect cost rate agreement, as approved by its cognizant agency for indirect costs.
- A Department grantee that does not have an indirect cost rate agreement approved by its cognizant agency for indirect costs, and that is using the Department approved (beyond the 90-day temporary period) temporary indirect cost rate of 10% of budgeted direct salaries and wages, or the de minimis rate of 15% of modified total direct cost (MTDC) must list its indirect cost rate in 11(a) as a Department Temporary Rate or De Minimis Rate.
 - The de minimis rate of 15% of MTDC consists of: All direct salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and subawards and contracts up to the first \$50,000 of each subaward.
 - o MTDC excludes equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships and fellowships, participant support costs and the portion of each subaward in excess of \$50,000.
 - Other items, including contract costs in excess of \$50,000, may be excluded when necessary to avoid a serious inequity in the distribution of indirect costs (2 CFR Part 200.1, Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC)).
- A training program grantee whose recovery of indirect cost limits indirect cost recovery to 8% of MTDC or the grantees negotiated indirect cost rate, whichever is less in accordance with 34 CFR Part 75.562 (c), must list its rate in 11(a) as a Department Training Grant Rate. The 8% limit does not apply to agencies of Indian tribal governments, local governments, and States³ as defined in 2 CFR Part 200.1.
- A restricted program grantee must list its rate as a Restricted Indirect Cost Rate in 11(a).
 - A restricted program (i.e., programs with statutory supplement-not-supplant requirements) grantee must utilize a restricted indirect cost rate negotiated with its cognizant agency for indirect costs, or may elect to utilize a restricted indirect cost rate of 8% MTDC if their negotiated restricted indirect cost rate calculated under 34 CFR Part 75.563 and 2 CFR Part 76.564 76.569, is not less than 8% MTDC.
 - A State or local government⁴ that is a restricted program grantee may not elect to utilize the 8% MTDC rate.
 - Additionally, restricted program grantees may not utilize the de minimis rate but may utilize the temporary rate until a restricted indirect cost rate is negotiated.
 - o If a restricted program grantee elects to utilize the temporary rate, it must list its rate as a Department Temporary Rate in 11(a).
- Grantees with indirect cost rates prescribed in program statute or regulation must list their rate as a Rate Required in Program Statute or Regulation in 11(a).
- Grantees are required to follow program-specific statutory or regulatory requirements that mandate either indirect cost rate type or maximum administrative costs recovery.
- For detailed information including restrictions related to temporary, de minimis,

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³ Note that a State-funded institution of higher education is not considered a "State government" for these purposes; and a Tribal college or university funded by a federally-recognized Tribe is not considered a Tribe for these purposes.

⁴ Note that a State-funded institution of higher education is not considered a "State government" for these purposes.

training, restricted, and program prescribed indirect cost rates see the <u>Indirect Cost</u> <u>Determination Guidance for State and Local Government Agencies Questions and Answers on the Department website.</u>

5. Supplemental Pages

- If grantees need additional space to report financial information, beyond what is available within the FFR, they should provide supplemental pages.
- Additional pages must indicate the following information at the top of each page:
 - o PR/Award Number (also known as the Federal Identifying Number or FAIN),
 - o Recipient organization,
 - o Unique Entity Identifier (UEI),
 - o Employer Identification Number (EIN), and
 - o Period covered by the report.

II. PARTICIPATION IN FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

- 1. A faith-based organization that participates in this program retains its independence from the Government and may continue to carry out its mission consistent with religious freedom and conscience protections in Federal law.
- 2. A faith-based organization may not use direct Federal financial assistance from the Department to support or engage in any explicitly religious activities except when consistent with the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment and any other applicable requirements. Such an organization also may not, in providing services funded by the Department, or in outreach activities related to such services, discriminate against a program beneficiary or prospective program beneficiary on the basis of religion, a religious belief, a refusal to hold a religious belief, or a refusal to attend or participate in a religious practice.
- 3. If a grantee under a State-Administered Formula Grant program of the Department has the authority under the grant or subgrant to select a private organization to provide services supported by direct Federal financial assistance under the program by subgrant, contract, or other agreement, the grantee must ensure compliance with applicable Federal requirements governing contracts, grants, and other agreements with faith-based organizations, including, as applicable, the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), 34 CFR Parts 76.52 and 76.532 and 2 CFR Part 3474.15 (see EDGAR, 34 CFR Part 76.714).

III. WRITTEN NOTICE OF BENFICIARY PROTECTIONS

In accordance with the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), <u>34</u> <u>CFR Part 76.712</u>, all grantees and subgrantees providing social services under a Department program supported by direct Federal financial assistance (e.g., programs that provide employment, independent living, education, or related services to individuals or groups of individuals) must give written notice to a beneficiary or prospective beneficiary of certain protections.

The written notice that an organization uses to notify beneficiaries or prospective beneficiaries of certain religious non-discrimination protections must include language substantially similar to that in Appendix C to 34 CFR Part 75 (See EDGAR, 34 CFR Part 76.712(d)). Grantees and

subgrantees have discretion regarding how to provide the notice, which may include providing the notice directly to each beneficiary, posting it on the grantee's website, or other means. A grantee or subgrantee that participates in multiple Department programs may provide a single notice covering all applicable programs. Additionally, grantees must ensure that the notice is accessible to individuals with disabilities and limited English proficient individuals as required by law. Unless notified by the applicable program office, a grantee or subgrantee is not required to include in the notice the information in paragraph (5) of Appendix C to 34 CFR Part 75 (i.e., the opportunity of a beneficiary to receive information about other similar providers).

Appendix C to 34 CFR Part 75

Name of Organization:

Name of Program:

Contact Information for Program Staff: [provide name, phone number, and email address, if appropriate]

Because this program is supported in whole or in part by financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Education, we are required to provide you the following information:

- (1) We may not discriminate against you on the basis of religion, a religious belief, a refusal to hold a religious belief, or a refusal to attend or participate in a religious practice.
- (2) We may not require you to attend or participate in any explicitly religious activities (including activities that involve overt religious content such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization) that may be offered by our organization, and any participation by you in such activities must be purely voluntary.
- (3) We must separate in time or location any privately funded explicitly religious activities (including activities that involve overt religious content such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization) from activities supported with direct Federal financial assistance.
- (4) You may report violations of these protection, including any denials of services or benefits by an organization, by filing a written complaint with the U.S. Department of Education at BeneficiaryNoticeComplaints@ed.gov.

[When required by the Department, the notice must also state:] (5) If you would like information about whether there are any other federally funded organizations that provide the services available under this program in your area, please contact the awarding agency.

This written notice must be given to you before you enroll in the program or receive services from the program, unless the nature of the service provided, or exigent circumstances make it impracticable to provide such notice before we provide the actual service. In such an instance, this notice must be given to you at the earliest available opportunity.