



Guide Sheet

Program Income

Grant Financial Management Requirement

Unless specified in the agency's regulations, program income treatment is usually handled in the grant agreement terms and conditions. Per [2CFR200.80](#), program income means, "gross income earned by the non-Federal entity that is directly generated by a supported activity or earned as a result of the Federal award during the period of performance except as provided in § 200.307 paragraph (f)."

Paragraph (f) states, "There are no Federal requirements governing the disposition of income earned after the end of the period of performance for the Federal award, unless the Federal awarding agency regulations or the terms and conditions of the Federal award provide otherwise. The Federal awarding agency may negotiate agreements with recipients regarding appropriate uses of income earned **after the period of performance** as part of the grant closeout process."

Important Information to Know

Information on what is and is not considered program income can be found in [2CFR200.80](#), as well as individual agency guidelines. Program income may include:

- ▶ Fees for services performed during the period of performance.
- ▶ Use or rental of real or personal property acquired under federal awards.
- ▶ License fees and royalties on patents and copyrights.
- ▶ Sale of commodities or items fabricated under a federal award (e.g., publications).
- ▶ Payments of principal and interest on loans made with federal awards.

Per [2CFR200.80](#), program income may not be interest earned on advances of federal funds, and program income does not include rebates, credits, discounts, and interest earned on any of them, unless specific agency regulations or the grant agreement indicates otherwise.

Generally, taxes, special assessments, levies, fines, and other such revenues are not program income, unless they are specifically defined in the grant agreement or agency regulations. These types of income are frequently mentioned in agency guidelines, so grantees and subrecipients should be careful that these revenue sources are properly reported and applied.

Two Additional Notes

1. If authorized by agency regulations or grant agreement terms and conditions, costs incidental to generating program income may be deducted from gross income to determine program income, provided these costs have not been charged to the grant.
2. Grantees generally do not have any obligation to the federal government regarding program income earned after the end of the project period, as indicated in paragraph (f) of [2CFR200.80](#), cited above.



How This Applies to Your Grant

There are three ways in which program income can be applied: deduction, addition, and cost sharing or matching. These three methods for applying program income are further explained below.

Per the [DOJ Grant Financial Guide](#): “Depending on guidance provided by the DOJ grant-making component, award recipients can either use program income to advance program objectives [Method 2: Addition] or refund program income to the awarding agency [Method 1: Deduction].”

Most types of recipients, absent more specific guidance from the DOJ grant-making component, must use program income to offset total allowable costs, and reduce the Federal award and non-Federal entity contributions (i.e., the deduction method).

Institutions of Higher Education (IHE) and non-profit research institutions, absent more specific guidance, may use program income to add to the total allowable costs for the project (i.e., the addition method).

Method 1: Deduction

The default method for how grantees apply program income is deduction—deducting the income from the grant’s total allowable costs. In the example shown below, in figure 1, if \$80,000 for a cost was designated to the federal share of grant funds and \$20,000 to the grantee’s share of grant funds, the total project cost would be \$100,000. If the grantee earned \$10,000 of income related to that funded program, \$8,000 would be returned to the awarding agency, while \$2,000 goes to the grantee.

Figure 1.
Deduction of Program Income



Method 2: Addition

A second method for handling program income is addition—meaning that program income can be added to the federal award. Other nonfederal entities may use the additive method with prior approval from the federal awarding agency. Similar to the project in figure 1, the project in figure 2 is funded 80% by the federal share and 20% by the grantee share and the total project cost is \$100,000. In this case, though, when the grantee is using the addition method of handling program income, the \$10,000 of program income is added to the \$100,000 of initial project funding, so that now \$110,000 is available for the project.

Figure 2.
Addition of Program Income



Method 3: Cost Sharing or Matching

A third method for handling program income is to apply it to meet the nonfederal cost sharing or matching requirement of the grant. This alternative can be used if allowed by the agency regulations and specific grant agreement. Again, as in figures 1 and 2, the project is jointly funded by the federal awarding agency at \$80,000 and the grantee at \$20,000. With a cost sharing or matching approach, the income earned of \$10,000 reduces the grantee share from \$20,000 to \$10,000.

Figure 3.
Cost Sharing or Matching With Program Income





Resources

[2 CFR 200.307 Program Income](#)

[2 CFR 200.80 Program Income](#)

Management Concepts. (2021.) *Introduction to Grants and Cooperative Agreements for Federal Personnel*.

<https://www.managementconcepts.com/course/id/2040>

DOJ. (2024.) *DOJ Grants Financial Guide*.

<https://www.ojp.gov/funding/financialguidedoj/overview>

This product was prepared under contract/call order number GS-00F-010CA/15PCFD23F00000002 awarded by the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice and does not constitute financial or other professional advice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions expressed in this product are those of OJP FMSC and do not represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.



The **Office of Justice Programs Financial Management and Support Center (OJP FMSC)** is composed of the **Tribal Financial Management Center (TFMC)** and the **Territories Financial Support Center (TFSC)**. Together they provide high-quality training and support to increase the financial management capacity for OJP grantees operating from American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities and in the U.S. territories.

ojp.gov/fmsc

ojp.fmsc@usdoj.gov