



SAINT LOUIS MHB

JUNE 9, 2020 FUNDED PARTNER WEBINAR

Questions and Answers

Q: How should we represent the expenditures with FY20 underspent funds? FY21 budget template?

A: You are being allowed to retain that 30% in FY20. As it is a part of your FY20 budget, we don't expect you to include that in your FY21 budget because FY21 is separate, unique and distinct fiscal year. The FY20 retention would be reflected on your Q4 stewardship report but does not need to be included in FY21.

Q: Should we treat funding retained as part of the 30% threshold as carryover that must be spent within the funded program or does it become unrestricted?

A: What we shared with you in writing on May 22 is that if you can use underspent FY20 funds for your MHB-funded project, please do so. That is MHB's first preference, but we are giving you the flexibility to use it for general operating expense at your discretion.

Q: If you received a COVID grant this spring, how does it affect the percentage you are allowed to retain of underspending?

A: The FY20 funding and the COVID-19 One-Time Response Fund grants are mutually exclusive and have nothing to do with each other. Only the FY20 funding is impacted by the retention. COVID-19 One-Time Response Funds do not impact the FY20 retention at all.

Q: To follow up, should we report on the COVID grant as part of the 4th quarter expenditures?

A: They are mutually exclusive. The COVID-19 One-Time Response Funding final grantee report link was sent May 28 with instructions to complete the report by July 10, 2020 at 4:30 pm., as well. We would like to be able to report back to the Trustees what the impact of the COVID-19 One-Time Response Funding was for our community, so it is important that we receive a report from all COVID-19 One-Time Response Fund grantees. If you are not in possession of this link, please email your project director and we will make sure you have the link. For the COVID-19 funding, MHB would like you to report on how much you have expended by June 30. But again, this is separate from the regular FY20 Q4 stewardship report.

Q: If we want to make changes to our funded activities for FY 21 when should those be shared with MHB?

A: We do assume that, given the pandemic, our funded partners' service delivery may not be the same as what it was earlier in the year, and we recognize it may still evolve as the pandemic evolves. MHB is trying to stay flexible and buy some time to see what happens if there are additional spikes or stay-at-home orders. We recognize this leaves all of us in a space of uncertainty and MHB will provide additional guidance later, but we want to wait a while to see what happens so that we all don't have to keep making shifts. If you have additional questions or you have not yet requested a waiver but need to, please reach out to your Project Director. We ask you to partner with us and sit with us in this uncertainty, understanding that the more changes we make, the more changes we may have to redo or remake. We want to maintain as much flexibility as possible for you, our funded partners.

Q: Does the implementation of the 30% retention threshold impact the previous MHB guidance on utilization of SBA PPP loan funds for personnel expenses? (i.e. MHB funds MUST be expended first?)

A: The difficulty in answering this very specifically is that the regulations and the guidance around the PPP funds seem to be changing. It is different depending on what round of funding you received or what type of organization you are. Our intent in providing the initial guidance was to allow as much flexibility as possible for our funded partners. By indicating that MHB funds should be used if possible to support MHB-funded positions, we anticipated that if you received the PPP loan, you could use that for other staff who aren't covered by MHB funding. We may have to entertain these specific questions on a case-by-case basis given the complexity of these situations, and we don't want to give you guidance that is counter to what the government is saying. Bottom line, we want you to know that our funding is available to flexibly support your program. Please contact your Project Director for a more detailed discussion.

Q: Will we have site visits?

A: MHB will be doing some kind of site visit. When we do it--and what it might look like--has yet to be determined. We ask for your patience and for you to live in the ambiguity with us. It's possible we may do these after the Q2 reporting and incorporate the site visit as part of the renewal process. We recognize that the site visits are typically a chance for MHB staff to come meet with your staff at your sites and interact with your staff in a different way, and this is valuable to all of us. But given the unknowns still due to the pandemic, we need to wait and see what happens later in the year, whether there are additional shutdowns or shelter-in-place orders, for example. We will figure out the safest, best way to schedule our site visits with you and will communicate this information to you as soon as we are able.

Q: What are the mechanics of actually requesting the retention?

A: You don't need to do anything to request FY20 budget retention. Submit your actual expenses as of Q4 via your stewardship report on or before July 10, 2020 at 4:30 pm. Upon receipt, MHB will review your stewardship and determine whether there will be any adjustments for your FY21 disbursements. As discussed in the presentation, a reduction in your FY21 disbursements will only occur if your FY20 underspent amount is over 30%, and in that case only the percentage over 30% will reduce your FY21 disbursements.