

Office of the Commissioner
State of Louisiana
Division of Administration

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



JAY DARDENNE
COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Department Secretaries and Undersecretaries

FROM: Jay Dardenne
Commissioner of Administration

DATE: March 9, 2016

SUBJECT: State of Emergency – Severe Weather – Proclamation No. 30 JBE 2016– Procedures for Coding of Expenditures, Emergency Procurement, Overtime Reimbursement, etc.

With imminent threat of severe weather, it is critical to review the required maintenance of emergency-related records and documentation and the required policies and procedures as a result of this event. Please communicate this guidance to your management and staff immediately.

EMERGENCY PROCUREMENT

Emergency procurement and contract procedures can be found in the Division of Administration's emergency procurement guide, which is available on the Office of State Procurement website (www.doa.louisiana.gov/osp/agencycenter/emergencyprocurement.pdf), as well as in any executive orders that may be issued by Governor John Bel Edwards.

Any such emergency procurements and/or contracts should emphasize the following:

- Competition, where practical;
- Results-oriented contracts;
- Documentation for audit and reimbursement purposes; and
- Reporting on emergency procurements as soon as practical.

Agencies are encouraged to have employees verify their contact information and to make updates through LEO or their Employee Administration Office. If employees relocate to a temporary address, the mailing address (not permanent residence address) should be changed in LaGov HCM.

OVERTIME

Department and agency heads should review their overtime policies. All such policies should comply with Civil Service Rules, and the FLSA. Departments should have an overtime policy in place guiding the earning and compensation of overtime. Also, departments should have adopted a policy on “Overtime Compensation for Emergency Support Workers” that may supersede their department policy regarding workers who perform duties relative to disaster operations and management.

CODING OF EXPENDITURES AND TRACKING LOST REVENUES

It is critically important that all agencies accurately capture and maintain all records and documentation related to expenditures incurred due to flooding in order for the State of Louisiana to successfully request and receive full reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and/or other third party.

Agencies should not, at this time, be concerned with what may or may not qualify for reimbursement; rather, any and all costs related to the disaster relief and recovery efforts should be reported to the **“TR01” activity code**. Full and complete documentation and justification of all expenditures will be critical to securing reimbursement. In addition to the impact on expenditure budgets, there will also be revenue impacts related to the flooding – decreases to self-generated revenues, lost revenue streams, “savings” due to office closures, etc.

Expenditures

A new “Activity Code” has been established in ISIS to track expenditures related to the Severe Weather Event. **If your agency incurs any expenditures related to this event, you must enter “TR01” activity code in the ACTV field or WBS element of any ISIS or LaGov document or the ISIS payment document (PV, PVQ, P1, MW, reclassification of P3, etc.).** If you have already incurred expenditures related to the event that are not coded to this activity code, please prepare a journal voucher to include this activity code so that costs can be captured in an activity report for all state agencies. This procedure is being implemented to track all Severe Weather related expenditures for the State to be used in future decisions. Invoices for these expenditures should be clearly marked ‘Related to the Severe Weather Event’ and, if necessary, should have a brief explanation of why it was necessary to incur the expenditure. It is imperative that these expenditures be properly documented so we can provide substantiations during audit.

Agencies that do NOT utilize the State’s Advantage Financial System (AFS) must develop their own mechanism to capture the flood related expenditures and report this information, upon request, to the Division of Administration (DOA).

Lost Revenues

If your agency has incurred a loss of revenues as a result of Severe Weather Event, you must begin tracking this loss. Estimating will be acceptable and can be accomplished by using the last two years average revenue received during the same period (week/month) last year versus this year. This comparison should be made on a spreadsheet with a line for each type (source) of revenue. It should begin with the last period that had “normal” revenues and then continue with subsequent periods.

Payroll Costs

- WBS Element (formerly referred to as Activity Code): For LaGov HCM Paid Agencies, the newly created WBS Element “TR01” should be utilized if the employee’s applicable regular hours worked and/or applicable overtime hours worked are related to activity associated with this Severe Weather event. Note: LaGov Financial Agencies (DEQ, DNR, WLF, CPRA, and DOTD) should follow the instructions received directly from the LaGov Financial team.
- Regular Hours Worked:
 - FEMA may reimburse straight time force account labor costs for State employees performing emergency protective measures, if such work is not typically performed by those employees. Force account labor is defined as labor performed by the applicant's employees, rather than by a contractor. Force account labor costs associated with the conduct of eligible work may be claimed at an hourly rate. Labor rates include actual wages paid plus fringe benefits paid or credited to personnel.
 - LaGov HCM Paid Agency Timekeepers should code ZA01 (regular attendance) hours and WBS Element “TR01” for regular hours worked which meet the above definition. Refer to LaGov HCM Help for assistance in entering this data. Note: Agencies should use their discretion in determining which regular hours may qualify for reimbursement.
- Overtime Hours Worked:
 - LaGov HCM Paid Agency Timekeepers must code all overtime hours worked related to activity associated with this Severe Weather event to WBS Element “TR01”. Refer to LaGov HCM Help for assistance in entering this data.
- Office Closure – If an Office Closure Occurs: Costs incurred for employees who are being compensated during office closures due to this Severe Weather event **must be identified**. For LaGov HCM Paid Agencies, Special Leave Office Closure code “LSOC” must be entered in order to track these payments. The Division of Administration will execute reports to determine this cost. Agencies are NOT to enter the WBS Element “TR01” on these LSOC entries.
- If retroactive adjustments are necessary, they must be processed through LaGov HCM, not via ISIS journal vouchers.
- **Agencies not paid through LaGov HCM** must develop a mechanism for tracking this information and reporting to the Division of Administration upon request.

Department and agency heads should disseminate this and all future communications from the Division of Administration to all business and administrative functional units (i.e., human resources, payroll, budget, accounting, etc.) within their agencies.

Thank you for your cooperation. Do not hesitate to contact my office if you have any questions or need further information.