

Wabash Center Grant Reporting Guidelines

Interim and Final Reports

Project Grants

All grants require a final report that reviews and analyzes the things learned in the course of the grant project and that accounts for the funds spent. Reports are due 90 days after the close of the grant period. If grant projects exceed 12 months, interim reports may be required. Consult your grant contract for deadlines specific to your grant. *Please notify the Wabash Center 30 days in advance if you are not going to meet the reporting deadlines listed on the contract.*

Interim Grant Reports (if required): need to give a narrative and financial accounting of the activities for the time period covered by the report. To the extent that they apply, Interim reports should follow the same guidelines for reporting below.

Budget Revision Request: If there are expenditures that vary from the budget, a Revised Budget Request should be submitted. This request can be submitted at any time during the grant, but completing a budget assessment as part of the interim grant report is encouraged. A budget revision request to move funds from one line to another line should include a budget form and a letter requesting the revision. Please use the format of the examples outlined in following pages.

Final Grant Reports are considered by the Wabash Center to be internal documents. A conference paper or article, which is written to disseminate the findings of the grant to one's colleagues or a professional group, is not considered an evaluative report of the grant project.

Interim and Final reports have the following parts:

1. **Narrative Report** that is written by the grant's project director. This report interrogates the goals, activities, and outcomes of the project to see what was learned during the course of the project.
2. **Official Financial Report** that is prepared by the institution's financial officer. It accounts in detail for the expenditure of the grant funds.
3. **Learning Abstract (final report only)** that summarizes the grant project. This abstract will be posted to the Wabash Center website.

When writing the final narrative report, we understand that no project proceeds entirely as planned. Some strategies work better than hoped, others do not. But an honest assessment of what worked and what did not is generally useful for future work. Put your project into a larger context of reflection and interrogate its assumptions and method. How did your strategies and design work? What might you or others do differently in the future? What do you see now about your problem or question that would press you to do things differently?

NARRATIVE REPORTS

We are interested in knowing what you did, what you learned, what questions were answered and what ones were not, and what follow-up work you plan to do. Interim reports should be approximately 5 pages in length and Final reports approximately 12 pages.

- **Presenting Question and Goals** – Briefly summarize your presenting question or problem for the grant project. What motivated you to take on this work? What was at stake? What were your goals for the project? What were your hopes for its outcome?

- **Project Activities** – Indicate what activities were undertaken and/or accomplished in this reporting period. How did these activities advance specific project goals? How realistic were your timeline and expectations? What adjustments did you make to the design or activities?
- **Internal Evaluation** – Describe the processes that you used for evaluating the success of the grant. What did these processes tell you? What feedback did you receive? What did the grant project accomplish? What did you learn as you carried out the work?
- **Reflection** – Reflect on whether your goals and hopes were accomplished. Why or why not? What have you learned about the presenting question or problem that motivated you to do the project? Has your initial understanding of the problem changed? What has the grant helped you learn about your institution or teaching context?
- **Next Steps** – What are the challenges that you see ahead? Sketch out the next steps for you or your institution in relation to your project (either for the coming reporting period or for continuing the work of the grant once it is done). What steps are you taking to sustain this effort when the grant ends?
- **Dissemination** – How are the findings being disseminated? Are there any grant products to share at this time? What are your plans in presenting what you learned to professional colleagues?

FINANCIAL REPORTS

The financial report accounts in detail for the expenditures of the grant funds. The project director and the institutional financial person should be working closely to track expenses and to report accurate information to the Wabash Center in a timely manner.

The financial report must be prepared and signed by the financial officer of your institution. It may be sent as a hard copy or from the financial person's email account to the Stacie Cordell, cordells@wabash.edu.

- Review the budget that was approved by the Wabash Center.
- List each line item and the amount that was approved. Report the totals for each line item for the current reporting period, the total for each line for the cumulative grant period, and what the balance is per line.
- Explain any variation of \$500 or more per line item with written comments.
- If it looks like you will have funds left at the end of your project, you are required by the contract to return those funds to the Wabash Center with the final Financial Report. If you have ideas for the excess funds that are congruent with the original grant goals, contact the Wabash Center for approval prior to the end of the grant period. This requires the submission of a Budget Revision Request.

LEARNING ABSTRACT (FINAL REPORT ONLY)

In less than 150 words, summarize what you learned from the project's activities and conversations. What might your project contribute to the conversation on teaching and learning? This will be posted on our website with your Proposal Abstract for others to read.

GRANT PRODUCTS

Knowing about any products that may be generated as a result of your grant is of critical importance to us. The Wabash Center would like to receive copies of any grant products (4 copies of books, DVD's, audio and video tapes, and 2 copies of articles and/or published documents) as well as information about websites, data collections and bibliographies that are produced as part of the work of the grant.

FINANCIAL REPORT FORM

Name of Grantee
 Grant # WC 0000 000
 (Specify reporting Period)

<u>Budget Categories</u>	Total Grant Budget	-----Expenditures----- For Period Grant <u> (dates) </u> <u>Cumulative</u>		<u>Grant Balance</u>
(Please list items from approved grant budget.)	\$	\$	\$	\$
TOTALS	<u> </u> <u> </u> \$	<u> </u> <u> </u> \$	<u> </u> <u> </u> \$	<u> </u> <u> </u> \$

Cash Summary

Total Grant Payments Received	\$
Cumulative Grant Expenses (per above)	()
Cash Balance	<u> </u> \$

 Project Director's Signature

 Finance: V.P./Controller's Signature

Note: Please include any additional information you feel is helpful to the Wabash Center in reviewing this report.

Sample Budget Revision Request

Here is a sample Budget Revision Request. "Increases" must equal "Decreases." In addition, the Total Approved Grant Budget should equal the total revised budget.

LEGAL NAME OF INSTITUTION
Budget Revision Request
Grant Number
Budget Revision as of (Specify Date)

	Total Grant Budget	Revisions Increases (+)	Decreases (-)	Total Revised Budget
Personnel				
Research Assistant	28,813		9,403	19,410
Fringe Benefits	2,881		940	1,941
	31,694		10,343	21,351
Administrative Costs				
Supplies	1,625	1,000		2,625
Printing	820	500		1,320
Telephone	1,663	655		2,318
Seminar materials	2,522	1,488		4,010
	6,630	3,643		10,273
Equipment				
Computer Hardware	2,500	5,000		7,500
Travel				
Airfare	13,685	1,000		14,685
Meals	825			825
Lodging	1,650	500		2,150
	16,160	1,500		17,660
Consultants				
Fees	10,571			10,571
Travel	1,845			1,845
Expenses	600	200		800
	13,016	200		13,216
Total	70,000	10,343	10,343	70,000

 (Name) date
 Project Director

 (Name) date
 Finance/VP/Controller

Approved: _____
 Nancy Lynne Westfield
 Wabash Center Director date

Sample Letter Requesting Grant Budget Revision

The grant agreement includes provisions for budget changes, some of which require advance approval from the Wabash Center. Advance approval is required on any changes over \$500 or 10% of individual line item amounts. (See Grant Agreement Article II, General Conditions, #5 on page 2.)

RE: Grant No. WC 1234 567

Dear Dr. Nancy Lynne Westfield:

Now that we are several months into the project that is being supported by the above referenced Wabash Center grant, it is becoming apparent that the budget, as approved by the Wabash Center, needs some slight adjustments in order to meet some of the emerging modifications in our work. I have enclosed a formal request for budget revision and wish now to explain our rationale for requesting these adjustments.

As the proposal stated, it has been necessary to engage the services of a "Research Assistant" to provide some of the back-up assistance for this project. However, we have now found that less of this person's time is required than was originally envisioned. Meanwhile, several unforeseen expenses have emerged that were not anticipated when the proposal was submitted. The funds realized by reduction in the Research Assistant's time will cover these new expenses.

As you will see from our formal request, we are asking that \$10,343 be deducted from the *Research Assistant budget line* and an equal amount reallocated for other purposes. The most expensive need is for an *additional laptop computer for the project and we are requesting an additional \$5,000 for that purpose*. In addition, we have found that we under-budgeted *various supplies and other administrative costs during the course of the project*. Finally, *recent increases in airfares* have led us to believe that we will need to allocate more funds both *for project travel costs and for consultant expenses*. All of these adjustments are listed on the enclosed "request for budget revision."

Thank you for your kind attention to this request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

PROJECT DIRECTOR