

For: State and County Offices

Announcing Upcoming Accounting Releases

Approved by: Acting Associate Administrator for Operations and Management



1 Overview

A Background

The first release of the Financial Management Modernization Initiative - Readiness (FMMI-R) was accomplished December 2008. FMMI-R Release I retired the payment related accounting applications resident on System 36 and deployed financial web applications in support of those functions.

FMMI-R Release II will retire the remaining accounting functionality (i.e. cash receipts, receivables, and claims) off System 36 by implementing the National Receipts and Receivables System (NRRS) web application and upgrading functionality within the other financial web applications. Deployment strategy for Release II provides:

- minimal disruption to FSA’s program delivery
- the ability to accommodate a staggered Field Office installation.

Conversion of data and the installation efforts to move components onto the production server will begin September 11, 2009, and require that all financial web applications be taken off-line at 3 p.m. c.t. and resume nationwide use on September 14, 2009.

B Purpose

This notice provides a brief description of the changes taking place, timing of events, and actions required from Field Offices to complete the installation of FMMI-R Release II.

Note: Forthcoming FI notices will provide detailed instructions related to the various financial activities.

Disposal Date	Distribution
December 1, 2009	StateOffices; State Offices relay to County Offices

Notice FI-2913

1 Overview

C Contact

State Offices with questions about this notice shall contact either of the following:

- Christine Claussen, FMD, KC by:
 - e-mail at **christine.claussen@kcc.usda.gov**
 - telephone at 816-926-1949
- Debbie Simmons, FMD, WDC by:
 - e-mail at **debbie.simmons@wdc.usda.gov**
 - telephone at 703-305-1309.

2 Existing Financial Web Applications Related Release II Changes

A Upgrade to National Payment Service (NPS)

NPS will be enhanced to:

- validate funds availability with electronic Funds Management System (eFMS) for Obligated and Accrue/Pay programs at the time of payment request
- interface immediately with NRRS to determine if debt is due and apply any offsets
- warehouse payment requests with issue dates in the future
- calculate prompt payment interest through the actual disbursement date.

Note: NPS will no longer route overpayments or offsets back to System 36.

B Upgrade to Financial Services (FS)

The ability to establish assignments, joint payments, and direct deposit elections will be enhanced to support a nationwide recognition of customers. FS will continue to support establishing entries at the location service center and will gain the flexibility to apply assignments, joint payments, or direct deposits regardless of the county from which a payment is received.

C Enhancements to the Financial Web Application Data Mart (FWDAM)

New reports have been developed and will be released to coincide with the upgrades to the current web applications and to support the new NRRS web application.

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2 Existing Financial Web Applications Related Release II Changes (Continued)

D NRRS

NRRS is a web-based application that will provide updated automation for FSA to service and account for its receivables and collections. NRRS will replace the following systems in the management, servicing, and accounting for receivables throughout FSA:

- Automated Claims System
- Common Receivables System
- Cash Receipts System.

Note: Data from the legacy systems will be migrated to NRRS.

3 Timing and Actions Needed for Deployment of FMMI-R Release II

A County Release Installations

The following 3 county releases are needed for deployment of FMMI-R Release II:

- County Release No. 673:
 - was sent by regular mail on August 12, 2009
 - should have been installed as soon as received
- County Release No. 674:
 - allows purges to be performed before County Release No. 675 is installed
 - should be installed as soon as received
- County Release No. 675:
 - Requires that County offices perform a recent purge for the Cash Receipts, Common Receivable System, and also for the Automated Claims System **before** installation

Note: Completing these purges before installation of County Release No. 675 is strongly recommended because doing so allows County Offices to:

- avoid installation interruptions
 - resolve any file issues.
- **cannot** be installed until the purges have been successfully accomplished

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3 Timing and Actions Needed for Deployment of FMMI-R, Release II (Continued)

A County Release Installations (Continued)

- removes Start-of-Day (SOD) processing for the first demand letter and transfer of claim, which runs weekly on Wednesdays; however, the menu options to perform these functions are still available
- removes End-of- Day (EOD) processing for the 60-Day Receivable Report and the Transfer of Claims Tickler Report; however, the menu options to perform these functions are still available
- will be sent by FedEx Overnight Priority on **September 8, 2009**
- shall be installed as soon as received.

The following conditions will prevent the installation of County Release No. 675:

- Cash Receipts, Automated Claims, or Common Receivables History Files not purged
- any pending NPS offsets or NPS overpayment receivables not processed
- an unprepared cash schedule of deposits
- an out-of-balance schedule of deposit.

Once County Release No. 675 is installed, recording County Office FSA and FLP collection activities will be disabled beginning **September 8, 2009** and for the remainder of the week.

If a collection is received during the disabled time, manually prepare CCC-257 to send the payment to the local depository or lockbox and record the collection once NRRS is available.

Beginning **September 8, 2009**, the replication of NPS overpayments and offsets will be migrated and data loaded into NRRS. This will not prevent counties from performing an overpayment or offset; it will only delay the ability to finish processing those events during the week of September 8.

Note: FLP payment activity will not be locked-out at any point.

With County Office Release 675, the AE1, AM3, and AU2 accounting transmission files will be removed from the unattended queue in EOD processing.

B Web Applications

The associated web applications and services will begin migration to production servers at 3 p.m. c.t. on **September 11, 2009**.

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3 Timing and Actions Needed for Deployment of FMFI-R Release II (Continued)

C Financial Activity

All Farm Program financial activity will be locked on **September 11, 2009**, at 3 p.m. c.t. There is anticipation that NRRS will be installed and the other web applications upgraded so that all financial activity will resume on September 14.

D Actions for the Week of September 8 Through 11, 2009

Do not attempt to process any payment requests on the manual handling work list in NPS for receivables or claims.

Perform the necessary second person verification of pending FS work list items (i.e. Direct Deposit, Assignment, or Joint Payment requests).

Any pending requests will be removed and will require re-entry once FS web application becomes available on **September 14, 2009**.

E Proactive Measures That Should be Taken

All county releases should be loaded timely. Each office should:

- report any hardware or software issues immediately
- perform daily SOD and EOD processes on AS/400
- ensure that there is adequate staffing to handle installation.