

**PRESS****RELEASE**

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BREAKING NEWS

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Registration for Recovery Recipients Begins Monday, Aug. 17, 2009

WASHINGTON – Recipients of funds disbursed by federal agencies under the \$787 billion economic recovery program will be able to register at a government website beginning Monday, Aug. 17.

State and local governments, contractors, universities, non-profits and others that have received a grant, loan or contract of \$25,000 or more under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 are required to register on the website, www.FederalReporting.gov. Individual recipients of Recovery funds are not required to register or report.

Registration is the first step in a process that requires recipients to submit spending reports to FederalReporting.gov beginning Oct. 1. Recipients have until Oct. 10 to submit reports, which, among other things, should detail the amount of money they have received and spent, the project scope and timetable, and the number of jobs created. Thereafter, recipients must file quarterly status reports.

Under a variety of government programs, 28 federal agencies have disbursed Recovery Act funds. The agencies also must register at FederalReporting.gov so that they can review information submitted by recipients and suggest corrections if the agencies discover errors or other problems. However, only recipients can change the information—and, then, only during a short period after the reporting deadline closes.

FederalReporting.gov is a new website designed specifically to collect recipient reports and to move report data seamlessly and rapidly to www.Recovery.gov. Recovery.gov is operated by the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board, which was established in the Recovery Act to oversee spending and promote transparency.

The Recovery Board is now developing a state-of-the-art Recovery.gov 2.0 site that will be user-friendly and feature extensive mapping and search capabilities. Furthermore, users interested in analyzing Recovery Act spending on their own will be able to download all recipient data posted on the new website.

The new Recovery.gov will be up and running in time to receive the initial October recipient reports. After the Oct. 10 reporting deadline passes, data on recipients and their projects will be posted shortly thereafter on Recovery.gov, according to Earl E. Devaney, the chairman of the Recovery Board.

The Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board was created by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to oversee the expenditure of Recovery funds and bring transparency and accountability to the process. The Board consists of a chairman, Earl E. Devaney, and 12 federal Inspectors General. The Board runs the Recovery.gov website that provides information on the Recovery initiatives and spearheads an accountability effort that involves both federal and state investigators and enforcement officials.

“To meet our dual mission of accountability and transparency,” Devaney said, “we must post this data immediately on our new Recovery.gov 2.0 website which will be far more complete and user-friendly.”

Only recipients registered on FederalReporting.gov will be able to log in and enter the data required of them. The registration process itself is no more difficult than buying a product online. However, in order to register, a recipient must have a business identification number known as a DUNS number that can be obtained at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>. Recipients of federal grants and loans also must be part of the government’s Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database to fill out their reports (register at <http://www.ccr.gov>).

Recovery Board officials urged recipients to get their identifying DUNS and or CCR numbers in advance to speed the registration process. If a recipient has those numbers, registration should take only around five minutes.

Between 150,000 and 200,000 recipients are expected to file reports by the Oct. 10 deadline. Given that expected volume, Recovery Board officials are encouraging recipients to register and report early. Beginning Monday, Aug. 17, between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. EST, individuals with questions about the Recovery Act registration and reporting processes can call a toll-free number for assistance (877-508-7386 or TTY 877-881-5186).