

Glossary of Terms

Accounting Date—The date a transaction is recorded.

Adjustment—An accounting entry that corrects or modifies a previously entered deposit or disbursement transaction; an adjustment based on research by the agency.

CASHLINK II—Worldwide deposit reporting and cash concentration system. Users can obtain deposit information daily using the CASHLINK II report.

Collections—Amounts received by the Federal Government during the fiscal year. Collections are classified into governmental receipts and offsetting collections.

Consolidated Working Capital Fund—Advances received by an agency for performing work or providing supplies and materials to another agency per an agreement between the two agencies.

Debit Voucher (SF 5515)—Reduces a deposit ticket for the Agency Location Code (ALC) when checks are lost, returned, unpaid, or issued to reduce the original deposit ticket.

Deposit Fund—Used to account for receipts temporarily held in suspense and later refunded, transferred, or paid to some other fund of the Government; and/or receipts held by the Government as the agent or banker for others and paid out as requested by the owners.

Statement of Differences (SOD) for Deposits—The SOD for Deposits reflects the amount of discrepancy between the monthly totals submitted through the banking system and the totals provided by the agency on the FMS 224 (Section III, line 3) or FMS 1219 (Section I, Part A, line 4.20).

Disbursements—Amounts paid out by Federal agencies during the fiscal year. This term is used interchangeably with the term “outlay.”

Statement of Differences (SOD) for Disbursements—Represents differences between the total of disbursements reported by the RFCs or through IPAC and totals an agency reports on the FMS 224 (Section II, line 1) or FMS 1219 (line 2.80).

Disbursing Officer (DO)—A person appointed by an agency to disburse funds on behalf of Treasury. The DO is personally liable for agency funds as reported on the FMS 1219.

Electronic Certification System—An automated system that allows agencies to transmit payment requests to a Regional Finance Center.

Federal Reserve Bank (FRB)—A federally designated bank for processing check-issue information transmitted to Treasury. In certain cases, the agency may use the FRB to make cash and/or check deposits.

Financial Management Service (FMS)—The Treasury bureau with the mission to promote sound financial management practices in the Federal Government.

Fiscal Year—The annual accounting period used by the Federal Government. The fiscal year begins October 1 and ends September 30 of the subsequent year.

General Funds—Represent revenues not earmarked by law for specific purposes. General funds are available for expenditure only upon congressional appropriation or other authorization to spend general revenues.

Government On-Line Accounting Link System (GOALS) II—The Governmentwide network that provides automated financial reporting directly to FMS and the Office of Management and Budget and provides agencies with reports on receipt and disbursement activity and Fund Balance With Treasury transactions.

Intra-governmental Payment and Collection (IPAC) System—The system that represents interagency billings and payments for supplies and services.

Revolving Funds—Established to finance a continuing cycle of specific operations.

Special Funds—Funds that consist of revenues earmarked by law for a specific purpose.

U.S. Government Standard General Ledger (USSGL)—The set of procedural rules and uniform chart of accounts used by agencies to record budgetary and proprietary accounting transactions.

USSGL Account—An account within the uniform chart of accounts used by Federal agencies to record budgetary and proprietary accounting transactions.

STAR—The FMS central accounting system that maintains data related to Federal collections and disbursements.

Transaction Log—An internal tracking record that summarizes monthly disbursement and/or receipt transactions. Agencies use the log as a tool to research differences. Each Federal agency uses its discretion about what information is reported in the log. The log should capture pertinent data about disbursement and/or receipt activity. For example, detailed data includes payee name/amount, voucher or check number, transaction date, and ALC.

Treasury Control Totals—Balances that Treasury maintains for each agency. Deposit control totals are derived from CA\$HLINK II. Disbursement control totals are derived from RFCs and IPAC transactions.

Treasury Financial Manual (TFM)—The FMS publication of Treasury reporting policies and procedures.

Treasury General Account (TGA)—Account balances kept by the U.S. Government in banks.

Treasury Regional Financial Centers—FMS's centers that issue payments and process cancellation documents for Federal civilian agencies.

Trust Funds—Established to account for resources held in trust for specific programs or purposes.