

Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board

For more information contact:
Ricky A. Perry, Jr.
(202) 512-5720
PerryRA@fasab.gov

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NEWS RELEASE

FASAB and AAPC Issue Exposure Drafts: *Implementation Guidance for Leases and Omnibus Amendments to Leases-Related Topics*

The chair of the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB or “the Board”), George A. Scott, announced today that the Board and the Accounting and Auditing Policy Committee (AAPC) are seeking public comments on a joint exposure draft (ED) related to leases.

- The AAPC, a permanent committee established and overseen by the Board, is seeking input on a proposed Federal Financial Accounting Technical Release (TR) titled *Implementation Guidance for Leases*.
- The Board is seeking input on a proposed Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Standards (SFFAS) titled *Omnibus Amendments to Leases-Related Topics*.

The SFFAS ED proposes omnibus amendments to SFFAS 54, *Leases*, to enhance the clarity of the Statement, rescind certain disclosure requirements, and provide minor technical corrections therein. The TR ED, which includes 99 implementation questions and answers, proposes guidance for applying the requirements of SFFAS 54. TR ED proposals were formulated under the assumption that corresponding omnibus amendment proposals become final.

The Board requests public comments on the joint ED by **February 5, 2021**. Respondents are encouraged to provide the reasons for their positions. The joint ED (in PDF format) and the specific questions raised (in Word format) are available on the [FASAB website](#). To facilitate informed responses and efficiency in responding to these interrelated proposals, a single set of questions that applies to both proposals is provided; respondents are encouraged to submit joint comment letters that address these questions.

“These proposals are intended to clarify and explain the application of SFFAS 54 and the many nuances and complexities that we expected to arise under the Statement,” Mr. Scott explained. “By engaging in extensive research and outreach, and through the efforts of a dedicated task force, the goal has been to facilitate the ongoing leases implementation activities across the federal community as the effective date approaches. Comment letters on these proposals will further support that goal as the Board’s due process continues following the comment period.”

ABOUT FASAB

FASAB serves the public interest by improving federal financial reporting through issuing federal financial accounting standards and providing guidance after considering the needs of external and internal users of federal financial information.

Financial reports, which include financial statements prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles, are essential for public accountability and for an efficient and effective functioning of our democratic system of government. Thus, the Board plays a major role in fulfilling the government's responsibility to be publicly accountable. Federal financial reports should be useful in assessing (1) the government's accountability and its efficiency and effectiveness and (2) the economic, political, and social consequences, whether positive or negative, of the allocation and various uses of federal resources.

FASAB issues federal accounting standards after following a due process consistent with the memorandum of understanding under which it operates. Due process includes consideration of the financial and budgetary information needs of citizens, congressional oversight groups, executive agencies, and the needs of other users of federal financial information.

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