



Submit Financial or Performance Reports in ezFedGrants

Job Aid



Before You Begin

This document describes how to prepare, edit, certify, and submit a financial or performance report in ezFedGrants.

Financial and performance reports are generated automatically by ezFedGrants when a reporting period opens for one of your agreements. Depending on your partner role and role in the system, you may or may not receive an email notification when a report is generated. The reporting schedule for your agreements should be provided in the Notice of Award, Award Package, or other agreement documents. If you are not sure about your agreement's reporting schedules, please contact an agency representative.

The ezFedGrants External Portal does not currently support submission of property reports. Please contact an agency representative for property reporting instructions.

Self-Certify box is available for all users on reports. Users can certify reports directly from the Signature section by selecting the Self-Certify checkbox. When the Self-Certify option is used, the user can designate themselves as the Primary Certifying Official and complete certification immediately.

Key Terms

- **Actionable Items:** Your work items (assigned tasks) in ezFedGrants.
- **Agreement Partner:** An individual involved with an agreement/award. Each partner has a "partner assignment" (also referred to as "partner function") that determines what they are responsible for during the life of the agreement/award.
- **Financial Report:** A report of financial activities during a given reporting period (i.e. quarterly, annually, or final) which are reported on the **SF-425** form.
- **Performance Report:** A report of project activities during a given reporting period (i.e. quarterly, annually, or final) which are reported on the **SF-PPR** form.

You Will Need

- An eAuthentication/Login.gov Verified Identity Account
- The Grants Administrative Officer (or GAO), Grants Processor (GP) or Signatory Official (SO) role in the ezFedGrants External Portal
- A qualifying agreement:
 - Must be in **Active** or **Awarded** status.
 - All prior reports must have been submitted to the agency.
- A report awaiting your action:
 - Financial and performance reports are generated automatically by ezFedGrants when a reporting period opens for one of your agreements. These reports appear in the **Actionable Items** list for all Grants Administrative Officers (GAOs), Grants Processors (GPs) and Signatory Officials (SOs). Once one of these users opens a new report, it will become "assigned" to that user and disappear from the other users' **Actionable Items** lists.



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Data Note

The screenshots provided with these instructions are a representative sample for the purpose of training, which contain sample data and may not depict the entire screen.

In addition, these instructions focus on the **minimum system requirements** for the above-described procedure(s). You may need to complete additional fields or provide additional information not specifically described in this document.



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Getting Started

Launch the ezFedGrants External Portal from the [OCFO ezFedGrants website](#) and log in with your Login.gov verified identity account.

For questions regarding ezFedGrants access, including logging-in and eAuthentication, please review the [eAuthentication/Login.gov FAQs](#).

Opening the Report

On the **ezFedGrants External Portal Home** screen, locate the report you want to review in the **Actionable Items** section. Click the **Case ID** link to open the **Create Report** screen. If you have a lot of work items, use the **Category** dropdown to filter your work items.

Case ID	FAIR/Report ID	Transaction	Status	Due Date	Last Updated	POC
RPT-3263	QA-GA-17-013-PE-Final-17	Performance	Not started	5/1/17	12/12/22	
RPT-3422	FX170200-10.C001-RI-Q4-21	Financial	Not started	2/20/21	12/8/22	
RPT-3422	FX170200-10.C001-RI-Q2-19	Financial	Not started	7/30/19	8/18/21	
RPT-3417	FX170200-10.C001-RI-Q4-21	Financial	Not started	2/20/21	8/17/21	
RPT-3263	-PE-Q4-21	Performance	Not started	8/6/21	7/7/21	
RPT-3261	15RMPPN0013-PE-Q4-21	Performance	Not started	8/6/21	7/7/21	
RPT-3235	FX170200-10.C001-RI-Q3-21	Financial	Not started	7/9/21	8/9/21	
RPT-3217	NI18OPRREAFXG001-RI-Q2-21	Financial	Not started	6/27/21	5/28/21	
RPT-3213	-RI-Q2-21	Financial	Not started	6/27/21	5/28/21	
RPT-3208	-PE-Q2-21	Performance	Not started	6/25/21	5/26/21	
RPT-3206	15RMPPN0013-PE-Q2-21	Performance	Not started	6/25/21	5/26/21	
RPT-3202	AM17AMAXXXXXG017-RI-Q2-21	Financial	Not started	6/25/21	5/26/21	
RPT-3200	AM16AMAXXXXXG001-RI-Q2-21	Financial	Not started	6/25/21	5/26/21	
RPT-3199	AM17AMAXXXXXG002-RI-Q2-21	Financial	Not started	6/25/21	5/26/21	
RPT-3198	AM17AMAXXXXXG002-PE-Q2-21	Performance	Not started	6/25/21	5/26/21	

If you cannot find a report in your worklist, it may have been started or submitted by another user. See [About Report Assignments](#), below, for more information.

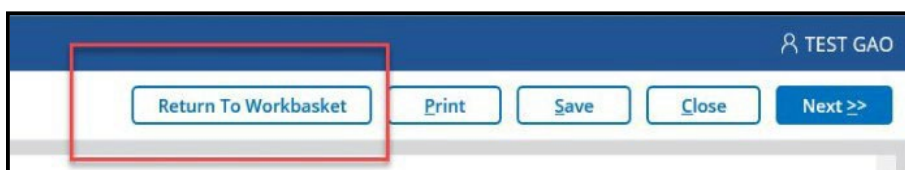
About Report Assignments

Financial and performance reports are generated automatically by ezFedGrants when a reporting period opens for one of your agreements. Depending on your agreement partner role and role in the system, you may or may not receive an email notification when a report is generated. The reporting schedule for your agreements should be provided in the Notice of Award, Award Package, or other agreement documents. If you are not sure about your agreements' reporting schedules, please contact an agency representative.

The automatically generated reports appear in the **Actionable Items** list for all users from the recipient organization (GAOs, GPs and SOs). Once one of these users opens a new report, it will become "assigned" to that user and disappear from the other users' **Actionable Items** lists.

Report Actions

All report assignments are valid for a day with edits, updates, and report status being saved. If the report is not completed or submitted within a day, the work item will automatically return to the common workbasket list for your organization, preventing bottlenecks with processing. If you've inadvertently accessed a report, you can use the **Return To Workbasket** button to send it back to the common workbasket.





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About Report IDs

Although it appears cryptic, the **Report ID** can be used to differentiate between reports. The components of the report ID are explained below using **FE-CR-15-050-FI-Q2-16** as an ID:

- **FE:** The first pair of letters indicates the associated USDA agency.
- **CR:** The second pair of letters indicates the agreement instrument type (such as cooperative agreement, grant agreement).
- **15:** The first pair of numbers indicates the fiscal year of the associated agreement.
- **050:** The set of three numbers in the middle indicates the sequential number of the report.
- **FI:** The third pair of letters indicates whether the report is a financial or performance report.
- **Q2:** The pair containing one letter and one number indicates the quarter of the fiscal year to which the report applies.
- **16:** The final pair of numbers indicates the fiscal year for the report (may be different from the agreement fiscal year).

Preparing Reports

To prepare a report in ezFedGrants, you must complete the report form (SF-425 or SF-PPR), designate a Certifying Official (who will review and sign the report), and upload any supporting attachments.

Complete Report Form (SF-425 or SF-PPR)

The first stage of the **Create Report** screen is the report form, which is either the SF-425 (for financial reports) or the SF-PPR (for performance reports). Instructions are provided for each form in the next two sections of this document. You must complete the mandatory fields [indicated by an asterisk (*)] along with some non-mandatory fields. It is recommended to save your progress often by clicking the **Save** button. You can also print the report by clicking the **Print** button.

*This document only describes the **minimum** requirements for submitting a report in ezFedGrants. Usually, you will need to complete additional non-mandatory fields or upload additional attachments. To avoid delays in processing, please take your time to ensure that all fields, attachments, etc. are complete and correct (to the best of your knowledge).*

Some fields are pre-populated from the associated agreement and cannot be edited. If the information in a locked field appears incorrect, please contact an agency representative. The **Certification** section of the form will be populated once a Certifying Official digitally signs the report (after you are finished preparing the report).

Financial Report Form (SF-425)

1. If you are completing a financial report, you will see the **SF-425** on the **Create Report** screen.

If you see the **SF-PPR**, please refer to the **Performance Report Form (SF-PPR)** instructions, which begin on the next page.



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2. Locate **Section 10 Cumulative Transactions** on the SF-425.

Enter the amount of cash receipts and disbursements for this reporting period in the **Cash Receipts** and **Cash Disbursements** fields, respectively.

The **Cash on Hand** field will automatically calculate based on your entries in the other two fields.

10. Cumulative Transactions		
Federal Cash:		
(Use items a - c for single or multiple grant reporting)		
(To report multiple grants use FFR Attachments)		
* a. Cash Receipts	* b. Cash Disbursements	c. Cash on Hand (a minus b)

3. In the **Federal Expenditures and Unobligated Balance** section, enter the relevant amounts for the reporting period in the **Expenditures (Federal Share)** and **Unliquidated Obligation (Federal Share)** fields.

The **Total Federal Share** and **Unobligated Balance of Federal Funds** fields will automatically calculate based on your entries in the abovementioned fields.

Federal Expenditures and Unobligated Balance:		
d. Total Federal Funds Authorized \$20,000.00	* e. Expenditures (Federal Share) Please enter a valid value	* f. Unliquidated Obligation (Federal Share)
g. Total Federal share (sum of e and f) \$0.00	h. Unobligated balance of Federal Funds (line d minus g) \$20,000.00	

4. Complete any additional fields on the SF-425 as necessary.

Note: The fields in the **Certification** section of the SF-425 will remain blank until the Certifying Official digitally signs the report. The certification procedure is described later in this document.

5. Click the **Next** button near the top of the screen to proceed to the **Signature** stage or click the **Return To Workbasket** button to return the report to the common Actionable Items list.

Please go to the **Designate Certifying Official** section of this document to continue.

Return To Workbasket	Print	Save	Close	Next >>
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Performance Report Form (SF-PPR)

1. If you are completing a performance report, you will see the **SF-PPR** on the **Create Report** screen.
If you see the **SF-425**, please refer to the **Financial Report Form (SF-425)** instructions on the previous page.

2. Enter performance reporting information in the **Performance Narrative** field. If not already provided by the agency, please contact an agency representative for performance narrative instructions.

3. Complete any additional fields on the SF-PPR as necessary.

Note: The fields in the **Certification** section of the SF-PPR will remain blank until the Certifying Official digitally signs the report. The certification procedure is described later in this document.

4. Click the **Next** button near the top of the screen to proceed to the **Signature** stage or click the **Return To Workbasket** button to return the report to the common Actionable Items list.

Please go to the **Designate Certifying Official** section of this document to continue.

Designate Certifying Official

In the **Signature** stage, you will designate one or more Certifying Officials for your report. The Certifying Official is responsible for digitally signing the report. The certifying official is designated at the time the work item is prepared.

Certifying Official is a temporary role that only applies for a single claim or report,. Any user with ezFedGrants access for your organization can be a Certifying Official, including yourself.

1. You must designate at least one Certifying Official in the **Primary Certifying Official** field. This can be yourself or any other user with ezFedGrants access for your organization.

To select a Certifying Official, click in the **Primary Certifying Official** field, press the **Down Arrow** key on your keyboard, and then select the relevant user from the dropdown menu. It may take several seconds for the dropdown menu to appear, depending on the number of users in your organization.



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You can filter the menu by typing one or more letters into the field. For example, if you want to assign Geoffrey Chaucer as your Certifying Official, you could type “ge” to see all users with “ge” in their name.

*This field **will not** accept typed entries; you **must** select the username from the dropdown menu.*

Signature

Select a Certifying Official by typing their name into the appropriate field. As you type, a list of matching names will appear below the field (you may need to press the down arrow on your keyboard to display the list). Click the appropriate Certifying Official's name when it appears on the list of matches. Please note that the user must be registered in ezFedGrants. You can select yourself as the Certifying Official.

A Primary Certifying Official must be selected. The Secondary Certifying Official is optional. Notifications and work items will be sent to each Certifying Official selected here.

* Primary Certifying Official

Clear

Secondary Certifying Official

Clear

2. Repeat the above if you would like to assign an alternate Certifying Official in the **Secondary Certifying Official** field. This is only necessary if you believe the primary Certifying Official will not be available.

Assigning a secondary Certifying Official does not cause the report to be reviewed twice. Only one of the two Certifying Officials will certify the report.

3. Self-Certify box is available for all users on reports.

Signature

Select a Certifying Official by typing their name into the appropriate field. As you type, a list of matching names will appear below the field (you may need to press the down arrow on your keyboard to display the list). Click the appropriate Certifying Official's name when it appears on the list of matches. Please note that the user must be registered in ezFedGrants. You can select yourself as the Certifying Official.

A Primary Certifying Official must be selected. The Secondary Certifying Official is optional. Notifications and work items will be sent to each Certifying Official selected here.

☒ Self Certify ⓘ If your organization allows self-certification and you would like to self-certify, please click on the checkbox labeled Self-Certify.

* Primary Certifying Official

Clear

Secondary Certifying Official

Clear

4. Click the **Next** button to proceed to the **Attachments** stage or click the **Return To Workbasket** button to return the report to the common Actionable Items list.

Note: If you need to go back to an earlier stage, click the **Previous** button. Submit button is labeled “Certify” when self-certify is selected. When not self-certified the Submit button is labeled “Send to Certifier”. You can also use the **Transfer** button highlighted in **Red** to transfer the reports to another user to complete.

Return To Workbasket

Print

Save

Close

Transfer

<< Previous

Certify

Return To Workbasket

Print

Save

Close

Transfer

<< Previous

Send To Certifier

Add Attachments

1. Upload any supporting documentation required for your report by clicking the **Click Here to Attach Files** link.

Note: Do not include any personal identifying information (PII) on your attachments unless specifically instructed to do so. PII includes details such as dates of birth, social security numbers, and personal criminal history.



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List of Attached Files

Title	File	Operator	Date/Time	Delete?
No attachments				

[Click Here to Attach Files](#)

2. On the **Add Attachment** popup window, click the **Choose File** button to locate the relevant file on your computer.

Add Attachment ×

Title:
Other

Other Attachment Title:

Please enter a valid value

Upload Document From Local Hard Disk No file chosen



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- If applicable, type a title for your document in the **Other Attachment Title** field, then click the **OK** button to upload the file.

Add Attachment

Title:
Other

Other Attachment Title:
Please enter a valid value

Upload Document From Local Hard Disk: No file chosen

- Repeat until you have uploaded all necessary documentation.
- Attachments will be limited to PDF files only (**Please, no digitally signed or fillable PDFs**) The total size of all attachments cannot exceed 20mb. Users will receive the following error message if attachments do not meet these requirements:

Add Attachment

• File is not a valid pdf, a digitally signed file or password encrypted

Title:
Attachment

* **Other Attachment Title:**
Attachment

Upload PDF Document From Local Hard Disk: No file chosen

PDF documents only

Please do not attach digitally signed documents.

Please do not attach fillable form documents.

For invalid pdf message, attempt to create a new document by printing to pdf.

For Word and Excel files use 'Save as Adobe PDF'.

- To remove an attachment, click the icon in the **Delete** column.

(D) Attachments				
List of Attached Files:				
Title	File	Operator	Date/Time	Delete?
Application Instructions	resulttemplate.docx	APHIS AG APHIS MO	9/11/2019 8:55 AM	



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Finalize the Report

1. Once you have completed the report form (SF-425 or SF-PPR), designated at least one Certifying Official, and uploaded all relevant attachments, you are ready to submit the report to the Certifying Official for review and signature prior to submission to the relevant agency. Click the **Send to Certifier** button to send the report to the Certifying Official(s) The **Send to Certifier** button is only available when viewing the **Attachments** stage.

Return To Workbasket	Print	Save	Close	Transfer	<< Previous	Send To Certifier
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Note: If the report is self-certified, the submit button will be labeled **Certify**. Clicking this button takes you immediately to the certification page. (See [step 2](#) under Review and sign reports)

Return To Workbasket	Print	Save	Close	Transfer	<< Previous	Certify
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2. ezFedGrants will check that your report meets all minimum requirements. If submission is successful, a confirmation message will appear at the top of the screen. Otherwise, you will see one or more error messages indicating what must be corrected before the report can be submitted. If self-certified and submission is successful, you will not see a confirmation page instead the [certification screens](#) will immediately appear.

If not self-certified, notifications and work items are sent to the designated Certifying Official(s).

Report AO172501X443C008-PE-Q2-19 has been submitted for approval and signature to your Organization's Certifying Official.		
SF-PPR	Signature	Attachments



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Certifying Official: Review & Sign Reports

If you are assigned as a Certifying Official for a report, you will receive a work item (Actionable Item) to review and sign the report. This section describes how to open and complete report certification work items.

Each report may have up to two Certifying Officials assigned, but only one Certifying Official needs to complete the report certification work item. If you receive a work item notification, but do not see the work item in your **Actionable Items** list, the other Certifying Official may have already completed the work item.

Once a report is certified, it is submitted to the relevant agency.

1. On the **ezFedGrants External Portal Home** screen, locate the report you want to review in the **Actionable Items** section. Click the **Case ID** link to open the report work item. If you have a lot of work items, use the **Category** field to filter your work items.

The screenshot shows the 'Home' page of the ezFedGrants External Portal. On the left is a navigation menu with links: Home, Opportunities, Applications, Agreements, Amendments, Claims, Reports, Work Item Reassignment, Work and User Reports, Manage Permissions, Contact USDA, and Training/Guidance. The main content area is titled 'Home' and contains a 'News and Notes' section with a 'Test External' link. Below this is the 'Actionable Items' section, which has a 'Category' dropdown menu set to 'Report'. A table lists 18 actionable items, each with a Case ID, FAIR/Report ID, Transaction, Status, Due Date, Last Updated, and POC. The table is scrollable.

Case ID	FAIR/Report ID	Transaction	Status	Due Date	Last Updated	POC
RPT-2263	QA-GA-17-013-PE-Final-17	Performance	Not started	5/1/17	12/12/22	
RPT-3422	FX170200-10.C001-FI-Q4-21	Financial	Not started	2/20/21	12/8/22	
RPT-3423	FX170200-10.C001-FI-Q2-19	Financial	Not started	7/30/19	8/18/21	
RPT-3417	FX170200-10.C001-FI-Q4-21	Financial	Not started	2/20/21	8/17/21	
RPT-3263	-PE-Q4-21	Performance	Not started	8/6/21	7/7/21	
RPT-3261	15RMPPN0013-PE-Q4-21	Performance	Not started	8/6/21	7/7/21	
RPT-3235	FX170200-10.C001-FI-Q3-21	Financial	Not started	7/9/21	6/9/21	
RPT-3217	NI18OPRREAFXG001-FI-Q2-21	Financial	Not started	6/27/21	5/28/21	
RPT-3213	-FI-Q2-21	Financial	Not started	6/27/21	5/28/21	
RPT-3208	-PE-Q2-21	Performance	Not started	6/25/21	5/26/21	
RPT-3206	15RMPPN0013-PE-Q2-21	Performance	Not started	6/25/21	5/26/21	
RPT-3302	AM17AMAXXXXXG017-FI-Q2-21	Financial	Not started	6/25/21	5/26/21	
RPT-3200	AM16AMAXXXXXG001-FI-Q2-21	Financial	Not started	6/25/21	5/26/21	
RPT-3199	AM17AMAXXXXXG002-FI-Q2-21	Financial	Not started	6/25/21	5/26/21	
RPT-3198	AM17AMAXXXXXG002-PE-Q2-21	Performance	Not started	6/25/21	5/26/21	

2. On the Report Certification screen, review the report form (SF-425 or SF-PPR) and attachments by clicking the tabs.

The screenshot shows the 'Financial Report (NI18OPRREAFXG001-FI-Q3-17)' report certification screen. At the top, there are 'Print' and 'Close' buttons. Below the title, the status is 'Draft Pending Signature'. A button labeled 'Please Select An Option' is visible. The 'Report' section has three tabs: 'SF-425' (selected), 'Signature', and 'Attachments'. The 'Comments' tab is also present. The content under the 'SF-425' tab shows the first question: '1. Federal Agency and Organizational Element to Which Report is Submitted' with the answer 'USDA NIFA'.



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3. After reviewing the report, click the **Please Select An Option** button and select **Sign and Submit** or **Return** from the please select an option dropdown menu.

- **Sign and Submit:** The report is ready to be submitted to the agency.
- **Return:** The report needs to be corrected before submission to the agency.

4. If you selected the **Return** option, enter relevant comments in the **Return Comments** text box.

If you selected the **Sign and Submit** option, you must click the **Legal Notice** button and accept the legal notice before finalizing your decision. Acceptance of the legal notice is required to submit your report to the agency. If you disagree with the legal notice, please contact an agency representative.



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5. On the **Report** screen, click the **Complete Signature** or **Submit** button to finalize your decision.

If submission is successful, you will see a confirmation message. Otherwise, you will see an error message explaining why your decision was not accepted.

Based on your decision, one of the following outcomes will occur:

- **Sign and Submit:** The report is sent to the appropriate agency for processing.
- **Return:** The report is returned for modification by the user who is assigned to the report. You will receive a new work item when the report is resubmitted.

Please Select An Option

Sign and Submit

Certification: By signing this report, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the report is true, complete, and accurate, and the expenditures, disbursements and cash receipts are for the purposes and intent set forth in the award documents. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001).

Paperwork Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act, as amended, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB Control Number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0348-0061. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.5 hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0060), Washington, DC 20503.

Acceptance of the terms described below upon clicking "Legal Notice" is also required.

Legal Notice

Upon your acceptance, click the "Complete Signature" button below to finish the process.

Complete Signature



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Editing Reports

Broadly speaking, all users with either the Grants Administrative Officer (GAO), Grants Processor (GP) or Signatory Official (SO) role can edit reports

Reports with a status of Not Started, Draft, Returned by Certifying Official, Acceptance Pending edits are available to all users until a user opens the report. **Once opened the report is only available to that person as the assignee.** If the assignee does not take action, overnight the report will return to a common workbasket where it is once again available to all users within the organization. The assignee can return the report to the common workbasket earlier by clicking on the "Return to Workbasket" button.

Not Started

When a reporting period opens for one of your agreements, ezFedGrants automatically generates a report in **Not Started** status.

By default, the new report appears in the **Actionable Items** list for all users regardless of role. Once a user opens the report, it will become "assigned" as detailed [above](#).

Draft

The report has been started by a user. This report appears in the **Actionable Items** list for all users regardless of role. Once a user opens the report, it will become "assigned" as detailed [above](#).

Draft Pending Signature

The report is assigned to the Certifying Official(s). If a report must be edited after it has been submitted to the Certifying Official, the Certifying Official must send the report back by selecting the **Return** option when reviewing the report. *If the assigned Certifying Official is not available, the GAO can reassign the claim using the Work Item Reassignment function found on the left navigation pane.*

You must return a report in order to edit it, even if you are self-certifying your own report.

Returned by Certifying Official

This is a report that has been returned by the certifying official for edits. This report appears in the **Actionable Items** list for all users regardless of role. Once a user opens the report, it will become "assigned" as detailed [above](#).

Submitted

The report has been submitted to the agency. If you need to make changes to a report after it has been submitted to the relevant agency, please contact the agency to request a return of the report.

Acceptance Pending Edits

This status indicates that the USDA agency has returned the report to the recipient for editing. This report appears in the **Actionable Items** list for all users regardless of role. Once a user opens the report, it will become "assigned" as detailed [above](#).



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See Also

Job Aids

- [Using ezFedGrants – The Basics Job Aid](#)
- [ezFedGrants External Portal User Roles Quick Reference](#)
- [Reassigning Work Items in ezFedGrants Quick Reference](#)

ezFedGrants Hyperlinks

- [ezFedGrants Home page](#)
- [ezFedGrants FAQs general](#)

Help?

Contact the ezFedGrants Help Desk at ezFedGrants-cfo@usda.gov.

Version Control

Date	Changes Made
Mar. 2026	Added Self-Certify button
Feb. 2025	Updated Hyperlinks and format
July 2024	Updated table of contents
June 2024	Removed log in screenshots; updated screenshots, updated language; added hyperlinks to job aid references
July 2023	Updated PDF attachment language
May 2023	Updated verbiage under Certifying Official Section
April. 2022	Removed Broken Links
Jan. 2022	Updated Screenshots & OCFO Website link
Feb. 2021	Updated verbiage and screenshots to reflect changes as it pertains to updated reporting structure.
Nov. 2020	Updated verbiage to reflect changes as it pertains to assignment and reassignment of reports.
Sept. 2019	Initial document created