

Dealing with the Impact and Challenges of RWHAP Partial Awards

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Disclosures

Presenter(s) has no financial interest to disclose.

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Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Overview

- Supports more than 90 programs that provide health care to people who are geographically isolated, economically or medically vulnerable through grants and cooperative agreements to more than 3,000 awardees, including community and faith-based organizations, colleges and universities, hospitals, state, local, and tribal governments, and private entities
- Every year, HRSA programs serve tens of millions of people, including people living with HIV/AIDS, pregnant women, mothers and their families, and those otherwise unable to access quality health care



HIV/AIDS Bureau Vision and Mission

Vision

Optimal HIV/AIDS care and treatment for all.

Mission

Provide leadership and resources to assure access to and retention in high quality, integrated care, and treatment services for vulnerable people living with HIV/AIDS and their families.



Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

- Provides comprehensive system of HIV primary medical care, medications, and essential support services for low-income people living with HIV
 - More than half of people living with diagnosed HIV in the United States – more than 550,000 people – receive care through the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP)
- Funds grants to states, cities/counties, and local community based organizations
 - Recipients determine service delivery and funding priorities based on local needs and planning process
- Payor of last resort statutory provision: RWHAP funds may not be used for services if another state or federal payer is available
- 84.9% of Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program clients were virally suppressed in 2016, exceeding national average of 59.8%



Source: HRSA. Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Annual Client-Level Data Report 2016; CDC. HIV Surveillance Supplemental Report 2016;21(No. 4)



Workshop Overview

- Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) partial awards and their impact on service provider contracts and continuity of services have been a challenge for recipients and subrecipients.
- This session will present strategies that have been used at the national, state and local levels to ensure continuity of needed services when receiving partial awards.
- This session will identify several RWHAP Part specific approaches to creatively working with administrative systems, planning strategically, and/or collaborating together to implement solutions.



Learning Objectives

- Participants will gain an understanding of the RWHAP budget process
- Participants will know what specific support they can receive from HAB in a partial award scenario
- Participants will be able to identify, describe, and implement strategies to address partial funding and ensure continuity of services

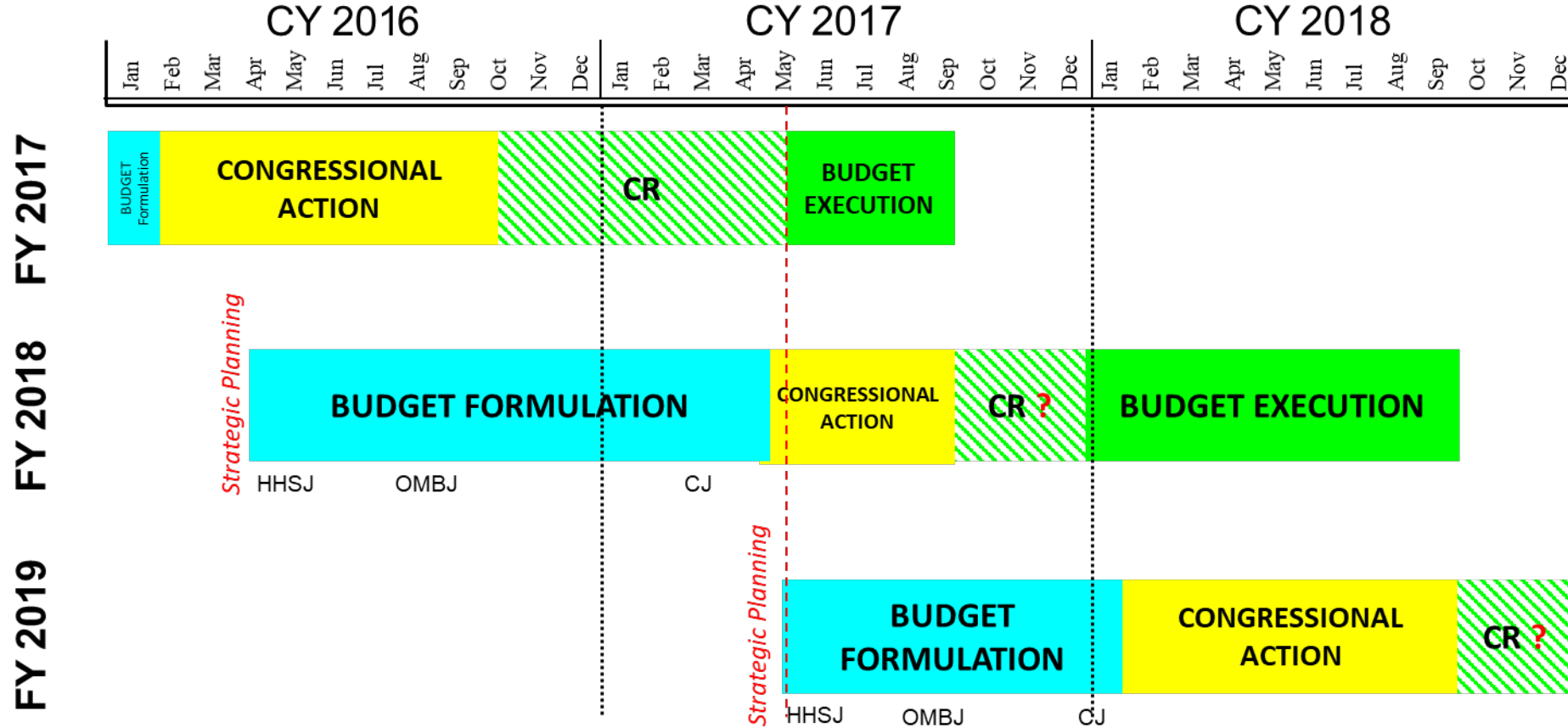


Annual RWHAP Budget Terms

- ✓ Office of Management and Budget (OMB) – OMB oversees the preparation of the Federal budget and coordinates the Administration’s financial, information, procurement and regulatory policies.
- ✓ Appropriation – The budget authority to incur obligations.
- ✓ Apportionment – The action by which OMB distributes amounts available for obligation.
- ✓ Allotment – The authorization to incur obligations for a specified amount. It is part of the Agency’s system of administratively controlling funds in order to prevent Anti-Deficiency Act Violations.
- ✓ Obligation – A definite commitment that creates a legal liability of the government for payment of goods and services ordered or received. An agency incurs an obligation when it places an order, signs a contract, awards a grant or purchases a service.
- ✓ Continuing Resolution – Legislation enacted by Congress that continues pre-existing appropriations with specific spending limitations for a specified period of time.
- ✓ Rescission – Legislation enacted by Congress that cancels previously enacted budget authority... the result of which is a reduction of funds available for obligation.
- ✓ Sequestration – Legislation enacted by Congress that permanently cancels budget resources by a uniform percentage, which is applied to all programs, projects and activities within a budget account.



Federal Budget Timeline

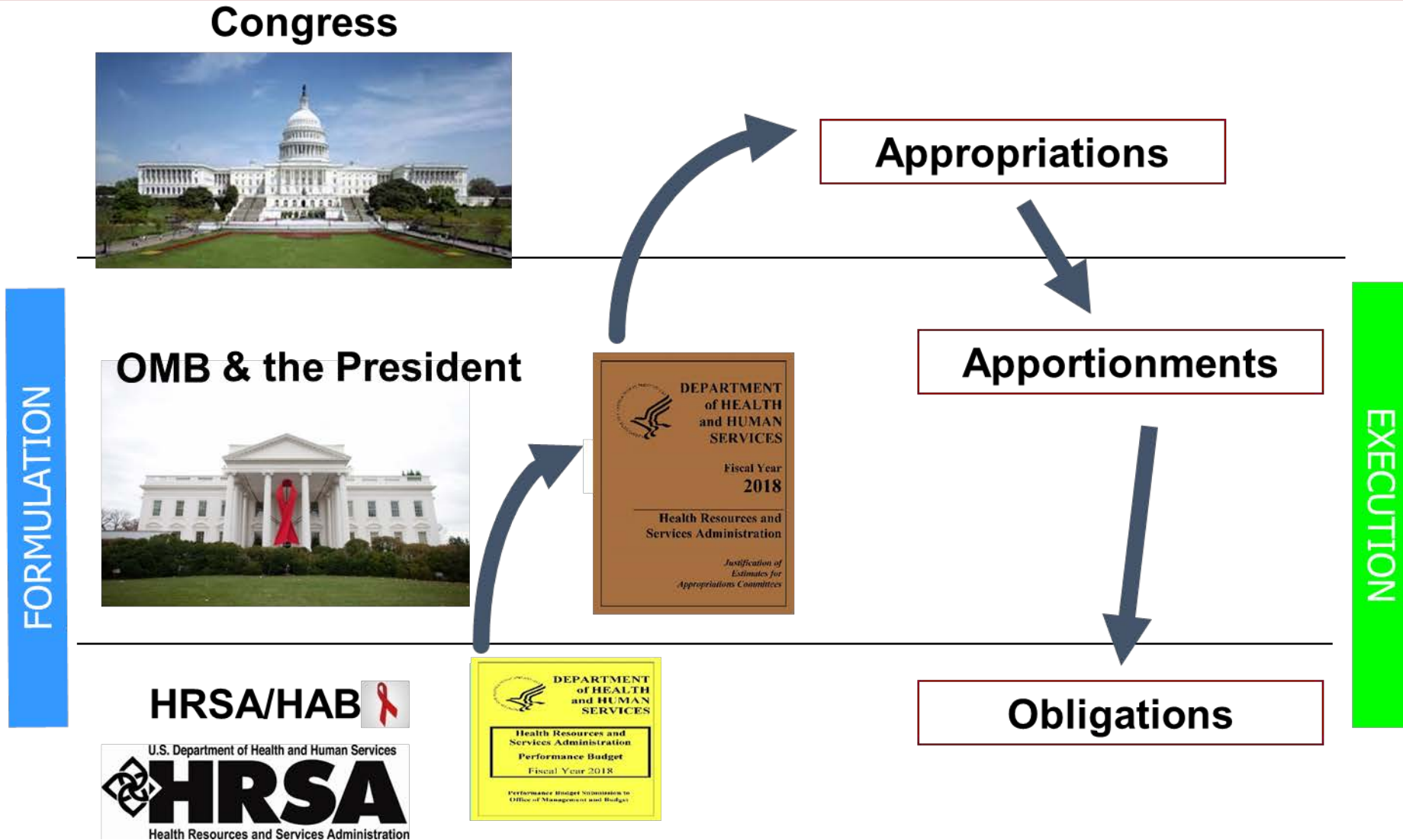


- Budget Formulation:
- Congressional Action:
- Continuing Resolution (CR):
- Execution:

- ✓ Budget Strategy, HHS/OMB Justifications, Congressional Justification (President's Budget)
- ✓ Committee Hearings, Q&As, House & Senate Reports, Appropriation Bill
- ✓ Funding continued largely at previous fiscal year levels until regular appropriation bill passed
- ✓ Apportionments, Resource/Spending Plans, Allotments, Allowances, Obligations, Expenditures, Closeout



The Federal Budget Process



HAB Actions to Address Partial Awards

- Conference calls with recipients to understand situations, challenges and potential courses of action
- Provide maximum amount of partial awards as soon as possible in the grant year (based on continuing resolutions)
- Provide maximum amount of subsequent partial awards
- Provide selective “emergency partial awards” based on formal requests and need expressed by recipients
 - Requires justification and budget estimate
- Provide written notification of partial awards and signed letters estimating potential full/final award amounts to facilitate recipient planning and procurement



Recipient Actions to Address Partial Awards

- Maricopa County/Phoenix Part A Program
 - The Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA) obtains approval from the Board of Supervisors to allocate funds upon receipt of the any award regardless of amount and whether it is partial or full
 - The EMA provides timely award of available funds to contractors upon receipt of funds
 - The Administrative Agent works with the Planning Council to ensure that funds are distributed timely and according to Priority Setting/Resource Allocation directives

Recipient Actions to Address Partial Awards

- Miami Part A Program
 - Contract for entire year with subrecipients based on the award amount requested in their annual application
 - Make adjustments based on actual award via coordination with the Planning Council to define priority and need.
 - Financial system has controls such that subrecipient cannot draw down more than the amount allocated based on the partial award, which is then immediately adjusted when the final award is disbursed.



Recipient Actions to Address Partial Awards

- **Norfolk Part A Program**
 - Part A staff negotiated with City Budget Director, Director of Grants Management, and Deputy City Manager to allow for contracting for the entire year rather than having to wait until a full award is issued.
- **Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital (Lebanon, NH – RWHAP Part C Program)**
 - Uses program income to defray grant costs



Discussion

- Are there any other strategies that have been utilized by recipients and subrecipients?
- Are there example where the various RWHAP Parts have collaborated together to address partial awards?
- Do workshop attendees have any additional suggestions for actions that HAB might take to assist with the reality of partial awards?

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