Utah Valley University

Time and Effort Reporting Manual



GRANT AND CONTRACT ACCOUNTING

Introduction

As part of the sponsorship process, the Principal Investigator must submit a time and effort report to verify that direct labor charges (salaries and wages) are reasonable and reflect the actual work performed. Upon receiving funds, UVU's Office of Sponsored Programs is subject to strict accounting and reporting requirements. These regulations are designed to ensure that charges for sponsored projects are reasonable and allocable.

Purpose

The purpose of a Time & Effort reporting system is to provide a reasonable basis for verifying the distribution of payroll (salary & wage) charges among direct activities (e.g., sponsored research, instruction, other sponsored activities, and cost-sharing) and indirect activities (e.g., general administration, departmental administration, etc.). Effort directly related to sponsored projects must be identified in the effort distribution and reporting process.

Time certifications represent a *reasonable assessment* of an employee's effort. As of December 26, 2014, 2 CFR 200.430(i)(1) – (4) states:

"It is recognized that teaching, research, service, and administration are often inextricably intermingled in an academic setting. When recording salaries and wages charged to Federal awards for Institutions of Higher Education (IHE), a precise assessment of factors that contribute to costs is therefore not always feasible, nor is it expected." Reliance, therefore, is placed on <u>a reasonable assurance</u>, based on a system of internal controls (i.e., PI review of monthly summary and detailed labor distribution reports, monitoring of project staffing, and review and approval of time and effort reports related to the project), in which a degree of tolerance is appropriate.

As stated above, the Federal Government recognizes that your effort reporting is a "REASONABLE ASSESSMENT." Generally, a degree of tolerance (up to 5%) is appropriate. In saying that, payroll/labor distributions serve as a reasonable starting point for effort certification. Effort certification serves as an after-the-fact confirmation that the individual expended the promised effort budgeted to the project.

Effort is measured as a percent of the individual's total UVU employment obligation. Total UVU activity = 100% effort. The percent effort is not based on a typical 40-hour work week. Total effort is 100% whether a typical work week is 10, 60, or even 100 hours. Total effort may not exceed nor can it be less than 100% and should include only those activities for which an individual receives compensation through the university. Therefore, for summer months, if you are only employed part-time from UVU sources, your total will still be shown as 100%. During the academic year, one-time expenses and administrative increments may cause the appearance of reduced effort on a grant. In situations where this causes confusion or ambiguity, you or a research administrator may write an explanation of the effort in the notes section of the form.

When is certification required?

Currently, the Utah Valley University's certification process will be quarterly.

- Quarter 1 July 1 to Sept 30
- Quarter 2 October 1 to Dec 31
- Quarter 3 Jan 1 to March 31
- Quarter 4 April 1 to June 30

Who is required to review the Time and Effort report?

Certifier

For most projects at UVU, the PI will serve as the certifier for all employees who work on a sponsored project. In some instances, when required by the sponsor, the actual employee working on the sponsored project will be the certifier, and the PI will serve as an alternate. Please reach out to Alex Hartvigsen (alex.hartvigsen@uvu.edu) for any questions.

In addition, a certifier may reject a time and effort report and request changes by submitting a salary reallocation request to Grant and Contract Accounting (troy.james@uvu.edu).

ACCESSING THE BANNER SELF-SERVICE TIME AND EFFORT SYSTEM

- 1. Login into the UVU Banner Self-Service
- 2. Click on the "Employee Services"
- 3. Click on Employee Dashboard
- 4. Please use the following link if you are having difficulty logging into your Effort Certification page through UVU Banner Self-Service: https://userve.uvu.edu/EmployeeSelfService/ssb/hrDashboard#/hrDashboard
- 5. Click on "Effort Certification" under the "My Activities column.

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Employee Dashboard • Effort Certification • Certify My Effort	
Certify My Effort	Proxy Super User
CertIfy My Effort Review Or CertIfy Reports	

CERTIFYING

If you are certifying effort for yourself, your available certifications will appear in the "Certify My Effort Tab" If you are a Principal Investigator/ Project Director (PI/PD) certifying for another employee on your grant, you will need to click on the "Review or Certify Reports Tab. This will open the "Advanced Search" menu option.

Search for All Awards Awaiting Certification

Please note that if you wish to query the system to view a list of all reports that are currently awaiting certification in your queue for those individuals that you oversee, you will need to utilize the "Advanced Search" lookup. Click the dropdown arrow and select "Status", use the dropdown menu to select "Awaiting Certification". Click "Go" to run the current listing. This will provide you with a list of all individuals charged to your projects who currently have effort reports that are awaiting certification.

Advanced Search				
ID Enter ID X	Last Name X	First Name	Chart of Account Code	Effort Period Code
State	Status	· · ·	Grant Select Grant Code	
				Clear Close Go

Optional Additional Fields for Advanced Search. You can use these fields to search for specific employees.

- ID- UVID
- Last Name-Last Name of Employee Needing Certification
- First Name- First Name of Employee Needing Certification
- Chart of Account Code- U

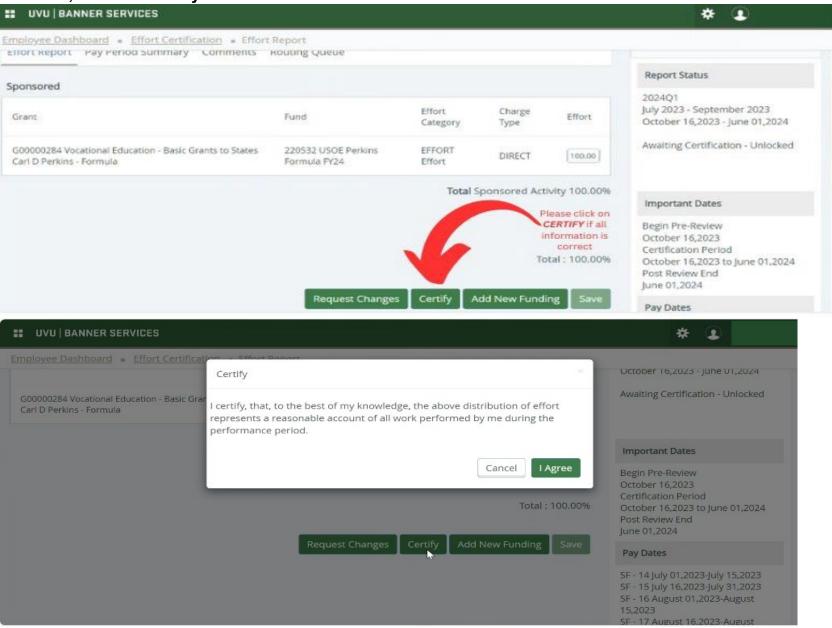
Once the list of all individuals charged to your projects is generated, you can click on an individual report to open it, review it for accuracy, and if appropriate, select the "Certify" button at the bottom of the screen to approve it.

When you click on the effort report, the report will be opened and you will be able to view the percentage of effort for the selected period by grant ID and fund number.

Employee Dashboard	Report							
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Review the effort report for accuracy.

If correct, click on "Certify".



If correct, click on "I Agree".

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Once done, the certification will be complete.

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Certification is complete.

PRINTING CERTIFICATION REPORTS

The certification report will be loaded into a PDF file that can be printed for your records.

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If you have any questions or comments regarding the Banner Time and Effort Reporting Module, please do not hesitate to contact the UVU Office of Sponsored Programs in the Post Award Department (<u>https://www.uvu.edu/osp/</u>) <u>alex.hartvigsen@uvu.edu</u>.

The effort reporting manual has been developed by

Dee Larson

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