Helpful Hints for Using the AFR Forms in Excel

Protected view and enabling content

Some of the Excel files in the AFR package zip file, or prior year budget or AFR files brought into a new folder, may cause warning messages (e.g., protected view, enable content, etc.) to appear on your computer the first time you open the files. The files are safe to use. **If you receive a warning, you will need to make the file a "trusted document" before you will be able to edit the file.** If an untrusted file is open while saving a trusted file, it could cause links between the files to break. If you need further assistance making the files "trusted documents," please work with your IT department as security could be set up differently for your computer or network. The solution is often as simple as clicking on the warning message where indicated and choosing to continue editing the file or enabling content.

Format and view options

To ensure the accuracy of the calculations, each sheet is protected and cells with formulas have been locked. Information should **not** be manually entered in the shaded areas or protected cells. When the sheet is protected you can move from one unprotected cell to the next using the Tab key. Formulas should not be changed or deleted unless specifically instructed to do so by the Arizona Auditor General's Office or ADE. Row height, column width, and cell format may be modified without unprotecting the sheet. Grid lines have been turned off in order to make the forms easier to read. Users may turn the grid lines back on without affecting the calculations or printing of the spreadsheet. Significant changes from last year's forms are highlighted in yellow throughout the spreadsheets. Users may remove highlights if they prefer before finalizing.

File integrity

Please keep the following in mind when using the forms in Excel to ensure that the district's data can be properly processed by ADE:

- File names should **not** be changed. If the file names are changed, the files may not appropriately link to each other.
- Rows and columns should **not** be added to or deleted from the forms.
- Information should **not** be copied and pasted from prior year's forms, as it can cause merged cells to unmerge and may result in duplicate reporting of expenditures, and/or the value being placed into a cell reference that is different than where ADE's processing system is expecting it.
- Sheet tabs should **not** be renamed.

** Users with an Excel version newer than Excel 2003 should save the file in the "Excel 97-2003 Workbook (*.xls)" format. ADE's computer system is not able to process files with the .xlsx file extension.

Printing

The Excel files have been formatted to print on legal size paper (8 ½" by 14"), except for the Instructions and AFR Summary which are formatted to print on 8 ½" x 11" paper. If your printer's settings are different from those used to set up the files, a little experimentation may be needed to get each sheet to print on one page. Users should try changing the "scaling" under page setup if needed.

- To print the entire file including the instructions—Select File/Print/Entire Workbook
- To print one page—Select File/Print/Active Sheets
- To print a group of pages (for example to print all sheets without the instructions)— Click on the Excel tab for the first page to be printed and hold the Shift key while clicking on the Excel tab for the last page to be printed – this selects the sheets as a group. Then select File/Print/Active Sheets

If you have any questions or suggestions for improving the forms in future years, please contact Chris Votroubek or Tijana Djorgjic of the Auditor General's Office's Accountability Services Division at (602) 977-2796, or email us at: asd@azauditor.gov