COURSE SYLLABUS

Monitoring, Performance, and Compliance Oversight Course (Self-Paced)

This course strengthens post-award oversight across the federal grant lifecycle. Participants learn how to apply risk-based monitoring, interpret performance and financial data, and respond effectively to compliance issues while maintaining defensible oversight aligned with 2 CFR 200.

> Group classes (Live Online) and onsite training are available for this course. For more information, email onsite@graduateschool.edu or visit: https://www.graduateschool.edu/courses/monitoring-performance-and-compliance-oversight-course-self-paced



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Course Outline

Module 1: Purpose and Role of Monitoring in Federal Grants

- Explain why monitoring is a core post-award responsibility for federal programs.
- Distinguish monitoring from audits and program evaluations.
- Recognize how ineffective monitoring can lead to downstream compliance and performance issues.

Module 2: Regulatory Framework for Monitoring and Oversight

- Identify monitoring requirements under 2 CFR 200.
- Understand monitoring responsibilities for pass-through entities.
- Recognize documentation expectations for monitoring and oversight activities.

Module 3: Risk-Based Monitoring Strategies

- Identify key risk factors that influence monitoring intensity.
- Design proportional monitoring plans based on risk levels.
- Recognize the risks of both over-monitoring and under-monitoring.

Module 4: Financial Monitoring and Allowable Cost Oversight

- Interpret financial reports and drawdown data for potential risk indicators.
- Identify red flags related to allowability, allocability, and cash management.
- Connect financial monitoring findings to corrective action decisions.

Module 5: Performance Monitoring and Results Accountability

- Differentiate between outputs, outcomes, and performance indicators.

- Assess whether reported results align with program objectives.
- Identify performance risks that may signal deeper compliance concerns.

Module 6: Identifying and Responding to Noncompliance

- Identify common compliance failures discovered through monitoring.
- Distinguish minor issues from material noncompliance.
- Determine appropriate response options based on severity and risk.

Module 7: Corrective Actions, Technical Assistance, and Escalation

- Design corrective action plans that address root causes of problems.
- Use technical assistance as a proactive monitoring strategy.
- Identify when escalation or enforcement actions may be required.

Module 8: Documentation and Defensibility in Monitoring

- Document monitoring activities clearly and consistently.
- Connect monitoring findings to supporting evidence and regulatory standards.
- Avoid hindsight bias and maintain defensible oversight records.

Module 9: Subrecipient Monitoring and Pass-Through Oversight

- Apply monitoring requirements to subrecipients and pass-through entities.
- Design oversight strategies for high-risk subrecipients.
- Coordinate monitoring across multiple funding streams and programs.

Module 10: Capstone Simulation – Monitoring in Practice

- Apply monitoring concepts to a realistic oversight scenario.
- Identify risks, findings, and appropriate oversight responses.
- Document monitoring conclusions suitable for audit or Inspector General review.