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Overview

Introduction

This topic prescribes policies and procedures governing the expenditure of State funds and addresses expenditure documents prepared by agencies for input to Cardinal.

Policy

Disbursements of State funds are made to businesses or individuals that furnish goods or services to the Commonwealth. To receive payment, these entities must submit vendor invoices to the agency that received the goods or services. The term, *invoice*, refers to the original vendor prepared bill that must be attached to the payment as supporting documentation.

Payments can be made from an itemized statement if a contractual agreement exists with the vendor allowing this practice. Under these circumstances, the payment terms for the itemized statement should be specified in the vendor contract.

The vendor payment due date is defined as either

- the date on which payment is due under terms of the contract for provision of goods or services, **or**
- if such a date has not been established by a contract, thirty days after receipt of the vendor's invoice or thirty days after receipt of the goods or services, as specified by the date-stamped receiving report, whichever is later.

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Approval Authorization

Authorized Signatories Form

Each agency is required to provide DOA with a current **Authorized Signatories Form (DA-04-121)** on a fiscal year basis. This form is kept on file in the Compliance Oversight and Federal Reporting Unit at DOA and requires designation of, and signatures for: a primary and secondary Cardinal Security Officer (CSO), Fiscal Officer, and Agency Head.

Updated Annually

A blank Authorized Signatories Form can be found on DOA's website at https://www.doa.virginia.gov/forms.shtml#AS. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2021, DOA uses DocuSign to facilitate the Authorized Signatories Form process. All information will be typewritten via the application and each signatory must sign electronically. The Form will be required to be submitted in June each year as required in the Fiscal Year-end Closing Procedures.

When a Change to Authorized Signatory Occurs

Each time a change (addition/deletion of authorized signatory) occurs, an entirely new form must be submitted. The updated form will replace the one on file at DOA; therefore, each current authorized person must complete the form.

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Approval Authorization, Continued

Agency Cardinal Acknowledgement

The Cardinal Security Officers listed on the Authorized Signatories Form have been granted authority to add and delete users in Cardinal that are both preparers and approvers of transactions in Cardinal. Persons granted select approver roles in Cardinal have the authority to approve and release revenue and expenditure documents and transactions for their agency, department or institution. By approving a transaction in Cardinal, the agency, department or institution, and its employee agents agree to the certifications contained in the Commonwealth's Accounting Policy and Procedure Manual for the applicable transaction.

Cardinal Security Officers Contact Information

The Cardinal Security Officers must list their contact information (phone and email) on the Authorized Signatories Form. This information will be utilized by the Cardinal Security Team.

Cardinal Security Form

To gain access to Cardinal, a Cardinal Security Form must be completed, approved by the individual's supervisor, the agency Cardinal Security Officer, and DOA General Accounting (if applicable), and submitted to the Cardinal Security Team. Access should be granted based on the specific work that an employee needs to perform and the associated Cardinal security role(s) that allow those duties to be completed. It is the agency's responsibility to maintain proper documentation of the approval of access that has been granted to Cardinal users. The agency is responsible for developing and maintaining sufficient internal controls over Cardinal access. See CAPP Topic No. 70220, *Cardinal Security*.

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Voucher

Voucher

The Voucher serves two primary purposes:

- 1. To serve as the internal input document to Cardinal for expenditures, and
- 2. To provide auditable records for expenditures.

The Voucher should include documentation of required coding elements (business unit, fund, account, program and department) as well as be labeled with the Cardinal generated Voucher ID in order to easily tie the source documentation to the system. See subtopic "Coding Structure Requirements" for more information on required Cardinal coding elements.

The Voucher should be filed along with approved purchasing, receiving, and payment authorizations. Such documentation can be maintained in an electronic format and "attached" to the Voucher in Cardinal. This functionality places the supporting documentation on the same page as the recorded transaction in Cardinal for ease of access and viewing capability. However, the Cardinal system should not be relied upon to maintain agency documentation and should not be considered the official retention source for the agency. Agencies should keep separate records, whether hard copy or electronic. See subtopic entitled "Records Retention" for more information regarding retention requirements.

Cardinal Voucher Form

The requirement to authorize, record, and control disbursement transactions is mandatory. While the use of the **Cardinal Voucher Form** on the Cardinal website indicates adherence to Statewide requirements, its use is optional and substitute forms and procedures by individual agencies are allowed.

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Voucher, Continued

Use of Stamps or Grid

Many agencies have eliminated the preparation of Vouchers where it is reasonable to do so. Often, these agencies stamp vendor's invoices with customized accounting grids and manually code data elements for data entry. Other agencies attach a copy of the accounting grid to the vendor's invoice to facilitate coding and data entry. Such steps to reduce paperwork and streamline the accounts payable process are encouraged as long as a clear audit trail specifying the individuals authorizing each transaction is maintained.

Agency Voucher Certification Statement

By approving an expenditure in Cardinal, the agency, department or institution and its employees and agents agree to the following:

Final agency approval for expenditure transactions rests with the person granted approval authority in Cardinal. The act of approving a transaction in Cardinal means the agency certifies to the Comptroller that the request for disbursement of State funds specified in the approved transaction has been reviewed by appropriate agency staff and is accurate to the best of their knowledge and belief. The amounts itemized are considered to be legitimate and proper charges to the appropriations indicated therein, and are approved for payment. The payment has not been previously authorized.

Note: Vouchers payable to a Fiscal Officer or Cardinal approver cannot be approved or released to Cardinal by the payee. Another authorized approver must approve the transaction.

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Voucher, Continued

When Not to Use the Form

The Voucher may **not be used** for the following:

- Any **transaction within the same agency**. An expenditure transaction within the same agency must be recorded as a General Ledger Journal Entry (see CAPP Topic No. 20410, *Intra-Agency Transactions*).
- Employee reimbursements. All employee reimbursements, for those employees within your agency, must be made on an Expense Report in the Travel and Expenses Module in Cardinal. See CAPP Topic No. 20335, State Travel Regulations and CAPP Topic No. 20336, Agency Travel Processing. Note: Direct billing for lodging can be on a Voucher. Travel-related expenses paid on a Voucher must be in compliance with current travel regulations and must be included in the estimate of travel expenses as required by the current travel regulations.

Additionally, it is not appropriate to designate the Voucher as the "Original Invoice." The Voucher is a record of accounting transactions only.

Coding Structure Requirements

The minimum coding structure for expenditure transactions is summarized as follows:

- Business Unit
- Fund
- Account
- Program
- Department

Other classification elements are included in the standard distribution grid. These elements may or may not be included depending on the chartfields the agency elects to utilize. In Cardinal, if a required chartfield is not entered into the system, the transaction will fail combination edit and the error message will notify the user what additional chartfield is necessary.

Note: There may be additional fields that are required by Vendors for remittance processing. See Subtopic entitled, "Accurate Payment Remittance Information" for more information.

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Voucher, Continued

Cutoff Times

The cutoff time for submission of expenditure vouchers for data to be entered in Cardinal for the fiscal month is the last workday of the month.

Data keyed directly to Cardinal must be through all approval levels by 6:30 p.m. in order to get processed during the nightly process. All interfaced voucher files must be transmitted by 6:00 p.m.

General Expenditure Processing

Revenue Refunds

Revenue refunds may only be used to return funds to the original payor.

Revenue refunds are not to be used as a means to pass-through funds. Transactions refunding revenue are processed through the Accounts Payable module of Cardinal similar to a regular Accounts Payable voucher. The only change would be that the account code selected should be the same code as that which was selected when the revenue was initially deposited in the Accounts Receivable module. Interfacing agencies will be able to send 'One-Time Vendor' information in their interface voucher file in order to ensure the vendor to whom the refund is due is set up in Cardinal. All other agencies will have to ensure the Vendor is set up prior to creating the voucher (either as a regular vendor or a one-time vendor). See CAPP Topic No. 21105, *Vendor Maintenance*, for further guidance.

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Vouchers Initiated by Purchase Order When goods and services are obtained through the normal procurement process, depending upon the items involved, the purchase order may be originated by the agency or Department of General Services (DGS).

After issue of the purchase order, the agency purchasing staff sends a copy of the purchase order to the agency accounting unit that handles the accounts payable function. This document is held in a pending file until the vendor's invoice is received. The agency must date stamp the vendor's invoice when it is initially received at the agency (<u>not</u> the date the accounting unit receives the invoice).

When the goods and services are received, the original signed copy of the Receiving Report is sent to the agency accounting unit. After the vendor's invoice is received, the accounting (accounts payable) staff may complete the Voucher. Generally, the due date is determined using the date goods/services were received or the date the vendor's invoice was received, whichever is later. See CAPP Topic No. 20315, *Prompt Payment*, for further details.

Vouchers should not be processed in Cardinal with future dates in the invoice receipt date and receipt of goods or services fields. Expenditures should not be recognized in Cardinal until the invoice or the goods or services, whichever is later, are physically received. The exception to this rule is payments that fall under the *Advance Payment Policies* section of this CAPP Manual.

Separate Payment Vouchers

If partial payment is needed, such as when several shipments will be made over a period of time, an agency can create multiple payment vouchers as long as sufficient documentation is kept to compare to the original purchase order and ensure all goods and services have been received. See CAPP Topic No. 20305, *Receiving Report*, for further details regarding documentation requirements in this situation.

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Documentation

The agency accounting unit retains in the file a copy of the

- Vendor Invoice
- Voucher (if separately created)
- Purchase Order
- Receiving Report

See subtopic "Records Retention" for more information.

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What are Advance Payments?

Advance payments are those that are made prior to receipt of goods or services. After an agency or institution makes an advance payment, there is no absolute guarantee that the vendor will deliver the goods or perform the requested services, placing the Commonwealth's assets at risk.

When considering an advance payment, an agency or institution must conform to the following policies listed here and described in detail below.

- Advance Payment Policies
- Allowable Advance Payments Misc.
- Allowable Advance Payments: Written Contracts, Leases, or Agreements
- Advance Payments on Third-Party Contracts
- Third-Party Contracts: Terms & Conditions for Advance Payments

Advance Payment Policies

Agencies and institutions must adhere to all receiving report requirements. Standard policy prohibits the approval of an invoice for payment without first obtaining an approved receiving report in accordance with CAPP Topic No. 20305, *Receiving Reports*.

However, advance payments are allowed for expenditures normally prepaid as a standard industry practice or where such prepayments are considered cost beneficial to the Commonwealth. Documentation should be retained within the agency and made available for review upon request to substantiate the decision to make advance payments.

Interagency advance payments for goods and services are governed by these same criteria.

Allowable Advance Payments – Misc. The following describes those payments, which under certain terms and conditions, may be prepaid. These lists are not all inclusive. All allowable miscellaneous advance payments are subject to a maximum prepayment period of 90 days.

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General Expenditure Processing, Continued

1	Organization	Includes employee or agency annual membership dues for
	Memberships	professional organizations. As stated above, agencies are not allowed
	-	to make annual membership prepayments more than 90 days prior to
		the expiration of the previous year's membership.
2	Publication	Includes initial and renewal annual subscriptions for technical and
	Subscriptions	professional publications. As stated above, agencies are not allowed to
	~ 	make subscription prepayments more than 90 days prior to the
		expiration of the previous year's subscription.
3	Convention and	Limited to advance registration fees for conventions, conferences,
	Educational Services	seminars, and employee workshops. Agencies and institutions must be
	Educational Sci vices	reasonably sure that travel will occur as planned. Excludes other travel
		expenditures except for public carriers.
1	Travel Public Carriers	1 1
4	Travel Public Carriers	Limited to prepayments for individual travel by aircraft, train, and bus.
	W 10 1 P 1	Excludes rental vehicle expenditures.
5	Mail Order Purchases	Limited to mail order purchases where payments must be included with
		the order.
6	Human Subject	Includes expenses for advance payments to individuals (human
	Payments	subjects) for experimental research, engineering projects, and medical
		projects.
7	U.S. Postal Service	Limited to postage purchased from the U.S. Postal Service. Excludes
	Purchases	courier service and freight expenditures.
8	Hotel/Motel Deposits	Limited to one night deposit for direct bill payments on hotel/motel
		rooms for employees who travel on behalf of the Commonwealth.
		Advance payments for direct billed hotel/motel expenses are
		discouraged. Use of the State sponsored Travel Charge Card is
		encouraged to secure room confirmations. Actual advance payments
		using the travel charge card program will not be reimbursed prior to the
	_	trip.
9	Film Acquisitions or	Limited to payments for the acquisition or rental of educational or
	Rentals	training and development films.
10	Advertising Expenses	Limited to prepayments for newspaper, magazine, journal, and
	J 1	periodical advertisements.
11	Telecommunication	Limited to advance payments for recurring monthly telephone, pagers,
	Services	and television cable charges.
12	Internet Purchases	The Electronic Commerce Policy administered by the Department of
		General Services authorizes online buying of goods and services
		through the Internet, with limits and conditions specified in the policy.
L		mough the internet, with mints and conditions specified in the policy.

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Allowable Allowable advance
Advance agreements are delivery, perfor Vendors should quarterly basis
Leases, or

Allowable advance payments pursuant to written contracts, leases, or agreements are subject to a <u>maximum prepayment period of one year</u>, where delivery, performance, or refund is assured based on written obligations. Vendors should be encouraged to invoice the agency on a monthly or quarterly basis in the absence of a sufficiently reduced annual pricing arrangement.

Agree	ements arrangement.		
1	Legal Services	Includes fees to retain outside legal counsel for the	
		Commonwealth. (See restrictions stated in Section 4-5.04 of	
		the Appropriation Act).	
2	Media Services	Limited to payments for radio and television advertising. May	
		also include expenses paid to advertising firms for these	
		services.	
3	Specialized	Limited to payments for specialized manufactured	
	Pharmaceutical	pharmaceutical supplies and rare medical drugs. Excludes the	
	Supplies and Rare	purchase of ordinary supplies and drugs.	
	Medical Drugs		
4	Mechanical, Electrical,	Limited to payments for services provided to repair and	
	and Equipment	maintain mechanical and electrical systems and equipment.	
	Repair & Maintenance	Excludes material and equipment purchases.	
	Contracts		
5	Computer Hardware	Limited to payments for services provided to repair and	
	and Software	maintain computer hardware and software. Excludes	
	Maintenance	computer hardware and software purchases.	
	Contracts		
6	Licensing Agreements	Limited to payments for the licensing fees associated with the	
		use of computer software. Approval for certain licensing	
		arrangements must be obtained through the Virginia	
		Information Technologies Agency (VITA). VITA may	
		approve on the "Agency Procurement Request," for a	
		prepayment period of more than one year where the pricing	
		arrangements make it cost beneficial, and the vendor is well	
		established.	
7	Specialized Equipment	Limited to payments for the purchase of specialized custom	
	Purchases	manufactured equipment. Excludes ordinary equipment	
		purchases.	
8	Real Property &	Limited to payments for the use of buildings, land, and	
	Equipment Rentals	equipment.	

Insurance Premiums

Limited to premiums for insurance contracts.

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Advance Payments on Third-Party Contracts Advance payments for third party contracts are defined as those in which a State agency (1st party) contracts with a vendor/contractor (2nd party) to provide certain services, where the vendor/contractor must hire a subcontractor (3rd party) to fulfill all or a portion of the contract.

The subcontractor requests an advance payment from the vendor/contractor to begin work. The vendor/contractor typically requests payment from the State agency so that the payment to the subcontractor may be made.

Third-Party
Contracts:
Terms &
Conditions for
Advance
Payments

The Agency Head may authorize advance payments on third-party contracts subject to the following terms and conditions. Prepayments are subject to a maximum of \$50,000, or 1/12th of the total contract amount, whichever is less; and, a maximum prepayment amount of 30 days of estimated charges.

	Terms & Conditions	
1	Advance payments for third party contracts are limited to those	
	programs where the agency head or designee can attest that such	
	method of payment is a standard industry practice. This practice must	
	be documented and available for review upon request.	
2	Where federal funds are involved and federal regulations stipulate the	
	terms and conditions of advance funding, the agency head or designee	
	must certify the expenditure is in compliance with federal cash	
	management policies.	
3	The State Comptroller can deny such payments on behalf of the	
	Commonwealth of Virginia, if there is sufficient reason. He also has	
	the right to require performance bonds, or other guarantees or	
	assurances as may be appropriate.	
4	The State Comptroller may request the Office of the Attorney General	
	to review the third party contract to ensure adequate protection of the	
	rights, assets, and resources of the Commonwealth.	

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Improper Expenditures

DOA may question any State-funded expenditure (Section 2.2-1822, *Code of Virginia*).

Agency purchases must be considered essential to the operation of the agency and in support of the agency's mission to justify the use of State funds. Since all State-funded expenditures are subject to public scrutiny, agencies should consider the appearance of unusual purchases on the agency and on State government in general prior to authorization. Since individual circumstances vary widely, adequate documentation for unusual purchases should always be included with the voucher.

The following lists contain examples of expenditures considered to be improper uses of State funds. These lists are intended to provide general guidance to agencies in judging the appropriate use of State funds. However, any State-funded expenditure may be questioned, even those which are not included on the following lists.

Improper Expenditure Examples

Employee personal expenses such as -

- 1. Books for classes (unless they remain property of the State)
- 2. Snacks or refreshments
- 3. Baby sitting
- 4. Non-business related newspapers or magazine subscriptions
- 5. Personal articles that are lost or stolen
- 6. Tuxedos or other formal wear
- 7. Clothing (non-uniform) or repairs to clothing damaged in the workplace
- 8. All expenses related to personal negligence of the employee, such as traffic fines.

Agency-sponsored event expenses incurred which do not clearly support the agency mission such as -

- 1. Holiday decorations
- 2. Alcoholic beverages
- 3. Charitable contributions
- 4. Gifts and flowers

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Employee/ Service Recognition

Agencies must adhere to Department of Human Resource Management (DHRM) Policy 1.15, *Employee Recognition and Engagement*. When meals are used to celebrate separating employees, the appropriate meal per diem must be used (see CAPP Topic 20335 for further information on meals per diem). Agencies are encouraged to create internal policies regarding the recognition of separating employees.

Vendor Payment Deletions

An undisbursed vendor payment transaction that has been posted but not paid (i.e., payments awaiting due date) can be 'closed' in the Cardinal system by the originating agency. This will reverse all accounting transactions that have been created and restore the budget amounts. Additionally, the 'delete' process can be utilized for vouchers that have not been posted or paid.

Refer to the "Unposting, Deleting and Closing a Voucher" Job Aid for detailed instructions of how to accomplish this. The Job Aid can be found on the Cardinal Project website.

Example

The payment was previously made using the Small Purchase Charge Card. The transaction may be closed or deleted preventing a duplicate payment.

Vendor Payment Address Corrections

The agency voucher processor can update the address on undisbursed vendor payment transactions that have been posted but not paid (i.e., payment awaiting due date). The new address must already exist in Cardinal and have an effective date that is earlier than the voucher's accounting date. Only the address, location, method, handling and message fields may be updated. The supplier name or supplier identification number **cannot** be changed (in this situation the voucher must be deleted if it has not yet posted). If the voucher has posted, it needs to be closed.

Example

The wrong vendor address was selected in Cardinal. The transaction's address may be updated by the agency.

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Cellular Telephone Policy

The acquisition and use of cellular telephones must be authorized by the Agency Head or designee prior to procurement. An approved written request and justification must be on file for each telephone. Elected Officials, Cabinet Secretaries, Agency Heads, and Presidents of Institutions of Higher Education may obtain cellular telephones without further approval.

Recurring monthly billings for Commonwealth owned cellular telephone usage must be received in the agency fiscal office. Invoices must be forwarded to the telephone user for review. VITA's general telephone procedures state that Commonwealth provided telephone services are to be used for conducting official business only, and should not be used for personal purposes.

Agencies are responsible for safeguarding telephones. Sufficient internal controls should be in place to ensure that employees are accountable for cellular phones issued to them. One alternative would be to record these items as controlled assets in the Fixed Asset Accounting and Control System (FAACS).

Individuals using personally-owned cellular telephones may be reimbursed for business calls when shown to be cost beneficial or out of necessity. An itemized cell phone statement must be submitted with the voucher. In the event that free minutes are used for business calls, individuals are not allowed reimbursement for these calls.

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Telework Expenditures

Introduction

In accordance with Department of Human Resource Management (DHRM) "Policy Number 1.61 – Telecommuting," a teleworker performs their duties from an alternate work location which may or may not be their personal residence. Teleworkers may, or may not, be required to work from a remote or alternate location as a condition of employment. Teleworkers are defined as employees who work at a remote or alternate location at a minimum of one day per week or 32 hours per month while intermittent teleworkers work at a remote or alternate location less than this threshold. This policy governs the payment of expenses supporting telework arrangements for all teleworkers or intermittent teleworkers.

Policy

When certain expenses are necessary to perform the requirements of the employee's position from an alternate location, agencies may pay for allowable telework expenses either through a direct bill to the agency or reimbursement to the employee.

In determining what telework expenses are justifiable, agencies must consider the nature of the work responsibilities documented in the Employee Work Profile (EWP) and the telework agreement (e.g., telework as a working condition, telework frequency, proportion of business versus personal use, etc.). Agency-paid telework costs must be consistent with the employee's work requirements and telework agreements. Different work profiles and different telework arrangements may produce different expense justifications.

Voluntary teleworking is viewed primarily as a personal convenience; and the savings in employee commuting time and costs generally render financial reimbursement unnecessary.

Telework Expenses

The following telework expenses are <u>allowable</u> (i.e., agency-paid) for teleworkers and intermittent teleworkers subject to the justification criteria outlined in this policy:

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Telework
Expenditures,
continued

- Office supplies and operating expenses supporting Commonwealth-owned or issued equipment such as personal computers, communications devices or other necessary teleworking equipment. Any incidental or occasional use of the Commonwealth-owned/issued equipment and the associated connectivity services must comply with DHRM "Policy Number 1.75 Use of Electronic Communications and Social Media".
- A single <u>telephone service</u> connection for each employee for either Commonwealth-owned/issued or employee-owned telephone equipment. Includes connectivity services or fees (including activation fees) for cell or land-line telephones, personal digital assistants (PDA), Blackberry's and similar communication devices.
- A single <u>internet service</u> connection for each employee for either Commonwealth-owned/issued or employee-owned computing equipment. Connectivity services or fees (including activation fees) include cable broadband, cellular service (including Broadband Air Cards), Digital Subscriber Line (DSL), Fiber-Optic service, Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN), Satellite data service, Wireless Fidelity (Wi-Fi), Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access (WiMAX), dial-up modem access, and similar communication services. Use of non-Commonwealth devices for telework must comply with the Commonwealth ITRM Standard Use of Non-Commonwealth Computing Devices to Telework (SEC 511-00) (07/01/2007).
- Where internet or telephone services are <u>bundled</u> with non-business-related costs (e.g., cable and FIOS TV), the original service provider invoice must show the charges for each service separately in order to determine the amount to be paid. Where discounts are provided for bundled services, the pro-rata share of the discount should be applied to the allowable payment.

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Telework Expenditures, continued

• A nominal flat monthly or annual connectivity allowance may be paid to teleworking employees to compensate for employee-incurred telework connectivity expenses supporting employee-owned or Commonwealth-owned/issued equipment such as cell phones and computers. The amount of the allowance must be determined by a documented methodology with appropriate consideration to all of the justification factors outlined in this telework expense policy (e.g., telework as a working condition, telework frequency, EWP requirements, actual connectivity costs, proportion of business versus personal use, etc.) and fully supported by a sound business case. Allowances may not be advance-paid and must be re-evaluated in writing every 12 months.

The following telework expenses are prohibited:

- <u>Private worksite or employee home expenses</u> such as utilities, insurance, home maintenance, home modification for office purposes or other similar personal expenses.
- Purchase costs or maintenance expenses associated with employee-owned facsimile (fax) machines, telephones, cell phones, printers, computers, paper shredders and similar devices and equipment. Commonwealth-owned/issued equipment may be deployed for telework subject to appropriate controls governing such assets.
- Advance payment reimbursements for allowable connectivity services. While many internet service providers require payment in advance of receiving the service, agencies should only reimburse employees for these services after the services have been received. Advance payments made directly by agencies are allowable when required by the service provider.

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Telework
Expenditures,
continued

These lists of allowable and prohibited expenses may not be all inclusive. Agencies are encouraged to consult with the Department of Accounts, Director of Compliance Oversight and Federal Reporting to discuss the justification for other costs. Agencies may establish more restrictive policies for the payment of telework expenses.

Documentation Requirements

Telework expenses may be paid directly by the agency to the service provider or reimbursed to the employee subject to the following:

- 1. The employee telework arrangement must be supported by a written, signed and dated agreement describing the terms and conditions for the telework agreement as required pursuant to DHRM "Policy Number 1.61 Telecommuting".
- 2. The telework arrangement must adhere to all applicable policies and standards issued by other State agencies such as VITA, DHRM and DOA.
- 3. The justification for payment of teleworking expenses must be supported by a documented business case with appropriate consideration to the justification criteria outlined in this policy and approved by the agency fiscal officer.
- 4. Payments or reimbursements must be supported by the original invoice from the equipment, supply and/or connectivity provider and should be pro-rated for any partial month service.
- 5. Agencies must have in place adequate controls to ensure that Commonwealth-owned/issued assets, such as PC's, laptops, communication devices and other similar items that are issued to employees are adequately protected. An example of appropriate controls would be an employee termination check-list to record the return of such assets and cancellation of any future agency-paid phone and internet connectivity expenses.

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Telework Expenditures, continued

Income Reporting Requirements

Cell phone connectivity charges are generally *not* considered to be a taxable fringe benefit to the employee. Refer to CAPP Topic No. 50535, *Employer Provided Fringe Benefits* for more detailed information.

Internet connectivity costs paid directly by the agency that are used with personal equipment or reimbursed to the employee are generally considered by the IRS to be a taxable fringe benefit. Accordingly, agencies must report such connectivity costs as taxable income to the employee. Under IRS regulations, the documentation rules governing cell phones outlined above do not apply to internet connectivity costs as there is no practical way to account for, or limit, the use of the internet connectivity provided directly to the employee's home or alternate work location. Air cards and associated monthly service fees paid by agencies for Commonwealth-owned/issued laptops is not considered a taxable fringe benefit to the employees who use this connectivity product.

<u>Connectivity allowances</u> are considered by the IRS to be a taxable fringe benefit. Agencies must report such allowances as taxable income to the employee.

Reimbursing Agencies for Disaster Expenses

The following outlines the basic steps for processing disaster-related (other than COVID-19) reimbursements between VDEM and receiving agencies.

VDEM's Process for Reimbursing Agencies

- Agencies incur eligible disaster-related damages or expenditures, VDEM assesses costs/damages
- For a federally-declared disaster:
 - The state agency submits costs to FEMA for 75% federal reimbursement
 - o VDEM assesses sum-sufficient authority for the disaster to cover the 25% non-federal share
 - FEMA obligates the funding to VDEM, VDEM enters into a grant agreement with the state agency, final cost share is identified

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Reimbursing Agencies for Disaster Expenses, continued

- VDEM determines what percentage of federal funding is appropriate to reimburse after obligation, and what percentage is appropriate to hold until FEMA completes their final documentation inspection (to reduce the risk of federal funds being re-cooped in future fiscal years). VDEM does not pay the state share (25%) of the FEMA project until the FEMA final inspection is complete.
- o State agency requests reimbursement in vdem.emgrants.com
- VDEM creates payment voucher with appropriate coding fund 10000
- VDEM confirms federal appropriation and coordinates BEX with DPB and State Agency
- Agency transfer is executed (see DPB section below)
- For a state-declared disaster and non-federal portion of federally-declared disaster:
 - State agency submits costs to VDEM in vdem.emgrants.com
 - VDEM validates damages/costs for eligibility
 - o VDEM assesses authority (if there is a Governor's EO) need
 - If authority exists, state agency submits a reimbursement request
 - VDEM creates payment voucher with appropriate coding fund 02460
 - VDEM confirms state appropriation and coordinates BEX with DPB and State Agency
 - Agency transfer is executed (see DPB section below)
 - If authority does not exist, VDEM submits a decision brief and follows the steps above once authority is granted

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Reimbursing Agencies for Disaster Expenses, continued

DPB's Role in Processing BEX Requests for Disaster Reimbursements

- After VDEM finishes reviewing and approving an agency's request for disaster reimbursement, DPB reviews the BEXs in the PB system transferring appropriation from VDEM to the receiving agency
- DPB will confirm that appropriation is being transferred according to documentation provided by VDEM and will confirm that the receiving agency's BEX requests appropriation in the correct funds:
 - Federal funds transferred from VDEM must be transferred into a federal fund at the receiving agency
 - Sum sufficient (fund 02460) transferred from VDEM must be transferred into fund 02460 – Disaster Recovery Fund at the receiving agency
 - No other funds will be allowed for these transfers, even if the expenditures for the disaster were originally made from another fund
 - The Department of Accounts (DOA) will establish access to fund 02460 in Cardinal if a receiving agency does not already have access
 - See instructions below for reimbursing the fund from which disaster expenditures were made (if other than fund 02460)

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Reimbursing Agencies for Disaster Expenses, continued

VDEM Processes ATAs for Cash Transfers

- After the BEXs transferring appropriation are approved by DPB, VDEM will process:
 - A federal cash pass-through cash transfer in the federal fund (10000)
 - A non-general fund cash transfer in the disaster recovery fund (fund 02460)

Instructions for reimbursing the original fund (if other than fund 02460) for disaster expenditures

- If the reimbursement occurs in the succeeding fiscal year:
 - Debit the expenditure to the federal fund/disaster recovery fund, as applicable
 - Credit the revenue account 4009084 Refund of a prior year expenditure in the original fund
- If the reimbursement occurs in the same fiscal year that the expenditure was incurred:
 - O Debit the expenditure to the federal fund/disaster recovery fund, as applicable
 - Credit the expenditure in the original fund

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Expenditure Review Process

DOA Required Review

There are two types of vouchers that will be placed on hold following agency level approval in Cardinal:

- Capital Outlay vouchers
- Payments for legal services

Before DOA's General Accounting Unit will give final approval for these types of vouchers to be released for payment, the agency is required to provide certain documentation as detailed below to DOA's Disbursement Execution and Review email box (DISB@doa.virginia.gov).

Vendor Payments for Capital Projects

Program 998000 is required to be used for any capital outlay voucher input in Cardinal. The State Comptroller must not disburse payments for major capital projects for new construction or acquisition of land (projects over \$500,000) unless an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been completed by the Department of Environmental Quality and approval has been obtained from the Secretary of Administration (*Code of Virginia*, Section 10.1-1188 through 10.1-2502). Additionally, a DGS CO-2 Authority to Initiate Capital Outlay Project Form is required.

Vendor Payments to Outside Legal Services

Account Code 5012430 includes fees to retain outside legal counsel for the Commonwealth. Prior approval from the Office of the Attorney General and the law firm's invoice are required <u>before</u> the vouchers can be approved to be released for payment by DOA staff. Email the documents to DOA's Disbursement Execution and Review Unit at DISB@doa.virginia.gov.

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Expenditure Review Process, Continued

Post Review

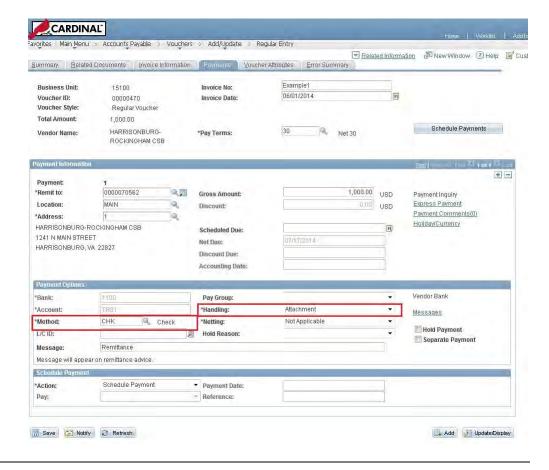
All expenditure documents of every agency are subject to review by DOA's Compliance Oversight and Federal Reporting Unit after they have gone through final agency level approval in the system to ensure:

- transactions are complete and proper, and
- the required supporting documentation is included.

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Special Expenditure Handling

Remittance Advice Coupons – Attachment Checks Some vendors provide their own remittance coupons or similar documents that they <u>require</u> to be returned with the payment. When this is the case, a physical check must be generated by Treasury to be returned to the agency and matched with remittance documents and mailed. Treasury will process these Attachment Checks in the same manner as payroll checks and they will be distributed through the U. S. Postal Service or agency pick up. To indicate in the Cardinal system that a physical check is necessary, access the Payments tab of the Accounts Payable module for the voucher and change the method field to "Check" and the handling field to "Attachment" prior to final approval of the voucher.



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Remittance
Advice
CouponsAttachment
Checks,
continued

Attachment Check payments that contain a Supplier ID and Location that match an EDI trading partner will be sent via Financial EDI if the method field is not changed to "Check". A check will not be generated and returned to you. Contact the payment recipient to determine if a payment coupon is needed. In most instances, the remittance information keyed into Cardinal is adequate for the payee to apply the payment.

Note: Agencies that interface vouchers do not have the ability to change the Location's default payment method from EDI to Check. In the event that a check is required, the voucher should be keyed online to manually change the method field to "Check" and the handling field to "Attachment".

Attachment Checks -Change Requests & Control Documents Change requests regarding the method or destination of these checks must be presented in a written memorandum to the Assistant Director of Administration of the Department of the Treasury. A control document listing the check numbers is included in the distribution of checks mailed to the agency. A control document listing the check numbers is <u>not</u> included in the distribution of checks by agency pick up. However, agencies may run the RAP581, "Payment Register Including Offsets Report," to obtain the payments made by their agency. Check payments are summarized at the end of each day's activity. Any Attachment Checks are shown at the end of the list, which also includes a count of the number of Attachment Checks. This should serve as a primary control listing for agencies that pick up their checks directly from the Department of the Treasury. The checks listed on this report should be compared to the agency maintained log of checks received from the Department of the Treasury.

If there was a payment processed for which no check was received or a payment for which the check was for an amount less than requested, the RAP581 report can be utilized to determine if monies have been offset by the **Comptroller's Debt Setoff Program** (CDS) to satisfy a debt owed to the Commonwealth. The report contains a column showing CDS Supplier, CDS Ref, and CDS Amount. The Related Documents tab for the voucher in Cardinal can also be reviewed to see this information. If CDS has occurred, a separate line showing a Remittance Vendor of CDS and the amount of money that was offset would be listed. See CAPP Topic No. 20325, *Debt Setoff*, for more information.

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Attachment Checks -Distribution Procedures

To ensure adequate control is maintained over the vendor payment process, agencies must establish procedures governing the distribution of Attachment Checks, including the following:

- Segregate duties between the individual authorizing and approving transactions in Cardinal and the individual mailing the Attachment Checks.
- Develop a log to record the receipt of the Attachment Checks from Treasury. Compare the control document provided by Treasury and/or the RAP581 report with the log to ensure all checks are received.
- Handle Attachment Checks according to prudent business practices.
- Match and mail remittance coupons and checks on the day of receipt.

Make every attempt to work with your vendors to accept the standard check stub as the remittance advice in lieu of vendor required remittance documents.

Attachment checks will be available for pick-up from Treasury the day prior to the date of the check. For example, a check that is generated on Monday night, will be printed on Tuesday morning and bear a Wednesday check date. This check will be released for pick-up on Tuesday.

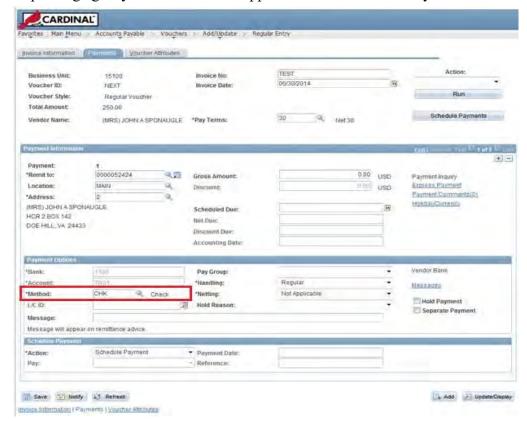
Checks that are not held for pick-up will be mailed on the day printed.

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Express Pays

Express Pays are often needed for vendors who must be paid immediately or for emergency purposes. These payments are relatively costly to prepare due to the manual controls and processing required. Therefore, such requests must be made only when absolutely necessary. Approval for Express Pays will be granted by DOA's General Accounting Unit. Such payments will not be made earlier than the required payment due date. (See CAPP Topic No. 20315, *Prompt Payment*.)

Express Pays are keyed into the Cardinal system by the requesting agency in the same manner as regular Accounts Payable vouchers. To facilitate processing, access the Payments tab of the Accounts Payable module for the voucher and change the method field to "Check" prior to final approval of the voucher. Express Pay vouchers must be entered into Cardinal before 12:00 p.m. in order to allow them to run through the budget check process at that time. Once the voucher has gone through the budget check process, the requesting agency must review and approve the voucher in the system.



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Express Pay Notification

To expedite the processing of Express Pays, notification of a request for an Express Pay should be emailed to DOA's Disbursement Execution and Review Unit at DISB@doa.virginia.gov at the earliest possible point, but **no later than 12:00 p.m.** Prior to notification, the voucher should already be keyed into Cardinal, though it can be awaiting budget check at the time of notification. Adhere to the following parameters when submitting the request:

- State the justification for special handling.
- Provide agency business unit number and Cardinal generated voucher ID number for the Express Pay voucher.
- Include the Agency Head or designee's signature on the request.
- Attach the Cardinal voucher and supporting documentation.

If DOA denies the request for Express Pay, the voucher will be picked up by the regular pay cycle during the nightly process, based upon payment due date.

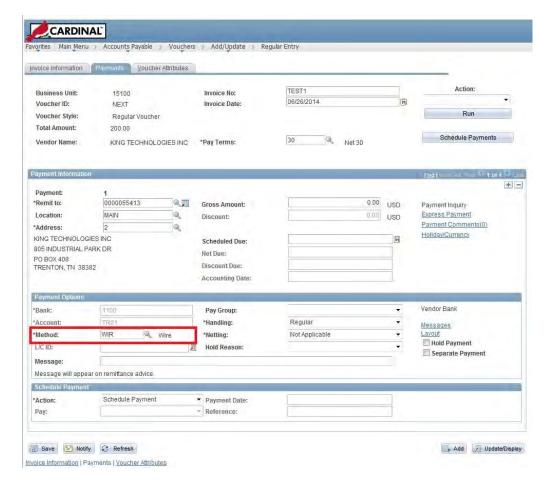
Express Pay Checks

All Express Pay checks will be held for pick-up at the Department of the Treasury's check window.

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Wire Transfers

Wire Transfers are keyed into the Cardinal system by the requesting agency in the same manner as regular Accounts Payable vouchers. To indicate that a Wire Transfer is necessary, access the Payments tab of the Accounts Payable module for the voucher and change the method field to "Wire" prior to final approval of the voucher. Wire Transfer vouchers must be entered into Cardinal before 12:00 p.m. in order to allow them to run through the budget check process at that time. Once the voucher has gone through the budget check process, the requesting agency must review and approve the voucher in the system. Wire Transfers are relatively costly to prepare due to the manual controls and processing required. Therefore, such requests must be made only when absolutely necessary.



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Wire Transfer Notification

To expedite the processing of Wire Transfers, notification of a request for Wire Transfer should be sent by an encrypted email to DOA's General Accounting – Disbursement Execution and Review Unit at DISB@doa.virginia.gov at the earliest possible point, but **no later than 12:00 p.m.** Prior to notification, the voucher should already be keyed into Cardinal, though it can be awaiting budget check at the time of notification. Once budget check has been completed, the agency must approve the voucher in Cardinal. Adhere to the following parameters when submitting the request to DOA:

- Provide copy of complete and approved Voucher Form. Approval must be by someone who has a "Voucher Approver" role in Cardinal.
- Provide Cardinal Voucher Number.
- Provide copy of invoice from company requesting the payment (if available).
- Provide copy of wire transfer instructions to include bank name, account name, ABA bank identity number (9 digits), account number, voucher ID, amount, and any additional or reference information all on one document with the voucher.
- Provide agency contact person name and phone number and email for questions regarding the wire.
- Virginia's Department of the Treasury strongly recommends payments to foreign entities be made in U.S. dollars. If the wire is required to be executed in a foreign currency, please provide supporting documentation indicating the foreign currency to be used.

The requesting agency is also <u>required</u> to notify the Department of the Treasury of any wires expected to be processed for greater than \$1,000,000 by **no later than 10:00 a.m.** if same day processing will be required. This notification can be made prior to keying the voucher into Cardinal. Notification to Treasury may be made through its online Funds Management System ("FMS"). For authorization and enrollment in FMS, email bankingservices@trs.virginia.gov. Alternatively, notification of wire transfers greater than \$1,000,000 may be made via email to bankingservices@trs.virginia.gov.

Note: The processing of the voucher in Cardinal does NOT initiate the wire transfer process. This is a manual task done by Treasury. Failure to follow the above procedures may result in the delay of the wire transfer.

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Wire Transfer Payment Post Process

In order for vouchers to be fully processed in Cardinal, the Payment Date and Reference fields, in the Schedule Payment section of the voucher, must be completed. For Non-wire Business Units (last two digits of the Business Unit are "00"), the voucher must be manually updated the following day to complete the Payment Date and Reference fields.

Schedule Payment	
Action Record a Payment	Payment Date 05/24/2018
Pay Full Amount	Reference PB 5232018

For Wire Business Units (last two digits of the Business Unit are "W0"), the Payment Date and Reference fields are automatically populated by a Cardinal process and thus does not require the agency to take any additional action.

Transactions Between Agencies

When a payment for goods or services occurs between agencies, a Voucher will be filled out and the payment will be processed through the Accounts Payable module in Cardinal. The receiving agency will get an EDI deposit notification from which they will prepare a Deposit Form for entry into the Accounts Receivable module.

When there are transactions between agencies that do not fall under the above circumstances, the transaction will need to be submitted on a General Ledger Journal. See CAPP Topic No. 20405, *Inter-Agency Transactions*, for more information.

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Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)

Financial EDI Payment Processing

Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) is the computer-to-computer exchange of information between two or more parties, known as trading partners.

EDI is used by trading partners to exchange data on

- shipping notices,
- purchase orders,
- invoices, and
- remittance advices.

Financial EDI combines Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) with EDI to electronically transmit both funds and payment remittance data to trading partners. EDI is an alternate, low cost, payment method to the traditional paper check. EDI electronically transfers funds from the State's bank account to the bank account of the trading partner. Electronic payments are made through the Automated Clearinghouse (ACH). EDI payments result in availability of funds on the invoice due date. When all costs are considered, ACH payments are less expensive than paper checks, both for the payer and payee.

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Electronic Data Interchange (EDI), Continued

Enrolling Financial EDI Trading Partners

DOA is responsible for enrolling all EDI trading partners. Agencies are encouraged to direct vendors to the EDI page on DOA's website (www.doa.virginia.gov) to obtain enrollment information.

In Cardinal, EDI bank information is housed on the Vendor's Location record. In most cases, the Vendor's EDI Location is set as the default and will be populated on a voucher when entered. This will set the payment method to ACH or EFT to indicate an EDI payment will be generated.

A list of Active EDI Vendors and Locations can be obtained by running the Active EDI Vendor query (V_AP_EDI_VENDORS) in Cardinal. When inputting a payment, care must be taken to select the correct Location for Vendors with multiple EDI accounts. If an incorrect location is selected for a payment, monies could be deposited in the wrong bank account or a check could be generated instead of an electronic payment.

If an incorrect Supplier ID number is used which matches a different EDI trading partner, the payment will go to that trading partner and your agency will be responsible for recovering the erroneous payment.

Attachment Check payments containing a Supplier ID and Location that match an EDI trading partner will be sent via Financial EDI unless the payment method field is changed to "Check" on the Payments tab of the Cardinal system. A check will not be generated and returned to you. You will need to contact the payment recipient to determine if a payment coupon is needed; however, in most instances, the remittance information keyed into Cardinal is adequate for the payee to apply the payment.

Financial EDI Payment Information

On the Cardinal Related Documents and Payments tabs for a voucher, the payment reference field contains an eight digit number. Payments made via EDI CCD+ payment method are indicated as ACH and have numbers that begin with an 8. Payments made via EDI CTX payment method are indicated as EFT and have numbers that begin with 9. Payments made via epayables method are indicated as Giro-EFT (GE) and have numbers that begin with a 5.

The payment date field on the Payments tab reflects the payment <u>settlement</u> <u>date</u>. The settlement date is the date the money is deposited in the recipient's bank account.

EDI Remittance information from Cardinal is sent to DOA's REDI Virginia website application.

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Electronic Data Interchange (EDI), Continued

Financial EDI Payment Flow

Payments made by Financial EDI will follow the same disbursement process through Cardinal as payments made by check.

Example: A payment which has a **due date** of Wednesday will be processed as follows:

Stage	Description
1	Monday—Agency keys and approves payment in Cardinal.
	Payment processed through Cardinal pay cycle and subjected to
	CDS.
2	Tuesday —Payment information sent to the Commonwealth's
	originating bank and on to Federal Reserve which transmits
	payment to trading partner's bank.
3	Wednesday—Payment deposited in trading partner's bank
	account.

Since the funds are deposited in the recipient's account on Wednesday, this is referred to as the **payment settlement date**.

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Checks

General Warrant Check

The General Warrant Check is utilized for the following disbursements:

- Vendor Payment
- Employee Reimbursement
- Revenue Refund
- Petty Cash Reimbursement
- Other Cardinal-generated disbursements

The Cardinal system produces a check stub attached to each check generated. This stub is designed to contain information to assist the payee in posting the payment.

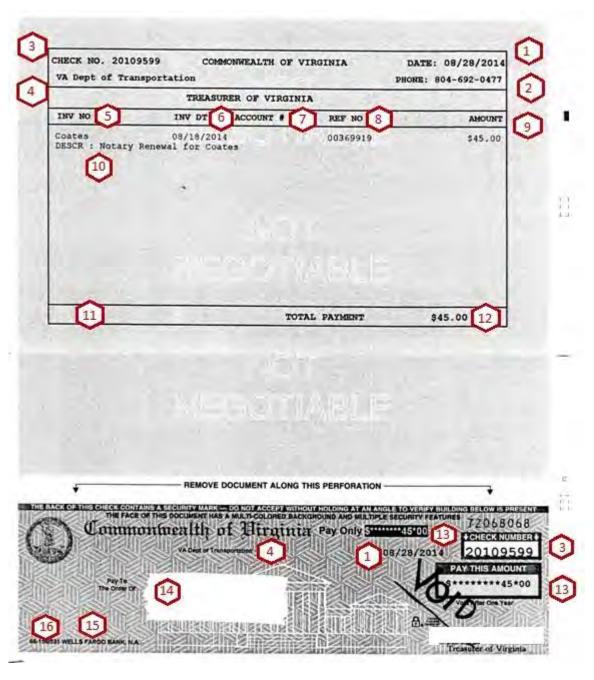
General Warrant Check Information Elements

The following information elements are provided on the General Warrant Check. The numbered items below correspond with the numbers circled on the sample check and stub.

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General Warrant Check



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Checks, Continued

No.	Item	Information Provided	
1	Date	Date (MMDDYYYY) of the check.	
2	Phone	Area code and telephone number of agency.	
3	Check No.	Unique 8-digit check number.	
4	Agency Name	Name of agency charged with payment.	
5	Inv. No.	Vendor's invoice number (maximum of 30 positions). This value is entered in the "Invoice No." field on the Invoice Information tab in Cardinal.	
6	Inv. Dt.	Vendor's invoice date. This value is entered in the "Invoice Date" field on the Invoice Information tab in Cardinal.	
7	Account #	Customer account number of the payee (13 positions). This value is entered in the "Customer Account #" field on the Invoice Information tab in Cardinal.	
8	Ref. No.	Voucher number assigned from Cardinal.	
9	Amount	Amount of invoice.	
10	Descr.	Description of vendor's invoice (maximum of 40 positions). This value is entered in the "Message" field on the Payment tab in Cardinal. If the field is not changed, the word "Remittance" will appear.	
11	CDS Message	A message will be printed if the payment amount was impacted by the Comptroller's Debt Setoff Program (CDS).	
12	Total Payment	Sum of invoice amounts less amount of monies suspended by CDS, if any (same as item no. 13).	
13	Pay this Amount	Amount of payment.	
14	Pay to the Order of	Payee Name and Address.	
15	Bank Name	Bank on which check is drawn.	
16	Routing Symbol	ABA bank route and transit numbers.	

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Checks, Continued

Accurate Payment Remittance Information

The remittance information furnished to trading partners/vendors must be accurate, whether it is provided through check-stubs or EDI. For example, certain payment recipients require invoice numbers to apply payments, some require customer account numbers, while others require both.

Other vendors with whom we have established electronic trading partner agreements have automated cash application systems which are designed to obtain customer account numbers. Where this information is not provided properly, the vendor must apply the payment manually, typically following a telephone call to your accounts payable staff and/or DOA. These examples highlight the importance of providing the precise payment identifying information, as well as the need to provide this information in the appropriate Cardinal field.

To assist in identifying payments, enter, when applicable, the:

- Customer Account Number,
- Invoice Number (required field, may not duplicate by vendor),
- Payment Message (first 40 characters entered on the Payments tab of the voucher), and
- Invoice Date (required field) to assist in identifying payments.

In the absence of specific invoice identification information, key other payment identifying information in these fields. **Do not use sensitive information in the description or identifying information**.

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Internal Control

Internal Control

Each agency must establish a program of internal control which addresses the expenditure of State funds. Expenditure forms must be completed properly and due dates established in accordance with the Prompt Payment Act. Expenditures and disbursement transactions must be approved in Cardinal. There must be a segregation of duty between the preparation and entry of Cardinal transactions and the approval of transactions in Cardinal. Internal agency procedures should ensure the proper use of funds for all State expenditures.

Records Retention

Time Period

Copies of expenditure documents are to be maintained on file in each agency for three years after end of state fiscal year. Revenue refund documentation should be maintained for five years.

Destruction of records must be in accordance with policies and procedures of the Records Management Section, Library of Virginia.

For further guidance, see CAPP Topic No. 21005, *Records Retention and Disposition*.

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Section No. 20300 – Cash Disbursements Accounting	TOPIC	Expenditures
CARDINAL	DATE	June 2023

Contacts

DOA Contact Director, General Accounting

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(804) 225-2376

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disb@doa.virginia.gov

EDI Enrollment Information

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edi@doa.virginia.gov

EDI Remittance Information

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(804) 692-0473

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redivirginia@doa.virginia.gov

Policy Exceptions: Compliance Oversight and Federal Reporting Unit

ComplianceAssurance@doa.virginia.gov

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Subject Cross References

References CAPP – Topic No. 20305, Receiving Reports

CAPP – Topic No. 20315, Prompt Payment

CAPP – Topic No. 20325, Debt Setoff

CAPP – Topic No. 20335, State Travel Regulations CAPP – Topic No. 20336, Agency Travel Processing

CAPP – Topic No. 20405, *Inter-Agency Transactions* CAPP – Topic No. 20410, *Intra-Agency Transactions*

CAPP - Topic No. 21005, Records Retention and Disposition

CAPP - Topic No. 21105, Vendor Maintenance

CAPP – Topic No. 50535, Employer Provided Fringe Benefits

CAPP – Topic No. 70220, Security

Refer to suggested job aids and training information for data entry and processing on the Cardinal website: cardinalproject.virginia.gov.

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Subject Cross References, Continued

Suggested Forms and Job Aids The following form can be found on the Cardinal Website, under Resources >

Forms:

Accounts Payable Voucher Transmittal Form

The following can be found on the Cardinal Website, under Learning > Course Materials:

Voucher Processing

Approving Vouchers

The following can be found on the Cardinal Website, under Learning > Simulations (FIN):

Performing Approvals

The following can be found on the Cardinal Website, under Learning > Job Aids:

AP312 Unposting, Deleting and Closing a Voucher

Additional job aids and training materials may be available on the Cardinal website.