



Budget Reference Chartfield

Issue Summary	Should USG configure the upgrade process to populate the budget reference chartfield based on the budget year in order to facilitate reporting and inquiry?
Background	<p>PeopleSoft presents institutions with the option of placing the budget year from R7.5 in the budget reference field. This configuration option allows institutions to review data the way it has been presented historically because the budget year is stored in the ACTUALS ledger.</p> <p>When commitment control was introduced, PeopleSoft moved budget reporting functionality to the commitment control ledger. Columns in the ledger table were turned into separate ledgers and budget year functionality was removed in place of budget period. Unfortunately, reporting and inquiry was made more difficult with the increase in flexibility.</p> <p>USG has the opportunity to configure the system where budget year remains a detail chartfield if they so chose.</p>
Risks	1. See Cons on possible solutions
Possible Solution(s)	<p>Option 1 – Use Budget Reference and Budget Period</p> <p>Pros</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows for the use of budget period hold functionality without customization Will have the budget year in the ledger for expenses When sub-module journals are created, the budget year will be on the journal line, so two lines with the same chartfields won't be summarized during journal generation. <p>Cons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two fields with the same meaning could be confusing to users Heavy emphasis will be placed on training the ensure functionality is used correctly <p>Potential Customization</p> <p>Add customization to gray the budget reference chartfield and populate it based on the budget date supplied</p> <p>Option 2 - Do not use budget reference and use budget period</p> <p>Pros</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PeopleSoft recommended approach Budget period can be placed on hold preventing spending additional spending except on encumbered monies Can reuse a speed chart or speed type because they are not budget year specific Approach communicated to user community Simplifies year end processing. Predecessor document dates have a lesser impact. <p>Cons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sub-module journals will consolidate across budget periods because there is no unique chartfield to keep them separate



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complex joins must be used to get budget period to the KK records making reporting and issue resolution more complex • Users have to completely understand the functionality of the budget period especially at year end close • Heavy emphasis will be placed on training the ensure functionality is used correctly <p>Potential Customization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build a reporting view to display the budget year associated with expenditures at the ledger level (Complex) • Build a reporting view to display the budget year associated with expenditures at the journal line level (Complex) <p>Option 3 - Use budget reference for the budget year and a cumulative budget period (CUM)</p> <p>Pros</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will have the budget year in the ledger for expenses • When sub-module journals are created, the budget year will be on the journal line, so two lines with the same chartfields won't be summarized during journal generation. • Budget date will still have meaning as it will be used to validate the start and end date of a project / grant. • Minimizes risk associated with report development and reconciliation since accessing data is less complex. Commitment control records will not have to be joined to extract the budget year. • Year end issues associated with charging previous budget year are minimized <p>Cons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have to use budget attributes at a lower level if it needs to be put on hold or closed. • Speed charts and speed types will have to include this chartfield, so they have to be adjusted every year • Existing development would have to be updated to include this functionality change. <p>Potential Customizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Default the budget reference based on the accounting date when a speed type or speed chart is used • Populate budget attributes at year end close to place a budget reference on hold (freeze spending)
Escalating Sub-team and Lead	Functional – Deidre Crawford
Recommended Action	After careful consideration and debate, the functional team recommends changing direction away from option 2 and proceeding with option 1. We feel this approach minimizes project risk since it allows institutions to receive the full benefit of budget period functionality while maintaining the budget year in the ledger. The proposed customization in minor in scope and will minimize confusion at data entry.



Accounting Issues Committee Comments	<p>AIC Committee members selected Option 1 at the 05/15/07 meeting. GeorgiaFirst will use the Budget Reference chartfield in PSFIN 8.9. A BOR customization will be created to gray the Budget Reference field and populate the value based upon the Budget Date field value.</p>
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