

SAHARA Overview

What is SAHARA?

- The acronym comes from **Shared Accounts Reconciliation Application**, and is an account reconciliation application in PeopleSoft used to reconcile cost centers and projects.
- Replaces the Monthly Financial Report (MFR).
- Streamlines and accelerates reconciliations.
- Helps reconcilers identify and correct errors more efficiently.

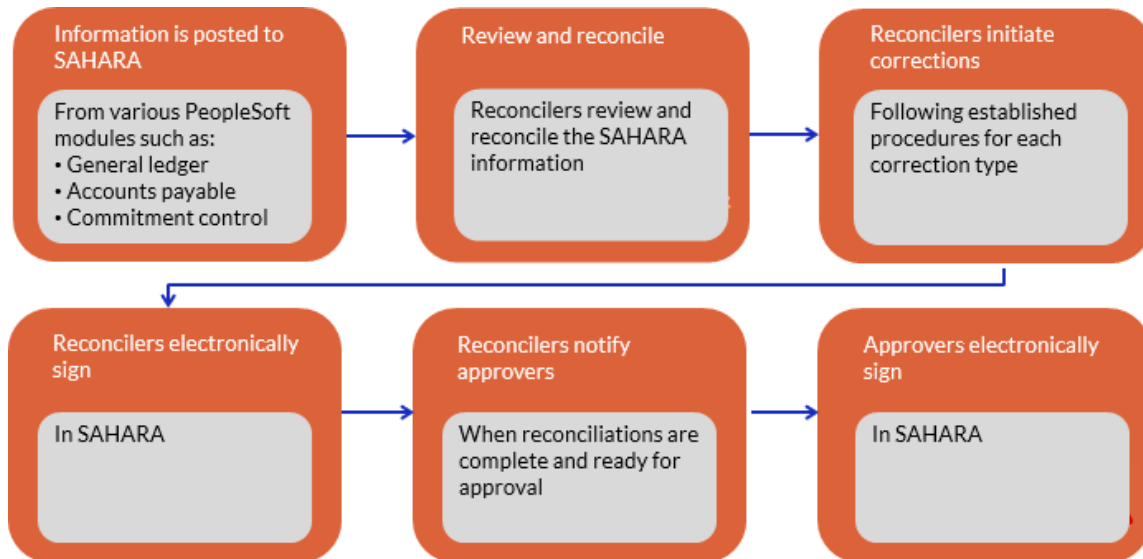
What does SAHARA do?

- Takes all financial transactions posted to a cost center or project and shows them in a manner that makes reconciling and reviewing more efficient.
- Data funnels into SAHARA from various modules, such as:
 - accounts payable (A/P)
 - general ledger (GL)
 - commitment control
 - purchasing

What are the benefits of SAHARA?

- Reconcilers and approvers can easily check the status of reconciliations.
- Reconcilers can get a clear view of financial transaction details and export them into Excel.
- Provides tools, such as **flags and comment boxes**, for improved communication between reconcilers and approvers.
- Contains a robust electronic and paperless approach to reviewing and approving reconciliations.
- Approvers can electronically approve multiple cost centers or projects at one time after they have been reconciled.
- It offers *Easy Correct*, allowing reconcilers to initiate corrections for certain actuals transactions.

What is the reconciliation process?



What other resources are available for guidance?

- The following helpful tools are located on the [Financial Affairs Training Accounting Services website](#).
 - Reconciliation Checklist: Provides each step necessary for reconciliations
 - Large Purchase Training Template: Provides assistance with tracking large purchases
 - Salary Expense Review Template: Provides assistance with reviewing salary activity
- Refer to FMOGs page for the following operational guidelines:
 - [Department Financial Reviews](#)
 - [Monitoring Plan for Segregation of Duties and Review of Financial Activity](#)
- Additional training available:
 - AM 0711.01 SAHARA Open Lab (**optional**)
 - This lab gives reconcilers and approvers an opportunity to discuss questions about SAHARA reconciliations or issues they have encountered during their reconciliations.

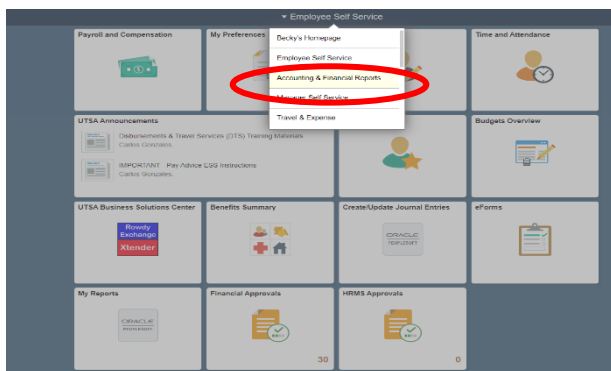
Who can help with access or any other issues?

- For access and navigation issues:
 - [Tech Café](#) at ext. 7762
- For all other items:
 - Accounting Services at ext. 4212 or Accounting.Office@utsa.edu

UTSA Accounting Services

Navigating to SAHARA

- Log in to PeopleSoft
- To use tile navigation
 - Choose **Accounting and Financial Reports** in the drop down
 - Choose SAHARA Monthly Reconciliation
- To use breadcrumb navigation: Financials/UTZ Customization/General Ledger/SAHARA/ Process/ARA Process/ ARA-Accounts Reconciliation



Search Page

On this tab, you will search for reconciliations by choosing the period, fiscal year, cost center/project id or department ID. Then click **Search**.

Reconciliations can only be run for **one** period, not cumulatively.

The screenshot shows a navigation bar with a back arrow and the text "Accounting & Financial Reports". Below it is a "Search Page" tab. The main heading is "Account Reconciliation". Underneath is a "Search Criteria" form with the following fields: "*Business Unit" with the value "UTSA1", "*Year" with "2021", "*Period" with "1", "Department" (empty), and "Cost Center/Project" with "DRV123". A "Search" button is at the bottom. A blue callout box on the right contains the text: "Enter Year, Period, Cost Center or Project OR Department ID; then click Search". An arrow points from this box to the search criteria form.

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- After clicking **Search**, various information will populate (see diagram below.)
- Then, click the hyperlink of the cost center or project you will reconcile to drill into the reconciliation.

Search Page

Account Reconciliation

Search Criteria

*Business Unit

*Year

*Period

Department

Cost Center/Project

Multiple Cost Center/Project Approval Page

Reconciliation or approval status

| Cost Center/Project | Description | Owner | Type | Fiscal Year | Period | Reconciliation Status | Reconciliation | Approval | Actuals Rev | Actuals Exp | Budgets Rev | Budgets Exp | Encumbrance |
|------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|--------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| DRV123 | Rowdy Admin Ops ADMIN OPS | Burton,Bianca G | Costcenter | 2021 | 1 | Not Reconciled | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 0.00 | 21,117.51 | -25,132.00 | 25,281.12 | 182.24 |

Personalize | Find | View All | | | First 1 of 1 Last

Click here to drill into the reconciliation

Cost center or Project owner/Department

Monthly totals

SAHARA Tabs

There are six tabs in SAHARA:

- **Search Page:** To return to the Search Page
- **Approval Page:** Where approvers can electronically approve reconciliations
- **Budget Information:** To review budget information
- **Actuals Reconciliation:** To review actuals transactions and where reconcilers can electronically sign reconciliation
- **Encumbrance Information:** To review encumbrance information
- **Download Actuals:** To access a listing of actuals transactions that can be exported into Excel (same data as Actuals Reconciliation tab)

Accounting & Financial Reports

Search Page | Approval Page | Budget Information | Actuals Reconciliation | Encumbrance Information | Download Actuals

6 tabs in SAHARA

Header Details

| Cost Center | Description | Owner | |
|-------------|-----------------|------------------|--|
| DRV123 | Rowdy Admin Ops | Bunton, Bianca G | |
| Projects | Start Date | End Date | |

Actuals Reconciliation Tab

The actuals reconciliation tab contains:

- Summaries of year-to-date revenues, expenses, budgets and encumbrances
- Revenue and expense actuals details
- Comment and flag features for the reconciliation
- Comment and flag features for each transaction
- Easy Correct correction journals (details for this are covered in the Easy Correct section)
- The electronic signature section for reconcilers
 - After the reconciler has electronically signed the reconciliation, they **must** notify the approver (via email, etc.) **PeopleSoft does not automatically notify the approver when reconciliations are ready for approval.**

Below are the details you will find on the Actuals Reconciliation tab.

Header Details Section

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------|------------------|
| Search Page | Approval Page | Budget Information | Actuals Reconciliation | Encumbrance Information | Download Actuals | | | |
| Header Details | | | | | | | | |
| Cost Center | DRV123 | Description | Rowdv Admin Oos | Owner | Bunton,Bianca G | Department | RDX099 | Rowdv Admin |
| Projects | | | | Start Date | End Date | Accounting Period | 1 | Fiscal Year 2021 |

The **Header Details** will provide the cost center/project, owner, department, accounting period and Fiscal year, as well as the start and end dates of Sponsored and Capital projects.

UTSA Accounting Services

Month End Summary

Month End Expense Summary

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Revised Expense Budget | \$25,281.12 |
| YTD Actuals Expense | \$21,117.51 |
| PTD Actuals Expense | \$21,117.51 |
| Encumbrance Total | \$182.24 |
| Available Expense Budget | \$3,981.37 |

Month End Revenue Summary

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Revised Revenue Budget | \$25,132.00 |
| YTD Actuals Revenue | \$0.00 |
| PTD Actuals Revenue | \$0.00 |
| Revenue Budget Balance | \$25,132.00 |

Month End Expense Summary

- Expense budget
- Year-to-date actual expenses
- Project –to-date actual expenses (for project IDs only)
- Encumbrance total = total of open encumbrances
- Available expense budget (available funds)

Month End Revenue Summary

- Revenue budget
- Year-to-date actual revenue
- Project-to-date actual revenue (for project IDs only)
- Revenue budget balance

Reconciliation Section

Once the entire reconciliation (all tabs) has been reviewed and all Reviewed boxes are checked on the Actuals Reconciliation tab, reconcilers will check the **Reconciliation** checkbox and then click **Save**.

The reconciliation is now ready for approver review, and **no further changes can be made**.

Reconciliation

Reconciliation Reconciled By _____ Reconcile Date _____ Reconciled Oprid _____

I have reconciled all Actuals transactions for this cost center/Project to appropriate supporting documentation and noted all reconciling items in the comment fields.

Save



After the reconciler has electronically signed the reconciliation, they **must** notify the approver (via email, etc.) **PeopleSoft does not automatically notify the approver when reconciliations are ready for approval.**

UTSA Accounting Services

Comments Section

The screenshot shows a web interface for entering comments. At the top, there is a blue box labeled 'Comments Section'. Below it, a light blue box contains the 'Comments' section. This section has two text input fields: 'Reconciler Comments' on the left and 'Approver Comments' on the right. A yellow 'Save Comments' button is positioned between the two input fields.

Reconciler and approver/owner (department manager) can enter comments in this **Comments** section.

These comments should apply to the reconciliation.

Comments can also be left on a specific transaction (covered more in section below.)

Click **Save Comments** button to save the comments.

Account Section

- **Revenue and expense actuals are listed.**
 - These are actuals transactions posted within the month being reconciled, for example:
 - Accounts payable vouchers
 - General ledger journals, including IDTs, UTZ/Banner journals, expense sheets, etc.
 - Grouped by:
 - General ledger account code
 - 63003 Office Supplies
 - 63601 Computer Time, etc.
 - Document source (type of document that recorded the transaction), for example:
 - Accounts payable
 - Spreadsheet journal
 - UTZ journal
- **Comments and flags** can be added to each transaction.
- **Easy Correct** is available to create correcting journals for certain transactions. This will be covered in more detail in the Easy Correct section of this job aid.
- After reviewing account activity within each account code, **Reconcilers must check the “Reviewed” checkbox for each account code. This is required in order for the Reconciler to signoff** on the reconciliation.

UTSA Accounting Services

Must check Reviewed checkbox for every account

Transactions are grouped by account code and document source

View All (to view all accounts)

View All (to view all transactions)

Easy Correct feature is available for certain

Comments and flags can be left on transactions. Note: A comment must be left in order to use the flag function.

The screenshot displays the UTSA Accounting Services interface. At the top, it shows summary statistics: Revenue for the period \$0.00 and Expenses for the period \$21,117.51. Below this, there are two main sections for account details. The first section is for account 60302, 'Data Processing Serv', with a 'Reviewed' checkbox checked and a 'Review Date' of 10/20/20 10:44:12AM. The second section is for account 63003, 'Office/Computer Supplies', also with a 'Reviewed' checkbox checked and a 'Review Date' of 10/20/20 10:44:14AM. Below these are two transaction lists. The first list is for account 63003, 'Office/Computer Supplies', showing 11 transactions with columns for Flag, Easy Correct, Invoice ID, Invoice Date, Due Date, Voucher ID, Voucher Line Descr, Vendor Name, Customer Name, PO #, PO Descr, and Monetary Amount. The second list is for account 63003, 'Office/Computer Supplies', showing 1 transaction with columns for Flag, Easy Correct, Journal ID, Journal Date, Journal Line Description, Journal Header Descr, Journal Line Ref, and Monetary Amount. Callout boxes with arrows point to various elements: 'Must check Reviewed checkbox for every account' points to the 'Reviewed' checkboxes; 'Transactions are grouped by account code and document source' points to the account and source information; 'View All (to view all accounts)' points to the 'View All' link at the top right; 'View All (to view all transactions)' points to the 'View All' link in the transaction list; 'Easy Correct feature is available for certain' points to the 'Easy Correct' checkboxes; and 'Comments and flags can be left on transactions. Note: A comment must be left in order to use the flag function.' points to the 'Flag' column in the transaction list.

Actuals Reconciliation Tab

Review



- Review revenue and expenses.
- Does the data seem accurate?
- Does it include everything you expected?

Consider



- Consider the available expense budget.
- Is the amount negative?
- If so, a budget transfer or a correction may need to be processed to correct the balance.
- Are there other planned commitments not included in this balance that need to be considered?

Focus



- Focus on areas requiring more attention:
 - Was a transaction recorded to the wrong cost center or project?
 - Was a transaction recorded to the wrong account code?
- Focus on salary activity: Departments **must** have a method to prove review of salary expense detail against budget.
 - For period 1, compare original budget in salaries to a list of position budgets and adjust funding as needed.
 - For all other months, take the salary budget by person, deduct the amount paid by person and deduct encumbrances by person. This should equal zero.
- If the amount is positive, it is usually an indication of salary savings.
- If the amount is negative, most likely, additional funding is needed.
 - Check budget and expenses carefully when there are personnel changes like new hires, terminations or pay rate changes, including additional pay.
 - Use the Payroll Distribution Report as a supplemental resource.
 - Use the optional Salary Expense Overview Template created by Financial Affairs.
- This Excel template can assist in reviewing salary activities.
- Use of the template is not required, but departments **must** have a method to prove review of salary expense detail against budget.

Download Actuals Tab

- Enables access to a listing of actuals transactions that can be downloaded into one Excel worksheet
- Lists the **same transactions as on the Actuals Reconciliation tab**, but with an Excel-friendly layout
- Another option to assist in reviewing actuals

To download the transactions, scroll to the far right of the Download Actuals screen and click on the Excel icon. When the Excel spreadsheet has been downloaded, you will see the listing of revenue and expense transactions for the month. Note: the report runs 100 columns wide.

Below are details you will find on the Download Actuals tab.

Scroll to far right

Click the Excel icon

Accounting & Financial Reports

Search Page | Approval Page | Budget Information | Actuals Reconciliation | Encumbrance Information | Download Actuals

Header Details

Cost Center: DRV123 Description: Rowdy Admin Ops Owner: Bunton, Bianca G
Projects: Start Date: End Date:

| Business Unit | Fiscal Year | Accounting Period | Cost Center | Account | Ledger | Ledger Group | Source |
|---------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|---------|---------|--------------|--------|
| 1 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 1 DRV123 | 63003 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | AP |
| 2 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 1 DRV123 | 63003 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | AP |
| 3 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 1 DRV123 | 63003 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | AP |

Personalize | Find | View All | [Print] | First | 1-22 of 22 | [Page Navigation]

| TR Journal Line Ref | Manager |
|---------------------|---------|
| | |
| | |

SAHARA will export Excel worksheet listing actuals transactions for the month.

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U |
|---------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|---------|---------|--------------|--------|----------------------------|------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------|-----------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------|--------------------|------|
| Business Unit | Fiscal Year | Accounting Period | Cost Center | Account | Ledger | Ledger Group | Source | Accounting Definition Name | Department | Monetary Amount | User Character Field 2 | Invoice ID | Invoice Dt | Due Date | Voucher Line Descr | Vendor Name | Customer Name | PO# | PO Descr | User |
| 1 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63003 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | AP | APDEFN | | | 25.2 | APDEFN | 127075397001 | 9/24/2020 | 10/1/2020 | HP 951XL High Yiel | TODAY'S BUSINESS 5 | | PO0086793 | HP 951XL High Yiel | R002 |
| 2 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63003 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | AP | APDEFN | | | 4.64 | APDEFN | 127075397001 | 9/24/2020 | 10/1/2020 | Office Depot(R) Br | TODAY'S BUSINESS 5 | | PO0086793 | Office Depot(R) Br | R002 |
| 3 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63003 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | AP | APDEFN | | | 20.8 | APDEFN | 127075397001 | 9/24/2020 | 10/1/2020 | Paper Mate(R) Inkl | TODAY'S BUSINESS 5 | | PO0086793 | Paper Mate(R) Inkl | R002 |
| 4 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63141 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | AP | APDEFN | | | -44 | APDEFN | 0001968416-0000000 | 9/3/2020 | 9/26/2020 | IOU CAMPUSTECHNOLO | CITIBANK NA | | | | 0025 |
| 5 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 67117 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | AP | APDEFN | | | 99 | APDEFN | 0001968416-0000000 | 9/3/2020 | 9/26/2020 | NACUBO | CITIBANK NA | | | | 0025 |
| 6 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63003 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | AP | APDEFN | | | 38 | APDEFN | 127075397001 | 9/24/2020 | 10/1/2020 | Purell(R) Instant | TODAY'S BUSINESS 5 | | PO0086793 | Purell(R) Instant | R002 |
| 7 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 67117 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | GLS | | | | -99 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63003 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | AP | APDEFN | | | -16.09 | APDEFN | 0001968416-0000000 | 9/3/2020 | 9/26/2020 | AMAZON.COM | CITIBANK NA | | | | 0025 |
| 9 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63003 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | AP | APDEFN | | | 16.09 | APDEFN | 0001968416-0000000 | 9/3/2020 | 9/26/2020 | AMAZON.COM MF3TW9 | CITIBANK NA | | | | 0025 |
| 10 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63003 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | AP | APDEFN | | | 53.76 | APDEFN | 127075397001 | 9/24/2020 | 10/1/2020 | HP 951XL High Yiel | TODAY'S BUSINESS 5 | | PO0086793 | HP 951XL High Yiel | R002 |
| 11 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63003 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | AP | APDEFN | | | 7.32 | APDEFN | 0001968416-0000000 | 9/3/2020 | 9/26/2020 | H-E-B #463 | CITIBANK NA | | | | 0025 |
| 12 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63003 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | AP | APDEFN | | | 11.88 | APDEFN | 127075397001 | 9/24/2020 | 10/1/2020 | Scotch(R) Transpar | TODAY'S BUSINESS 5 | | PO0086793 | Scotch(R) Transpar | R002 |
| 13 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63003 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | AP | APDEFN | | | 21.9 | APDEFN | 127075397001 | 9/24/2020 | 10/1/2020 | Paper Mate(R) Inkl | TODAY'S BUSINESS 5 | | PO0086793 | Paper Mate(R) Inkl | R002 |
| 14 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63003 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | AP | APDEFN | | | 13.99 | APDEFN | 514628511001 | 9/30/2020 | 10/7/2020 | Allsep NatureSmart | TODAY'S BUSINESS 5 | | PO0086962 | Allsep NatureSmart | R002 |
| 15 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 60302 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | GLS | | | | 24583.34 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63003 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | GLS | | | | 16.09 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 17 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63003 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | GLS | | | | -7.32 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 67645 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | GLS | UTZ | UTZ_JGEN_A | | -3655 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63601 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | ONL | | | | 97272 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63003 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | GLS | | | | -16.09 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 21 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63141 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | GLS | | | | 44 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 22 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63601 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | ONL | | | | -97272 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 23 UTSA1 | 2021 | 1 | 63601 | ACTUALS | ACTUALS | ONL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Encumbrance Information Tab

- Summarizes the beginning and ending balances of open encumbrances, as well as net encumbrance activity for the month
- Lists details of monthly encumbrance activities, including:
 - Purchase order encumbrances
 - Travel expense encumbrances
 - Salary encumbrances
 - Disencumbrances
- Contains comment and flag features for the **reconciliation**
- Contains comment and flag features for **each transaction**

Below are details you will find on the Encumbrance Information tab.

Comments and Encumbrance Summary Sections

Reconcilers and approvers can leave comments. Remember to click **Save** to save your comments!

| Accounting & Financial Reports | | ARA - Accounts Reconciliation | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|--|--------|-------------|----|
| Search Page | Approval Page | Budget Information | Actuals Reconciliation | Encumbrance Information | Download Actuals | | | | |
| Header Details | | | | | | | | | |
| Cost Center | DXM003 | Description | FINANCIAL AFFAIRS ADMIN OPS | Owner | Bunton, Bianca G | Department | RDX099 | Rowdy Admin | TA |
| Projects | | Start Date | | End Date | | Accounting Period | 2 | Fiscal Year | |
| Comments | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | Approver Comments | | | |
| | | | | | | <input type="text"/> | | | |
| | | | | | | <input type="button" value="Save Comments"/> | | | |
| Encumbrance Summary | | | | | | | | | |
| Beginning Balance | \$1,757.52 | Net of Transactions | \$-1,724.52 | Ending Balance | \$33.00 | | | | |
| PO Encumbrances | | | | | | | | | |

Beginning balance of open encumbrances for this period

Net amount of encumbrance activities for this period.
The details behind this amount are listed in the sections below.

Ending balance of open encumbrances for this period

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Encumbrance Details Sections

Encumbrance activities are broken into 3 sections:

1. Purchase order encumbrances
2. Travel expense encumbrances
3. All other encumbrance, includes
 - Payroll encumbrances
 - All disencumbrances for:
 - Purchase orders
 - Travel
 - Payroll

This query provides a listing of open encumbrances: Open PO Query – UTS_PO_OPEN_ENC_BY_CC

| PO Encumbrances | | | XXXXXXXX | Sue Blue | 2019 Rowdv Retreat | | | | | | | Personalize | Find |
|-----------------|------|-----------|---------------------|------------|---------------------|--|---------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------|-------------|------|
| Comments | Flag | PO Number | Purchase Order Date | Line | PO Line Description | Vendor Name | Requisition ID | Requisition Date | Requisition Description | Requisition Line Number | Account | Descrip | |
| 1 | | | PO0074287 | 10/07/2019 | | Office Depot(R) Brand Durable View Round-Ring Binder, 2 Rings, 61 Recycled, Purple | TODAY'S BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, LLC | | 10/07/2019 | | A4000 | Operati | |

| Travel Expense Encumbrances | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------|-------------------------|------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Comments | Flag | Travel Authorization ID | Empl ID | Employee Name | Travel Authorization Submission Date | Travel Auth Description | Business Purpose | Line Description | | | | |
| 1 | | | 0000140246 | 6001126407 | Hardison, Sheri L | 10/01/2019 | 2019 TASSCUBO Retreat | TR001 | | | | |

| All other Encumbrances | | | | | | | | | | | Personalize | Find | View All | | First | 1 of 23 | Last |
|------------------------|------|------------------|-------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--|--|--|-------------|------|----------|--|-------|---------|------|
| Comments | Flag | Encumbrance Type | Document ID | Document Line | Document Description | Commitment Control Quantity | Monetary Amount | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | | | EX_EXSHEET | | 0 Expense Sheet | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Comments and flags can be added to

Click **Excel** icon to export transactions

Encumbrances

Review



- Review the monthly activities listed in SAHARA.
- Did you review open encumbrances?
- Is the data accurate?
- Does it include everything you expected?
- Can you close out any purchase orders or travel authorizations?
 - Email Purchasing@utsa.edu to request closure of POs that are fully finished and paid.
 - Email disbursements.travel@utsa.edu with TA number and travel name to close, cancel or delete TAs that should no longer be encumbered.
- Are there payments that need to be made on purchase orders?
 - See the Texas Prompt Payment Law FMOG for guidelines regarding payment timelines.
 - Follow up with Disbursements and Travel Services as necessary on outstanding payments.

Consider



- Do you have pending purchases over \$15,000 or other large commitments not yet encumbered?
- Are you maintaining a list of those pending purchases over \$15,000 or other large commitments not yet encumbered?
- Do you know the available balance once you've considered the unencumbered commitments?
- See Large Purchase Tracking Template for guidance on tracking large purchases not yet encumbered.

Focus



- Focus on any other areas needing more attention.
- See Actuals tab information for salary related areas needing analysis.

Budget Information Tab

- Summarizes the beginning of:
 - Period budgets
 - Monthly budget activities
 - End-of-period budgets
- Lists details of the monthly budget activities
- Contains comment and flag features for the **reconciliation**
- Contains comment and flag features for **each transaction**

Below are details you will find on the Budget Information tab

Comments Section

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------------|--|------------------|-------------------|--------|-----------------|
| Search Page | Approval Page | Budget Information | Actuals Reconciliation | Encumbrance Information | Download Actuals | | | |
| Header Details | | | | | | | | |
| Cost Center | DRV123 | Description | Rowdy Admin Ops | Owner | Bunton, Bianca G | Department | RDX099 | Rowdy Admin Ops |
| Projects | | | | Start Date | End Date | Accounting Period | 2 | Fiscal Year |
| Comments | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Approver Comments | | | | |
| | | | | <input type="text"/> | | | | |
| | | | | <input type="button" value="Save Comments"/> | | | | |
| Summary | | | | | | | | |

Reconcilers and approvers can leave comments. Remember to hit **Save** to save your comments!

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Summary Section

Summary

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Permanent Revenue Budget | \$-9,980.00 |
| Beginning of Period Rev Budget Total | \$-9,980.00 |
| Monthly Rev Budget Transaction Total | \$0.00 |
| End of Period Rev Revised Budget | \$-9,980.00 |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Permanent Expense Budget | \$0.00 |
| Beginning of Period Exp Budget Total | \$14,165.40 |
| Monthly Exp Budget Transaction Total | \$22,950.00 |
| End of Period Exp Revised Budget | \$37,115.40 |

Revenue Budget

- **Beginning of Period Rev Budget Total:** Prior month ending revenue budget (Agrees to “Revenue Estimate” on Budget Overview screen for this period)
- **Monthly Rev Budget Transaction Total:** Revenue budget adjustments made this period (e.g. budget transfers)
- **End of Period Rev Revised Budget:** This is the Beginning of Period Rev Budget Total + Monthly Rev Budget Transaction Total

Expense Budget

- **Beginning of Period Exp Budget Total:** Prior month end expense budget. (Agrees to **Budget** in Budget Overview screen for this period)
- **Monthly Exp Budget Transaction Total:** Expense budget adjustments made during this period (e.g., budget transfers)
- **End of Period Exp Revised Budget:** This is the Beginning of Period Exp Budget Total + Monthly Exp Budget Transaction Total.

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Budget Activity Section

Comments and flags can be added to transactions

| Budget Activity | | | | | | | | | | | | Personalize | Find | View All | First | 1-2 of 2 | Last | |
|-----------------|----------|------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|--------------|-------------------|---------|---------------------|---------------|-------------|------|----------|-------|----------|------|--|
| | Comments | Flag | Tran ID | Tran Date | Tran Line | Journal ID | Ledger Group | Budget Entry Type | Account | Account Description | Budget Amount | | | | | | | |
| 1 | | | 0005770042 | 10/30/2019 | 4 | 0000433875 | OPE | Xfer Adj. | A4000 | Operating Expenses | \$12,000.00 | | | | | | | |
| 2 | | | 0005779382 | 11/04/2019 | 2 | 0000431983 | OPE | Xfer Adj. | A4000 | Operating Expenses | \$10,950.00 | | | | | | | |

For each budget transaction, the following data is presented:

- Transaction ID
 - ID assigned when the budget transfer was processed
- Tran Date
 - Date the budget transfer was processed
- Tran Line:
 - Line number of the budget transfer
- Journal ID
 - Journal number assigned when the budget transfer was processed
- Ledger Group (ledger group of the transaction)
 - OPE: Operating Expense
 - OPR: Operating Revenue
 - PLANT: Capital Projects
 - GRANT CHILD: Sponsored Projects
- Budget Entry Type:
 - Original: Original budget
 - Adjustment: Budget transfers
 - Roll Fwrd: Roll forward balance from prior year

Budget Information Tab

Review



- Review the monthly activity.
- Does the budget data seem accurate?
- Are any significant budget transactions missing?

Consider



- Consider the available expense budget.
- Is the Revised Expense Budget negative? If so, a budget transfer or expense correction may be needed to correct the balance.

Focus



- Focus on any other areas requiring more attention.

Approval Page Tab

- Electronic signature section for approvers
- Evidence reconcilers' electronic signature
- Monthly activity summary by **type**
- Monthly activity summary by **account**
- Comments that were entered (from other tabs of the reconciliation)



Once a reconciler has electronically signed the reconciliation, they **must** notify the approver (via email, etc. **PeopleSoft does not automatically notify the approver when reconciliations are ready for approval.**

After the reconciler notifies the approver, the reconciliation is ready to be approved. The owner/approver goes to the **Approval Page** tab to approve.

After the approver completes their review of the reconciliation, click on the **Approved** checkbox, click **Save** and the approver's name and employee ID will populate. Once this is done, no further action is needed, and the reconciliation is in **Complete** status.

Below are the details you will find on the Approval Page tab.

UTSA Accounting Services

Approval Info and Reconciliation Info Sections

Approvers check this box to electronically sign reconciliations. Remember to click **Save** at the bottom of the screen!

| | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------|---|
| Search Page | Approval Page | Budget Information | Actuals Reconciliation | Encumbrance Information | Download Actuals | | |
| Header Details | | | | | | | |
| Cost Center | DRV123 | Description | Rowdy Admin Ops | Owner | Bunton, Bianca G | Department | E |
| Projects | | Start Date | | End Date | | Accounting Period | |
| Approval Info | | | | | | | |
| * I have reviewed and approved the reconciliation and notes regarding the reconciling items for this cost center's/Project's monthly activity. | | | | | | | |
| Approved | <input type="checkbox"/> | Approved By | | Approval Date | | Approver NetID | |
| Reconciliation Info | | | | | | | |
| Reconciler | Sue Blue | Reconciliation Date | 10/20/20 10:49:06AM | Reconciler NetID | XXXXXXXX | | |
| Net Monthly Activity | | | | | | | |

Reconciler's name, date of approval and EMPL ID

UTSA Accounting Services

Net Monthly Activity and Account Summary

Summary of monthly activity summary by type

| Net Monthly Activity | | |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Revenue Budget | \$-25,132.00 | Revenue Actuals \$0.00 |
| Expense Budget | \$25,281.12 | Expense Actuals \$21,117.51 |
| | | Encumbrances \$182.24 |

Account Summaries

| Budget Accounts | | | Actuals Accounts | | | Encumbrance Accounts | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Total Budgets \$149.12 | | | Total Actuals \$21,117.51 | | | Total Encumbrances \$182.24 | | |
| Account | Description | Monetary Amount | Account | Description | Monetary Amount | Account | Description | Monetary Amount |
| 1 A4000 | Operating Expenses | \$25,281.12 | 1 60302 | Data Processing Serv | \$24,583.34 | 1 63003 | Office/Computer Supplies | \$182.24 |
| | | | 2 63003 | Office/Computer Supplies | \$189.17 | | | |
| | | | 3 63141 | Computer Software Expensed | | | | |
| | | | 4 63601 | Computer Time | | | | |
| | | | 5 67117 | Workshop/Seminar Costs | | | | |

Summary of monthly activity summary by account

Transaction Comments Section

Transaction Comments

Personalize | Find | View All | [Print] [Refresh] First 1 of 1 Last

| Account | Reconciler Comments | Approver Comments |
|---------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | | |

Actuals Comments

Personalize | Find | View All | [Print] [Refresh] First 1 of 2 Last

| Account | Reconciler Comments | Approver Comments |
|---------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1 63141 | | |

Encumbrance Comments

Personalize | Find | View All | [Print] [Refresh] First 1 of 1 Last

| Account | Reconciler Comments | Approver Comments |
|---------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | | |

Save

Comments entered by reconcilers on the **Budget, Actuals** or **Encumbrance** tabs will show in this section as well.

Click **Save** after approver has checked the **Approved** box.

Multiple Cost Center or Project Approvals (found on the Search page)

- Allows owners/approvers to approve multiple cost centers or projects at once
- Is not accessible to reconcilers
- Provides high level totals of Actuals, Budget and Encumbrances for the period

Search Page

Begin at the **Search** tab and click on the link

Account Reconciliation

Search Criteria

| | | |
|---------------------|-------|---|
| *Business Unit | UTSA1 | 🔍 |
| *Year | 2020 | 🔍 |
| *Period | 11 | 🔍 |
| Department | | 🔍 |
| Cost Center/Project | | 🔍 |

Search

Multiple Cost Center/Project Approval Page

ARA - Multiple CC Approval

Enter any information you have and click Search. Leave fields blank for a list of all values.

Find an Existing Value

▼ Search Criteria

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|--------|---|
| Business Unit | begins with ▼ | UTSA1 | 🔍 |
| Fiscal Year | = ▼ | 2020 | 🔍 |
| Accounting Period | = ▼ | 11 | 🔍 |
| Department | begins with ▼ | RDX099 | 🔍 |

Search Clear Basic Search Save Search Criteria

Enter the search criteria and click **Search**

Search Results

UTSA Accounting Services

RDX099

Click on **Approve**, then click on **Approve?** for each cost center or project

Business Unit UTSA1 Fiscal Year 2020 Accounting Period 6 Department RDX099
*Filter Cost Centers/Projects All Cost Centers Update Results

* I have reviewed and approved the reconciliation and notes regarding the reconciling items for this cost center's/project's monthly activity.

| Cost Center/Project | Description | Actuals | Approved | Actuals Rev | Actuals Exp | Budget Rev | Budget Exp | Encumbrance | Approve | User ID | Approve? | Link to Details |
|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 DRV123 | Rowdy Admin Ops | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 0.00 | 3,666.59 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | DXM003 | Bianca Renteria Granado | Approve? | Details for DRV123 |
| 2 DRV124 | Rowdy Admin Ops Plant | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 0.00 | 8,822.29 | 0.00 | 0.00 | -8,150.29 | DXM070 | Bianca Renteria Granado | Approve? | Details for DRV124 |
| 3 EGX007 | Rowdy Admin Ops | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 0.00 | 115,832.78 | 0.00 | 24,912.11 | -87,802.42 | EGX007 | | Approve? | Details for EGY124 |

OK Cancel Apply

Totals of Actuals, Budget and Encumbrances for the period

These links will take you to the reconciliation

Easy Correct General Information

- Enables reconcilers and approvers to initiate correction journals
 - Automatically routes the journal to Accounting Services for review and approval
- Can only be used to correct certain **Actuals** transactions
- Cannot be used for **Budget** or **Encumbrances** transactions

Easy Correct Limitations



- Easy Correct can only be used to correct Actuals, not Budget or Encumbrance transactions.
- Certain types of corrections are excluded from Easy Correct:
 - Payroll expenses
 - Capital account codes (account codes starting with 8XXXX)
 - Sponsored projects
 - Capital projects
 - Corrections where a transaction will be corrected to more than one cost center or account code
 - Corrections on transactions prior to the current month and previous month.
- For corrections that cannot be done through Easy Correct, the existing process of emailing the appropriate parties will need to be followed.
- Easy Correct will not prevent duplications of corrections.
 - In an effort to reduce duplicate corrections, before initiating an Easy Correct, review recent activity to ensure the correction has not already been done.
 - This query provides a quick view of transactions on a cost center : UTS_GL_TRANSACTIONS_UTSA_MOD

UTSA Accounting Services

Not all transactions can be corrected with an Easy Correct journal.

See table below for the correct process or department contact based on the transaction type.

| Type of Correction | | Contact |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Actuals | Sponsored project | Complete the Correction Request Form and email applicable RSC administrator |
| | Capital project | Accounting.Office@utsa.edu |
| | Capital purchase (account 8XXXX) | |
| | Payroll expense (account 5XXXX) | Prepare an Eform |
| | Transactions not mentioned above | Easy Correct in SAHARA |
| Encumbrances | Purchase orders | Purchasing@utsa.edu |
| | Travel authorizations | Disbursements.travel@utsa.edu |
| Budget Transactions | Cost centers | Budget@utsa.edu |
| | Sponsored projects | Email applicable RSC administrator |
| | Capital projects | Accounting.Office@utsa.edu |

Easy Correct Step-by-Step

For additional **Easy Correct** guidance, refer to the video posted to the Financial Affairs training website [Easy Correct Video Demonstration](#).

- In the Actuals tab, scroll to the transaction needing the correction
- Click on **Easy Correct** and a new window will open
- In that window, you will see the first step in initiating the correction:
 - **Business Unit:** Defaults to UTSA1
 - **Journal ID:** Has not yet been assigned and will be labeled “NEXT” until later in the process
 - **Journal Date:** Defaults to today’s date. **Users should not change this date** as it can cause problems at month-end. (Easy Correct journals post in the current month, not the month of the original transaction.)
- **Transfer From box:**
 - **Cost Center:** Defaults to original cost center/project of transaction being corrected
 - **Account:** Defaults to original account code of transaction being corrected
 - **Amount:** Defaults to opposite amount of the transaction reconciler is correcting.
 - If original amount is \$30, the amount shown in this section will be -\$30.
- **Transfer To box:**
 - **Cost Center:** Enter cost center/project to which the transaction should be transferred (if applicable). **Only one is allowed on an Easy Correct journal; cannot split a transaction. Projects are not allowed on an Easy Correct journal.**
 - **Account:** Enter the account code to which the transaction should be transferred (if applicable). **Only one is allowed on an Easy Correct journal; cannot split a transaction.**
 - **Amount:** Defaults to amount of the original transaction being corrected. This will be opposite of the amount in the **Transfer From** box above.
 - **Analysis Type: Always leave blank**
- **Description for the transfer:** Defaults to “ARA Easy Correct Entry”. Reconcilers are **required** to change this description to include:
 1. The cost center and/or account the transactions is being transferred
 2. The reason for the transfer
 3. The document ID of the transaction being corrected. This text will carry forward to the correction journal.

Example: “**To correct voucher R002245 from account code 63003 to 60106**; Voucher was originally coded incorrectly.”

- After information has been entered, click **Process**. It will run for a few seconds and a message will pop up with the assigned Journal ID.
- Next, you must attach supporting documentation to the Easy Correct journal.

The follow documentation is required to be attached to the Easy Correct Journal:

This is important because SAHARA does not reference on the journal which transaction is being corrected.

- A SAHARA screenshot of the transaction being corrected. Indicate with electronic highlighting or text box which transaction is being corrected.
- If the cost is being transferred to a cost center/project outside of your purview, you must attach an email as confirmation they have been informed of the correction.
- Business Expense Forms are required if the correction uses account codes 67107 and 67106.
- To attach the documents:
 - Click **Add Attachment**
 - Click **Choose File**
 - Browse for your document
 - When located, click **Open**
 - Click **Upload**
 - You can add text in the **Description** box of the attachment
- After uploading your documents, please verify all of the information that was entered for accuracy
- Click **Save and Navigate to COR Journal to Submit**
- The **Create/Update Journal Entries** window will open
 - The **Lines** tab will display the lines that have been created for the correcting journal
 - The **Header** tab will show the description that was input and the files that were attached earlier in the Easy Correct process
 - **Changes cannot be made in these screens.** If changes need to be made, contact Accounting Services
- At this point, the Easy Correct Journal automatically routes to Accounting Services for review and approval. If questions arise, the creator of the Easy Correct journal will be contacted.