



Office of the State Controller

Data Act Update

In May 2014, the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014 (DATA Act) was signed into law. The intent of the law was to expand the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) making spending of the United States government more transparent to the American public by making Federal spending data more accessible, searchable, and reliable.

DATA Act Goals

- Expand the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 by **disclosing direct federal agency expenditures** and **linking federal contract, loan, and grant spending** information to programs of federal agencies to enable taxpayers and policy makers to track federal spending more effectively.
- Provide **consistent, reliable, and searchable government-wide spending data** that is displayed accurately for taxpayers and policy makers on the USASpending.gov website.
- **Analyze federal spending data** to proactively prevent waste, fraud, abuse, and improper payments.
- **Simplify reporting** for entities receiving federal funds by **streamlining reporting requirements** and **reducing compliance costs** while improving transparency.
- **Improve the quality of data** submitted to USASpending.gov by holding federal agencies accountable for the completeness and accuracy of the data submitted.

On May 9, 2017, federal agencies officially begin reporting data in compliance with the open standards created under the [Digital Accountability and Transparency Act](#). The data will be reported in the [beta.usaspending.gov](#) site and will eventually be transitioned to [USASpending.gov](#), the permanent site for federal fund reporting.

The DATA Act is a great start to providing transparency of United States government spending to the American public. If successful, it has the potential to foster use of standardized, open government data in many areas such as records management, regulatory reporting, performance tracking, and more.

Visit [USASpending.gov](#) for more information.