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management software designed for larger nonprofit organizations and government entities that require grants or project management capability.

**Mary Girsch-Bock** • May. 12, 2014



GMS or Grants Management Systems is nonprofit accounting and financial management software designed for larger nonprofit organizations and government entities that require grants or project management capability.

Sold as a complete system, GMS Accounting offers a fully integrated accounting system that contains all standard financial capabilities including GL, Cash Receipts, Budget Preparation, Cost Allocation, AP, Payroll, Timesheet Accounting, Financial Reporting, and Security features. Additional modules are also available including AR, Purchase Orders, Fixed Assets, and Report Writer. GMS also offers Revolving Loan Servicing Software (RLSS) that integrates with the Accounting and Financial system so agencies can easily manage both federal and state funded loans.

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The GMS GL offers a simple, straightforward chart of accounts structure, using a 5-digit code. Program elements (all grant and program activity) are 6-digit codes and are pre-linked to make posting more efficient. The program elements are the true backbone of the GMS reporting structure, tracking data at the cost center level, the project level, and into organization wide reports.

The GMS cash receipts system allows users to code revenue directly into the appropriate grant, project, or program. The Cost Allocation system tracks employee leave and fringe costs, monthly allocation costs such as square footage. Users can also track indirect costs to manage all indirect cost transactions, calculate a year-to-date indirect cost rate, and apply indirect costs directly to programs.

Budgets can be created for Programs, Indirect Costs, Fringe Benefits, YTD timesheets, and Agency-wide Budgets. Budgets can cross fiscal years when needed, and all budgets can be exported as needed.

Those processing payroll will appreciate the level of detail that GMS can manage, All payroll entries are timesheet generated, and users can set up pay codes for Deductions, Personnel, Sites, Local, Tax, Special Pay, Departments, Positions, Workers Compensation, State Tax, Pay Codes, Leave Type, Garnishment Deductions, and Multiple Pay Rates.

For those needing billing capability, GMS offers an optional AR module that can track customer data, handle customer maintenance, post cash receipts, while offering a customer inquiry screen, invoice and Statement creation, and a complete AR History. The Purchase Orders module provides easy monitoring of all purchase orders. Fixed Assets can be tracked in the optional Fixed Assets module, which provides depreciation and disposition data. And for organizations that require more detailed reporting options, the optional Report Writer module allows users to develop specialized reports utilizing the data tables found in GMS.

The 1-2 user core GMS system is \$3,500, with add on modules starting at \$1,200.

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