The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Finance and Fiscal Reporting

SAHARA in PEOPLESOFT for Managers, Reconcilers, & Inquiry

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NOTICE

BEFORE BEGINNING THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL RECONCILIATION PROCESS USING SAHARA, PLEASE REVIEW THE CONTENTS OF THIS TRAINING DOCUMENT.

Please Periodically Check For UPDATES, REVISIONS, or MODIFICATIONS to this Document on BLACKBOARD: https://mycourses.utrgv.edu/webapps/blackboard/content/listContentEditable.jsp?content_id=8284114_1&c ourse_id=61417_1

Accounting & Reporting Resources Webpage:

https://www.utrgv.edu/finance-and-fiscal-reporting/departments/accounting-and-reporting/resources/index.htm

If you have any comments, concerns, or questions please do not hesitate to contact Training Coordinator (accountingandtimekeepingtraining@utrgv.edu) or Accounting and Reporting (accountingandreporting@utrgv.edu)

OVERVIEW/OBJECTIVES

In this document:

- Introduction
- How To Acknowledge Reconciliation
- How To Acknowledge Approval of Reconciliation
- Track Flagged Items
- Review Account Reconciliations & Approvals
- Conducting Annual Financial Certifications (Managers Only)
- How To Acquire Access for Managers, Reconcilers, Inquiry

Until further notice please use SANDBOX for training:

https://zbih-sbx.utshare.utsystem.edu/psp/ZBIHSBX/?cmd=start

If are already logged into a different instance of PeopleSoft (PRD, RPT, TRN) please use a DIFFERENT browser

INTRODUCTION

Why SAHARA?

UTRGV's continued compliance with UTS 142 policy (Segregation of Duties & Accounts Reconciliation) Facilitate faster and accurate Reconciliation & Approval process

To expedite the Manager's role in the Annual Financial Certification Process.

How is this happening?

All Reconciliation data on one screen w/multiple tabs

ONLY Reconcilers & Managers have access to SAHARA to Reconcile or Approve

Important to keep KEY MEMBER listing up-to-date

Comment & Flag Transaction(s)

Those with **INQUIRY ONLY** access can view specific CC/Project content

INTRODUCTION

What has NOT changed?

Reconciliations continue to be done on a monthly basis ONLY after accounting period has closed

Maintain In-House Tracking (i.e., your department excel file) You are reconciling what UTRGV (SAHARA) says your CC/Proj has against what your department tracking says you have.

Maintaining Supporting Documentation

All Reports will continue to be available

Formerly Signature Acknowledgement: **NOW ONLINE & ELECTRONIC** Reconcilers & Managers ONLY

MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

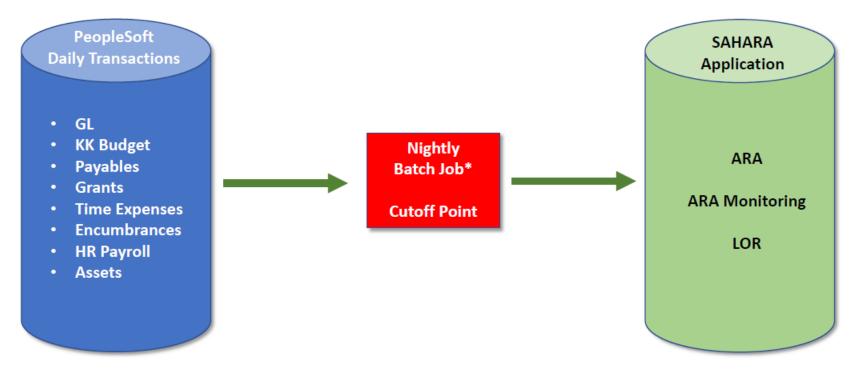
In accordance with University of Texas System Policy 142, Segregation of Duties and Account Reconciliations, to provide an annual certification of compliance with financial reporting requirements:

Cost Center/Project Reconcilers are required to reconcile accounts on a monthly basis, shortly after the month-end close, in accordance with UTS 142. This ensures any errors are identified and corrected in a timely manner.

Cost Center/Project Managers are required to approve account reconciliations on a monthly basis, shortly after the month-end close, in accordance with UTS142. This ensures any errors are identified and availability of funds is determined.

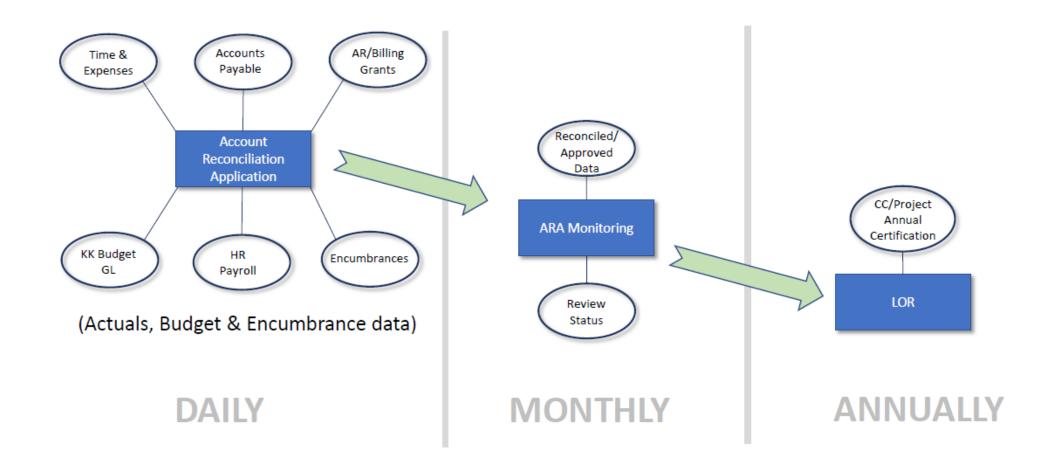
Management requires that all certifiers and reconcilers attend training for the Monthly Financial Reconciliation Process on a fiscal year basis.

SAHARA ARCHITECTURE



^{*} Data in SAHARA will be one day behind

SAHARA – THREE MAIN COMPONENTS



THE MONTHLY PROCESS



Throughout the month Expenses & Revenues are entered into Peoplesoft FMS

After Accounting Period Close Announcement is made & using SAHARA

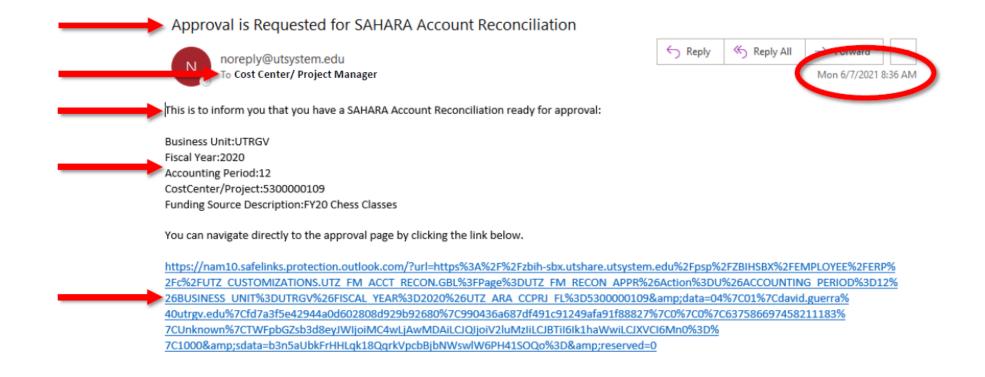
Reconcilers perform Account Reconciliation

Auto notification to Managers is sent via email

Managers review & approve the monthly reconciliation

NOTE: At the time of Accounting Period Close Notification, you are ready to proceed in SAHARA

AUTO NOTIFICATION VIA EMAIL - EXAMPLE



ACCOUNTING PERIODS

Accounting Periods

Accounting Period	Calendar Month
1	SEPTEMBER
2	OCTOBER
3	NOVEMBER
4	DECEMBER
5	JANUARY
6	FEBRUARY
7	MARCH
8	APRIL
9	MAY
10	JUNE
11	JULY
12	AUGUST

SAHARA FOR RECONCILERS

HOW TO REQUEST ACCESS – COST CENTER / PROJECT RECONCILERS ONLY

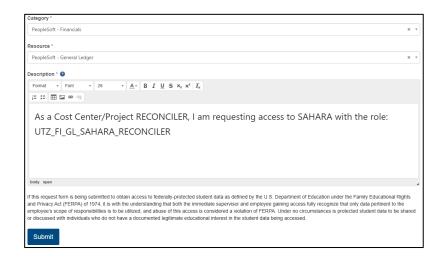
- a. Ensure your assignment as Cost Center and/or Project Reconciler is confirmed
- b. Please **login** at http://SUPPORT.UTRGV.EDU
- c. Click on the blue **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY** button

Information Technology

d. Click on **Get Access**



- e. In the following fields (below your name) please enter the associated information:
 - a. Category: **PeopleSoft Financials**
 - b. Resource: PeopleSoft General Ledger
 - c. Description: As a **Cost Center/Project RECONCILER**, I am requesting access to SAHARA with the role: **UTZ_FI_GL_SAHARA_RECONCILER**
- f. Click on **REQUEST** (blue button at the bottom of screen)
- g. EULA agreement: Check Your Email



THE MONTHLY PROCESS



Throughout the month Expenses & Revenues are entered into Peoplesoft FMS

After Accounting Period Close Announcement is made & using SAHARA

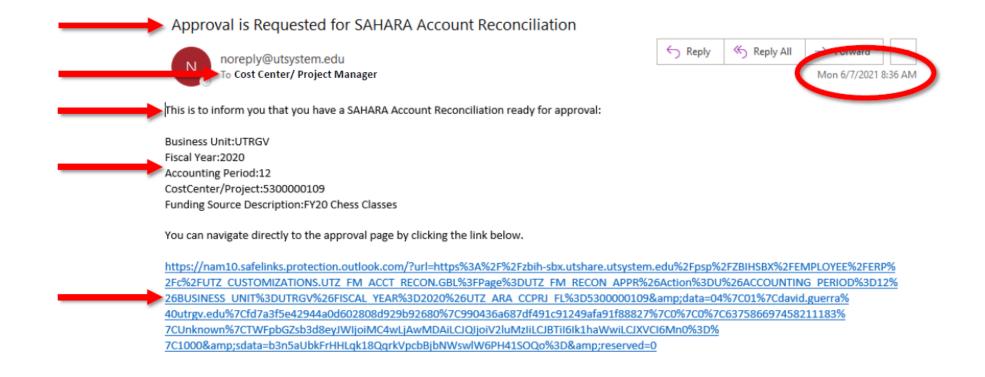
Reconcilers perform Account Reconciliation

Auto notification to Managers is sent via email

Managers review & approve the monthly reconciliation

NOTE: At the time of Accounting Period Close Notification, you are ready to proceed in SAHARA

AUTO NOTIFICATION VIA EMAIL - EXAMPLE



ABOUT RECONCILING - SALARIES

Reconcilers consider the following, if applicable and if feasible:

- Review SAHARA reconciliation reports for both current and prior periods.
- Compare Salary balances between the two months.
- If differences, identify transactions causing discrepancies and include supporting documentation (PAF, Additional Pay Requests, Separation/Retirement forms, etc.).
- Re: Separated Employees: identify & confirm if any such employees exist from CC/Project Manager on a monthly basis prior to actual reconciliation & take immediate action on these type of discrepancies
- If no differences, include screenshots of prior month and current month Salaries showing no change between periods.

ABOUT RECONCILING – SALARIES – PAYROLL COSTS REMINDERS

- Payroll expenses should be charged to the correct cost center/project and accounting period. This
 validation is required every month.
- 2. Obtain from your supervisor/manager a current roster/listing of employees in your department. This list should be updated each month the department has a new hire, or an employee separates from the department.
- 3. Confirm that the employees from the list above (Step #2) are being charged to the cost centers/projects and only expenses for those employees are present.
- 4. Confirm that payments agree to the budgeted position, ePAF or cPAF.
- 5. Take immediate action with HR when discrepancies are identified. Employees being charged incorrectly to a cost center/project is a RED FLAG that something is wrong and requires prompt action to resolve.
- 6. Ensure employee Separations are submitted timely

ABOUT RECONCILING - WAGES

Reconcilers consider the following, if applicable and if feasible:

- Provide PeopleSoft timesheet to verify total hours.
 - Calculate pay (Hours x Rate).
- Validate wages are correct for each employee in SAHARA.

ABOUT RECONCILING - EXPENSES

Reconcilers consider the following, if applicable and if feasible:

- Review transactions in SAHARA and gather documentation that support the transactions.
- Types of documents to include are Expense Reports (travel and non-travel), Vouchers (PO and Non-PO invoices), ProCard(Citibank) summary page and Journal Entries.
- In Reporting environment queries such as UTZ_ADHOC_TRANS_HR_AP_EX,
 UTZ_GL_ADHOC_JOURNALS_RPT_ALL, UTRGV_PO_ENCUMB_RECON_ALL, etc. may be utilized
- Once transactions are validated, complete reconciliation process by clicking on Reconciliation check box in SAHARA.

ABOUT REVIEWING CONTENT IN SAHARA

Reviewer should consider the following:

- Do the transactions appear appropriate for department/University business?
- Are there any suspicious looking transactions?
- Does it appear the accounts have been reviewed (i.e., the Reconciler has noted transactions)?
- Has the Reconciler explained any unrecognized transactions?
 - Using Comment(s) and/or Flag(s)

RECONCILIATION SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

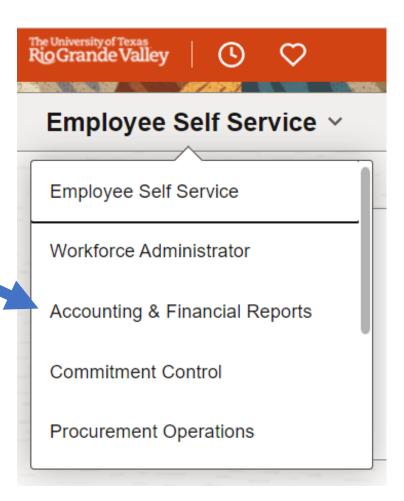
Review Type	Supporting Documentation		
Salaries	 HR Separation / Retirement Form Other HR salary related forms with supporting documentation Additional Pay Request PAFs 		
Wages	 PeopleSoft Time Sheet (hours entered) (if applicable) Calculate pay amount (Hours x Rate) (if applicable) Validate wages amount for each employee (if applicable) 		
Fringe Benefits	 No supporting documents required Verify there is little fluctuation between months Notify Budget Office of any discrepancies 		
Operating Expenses	 Copies of Purchase Orders Invoices for both PO and Non-PO Vouchers IDT Journals with supporting documentation Pro Card Transaction Logs (note: keep receipts separate) Expense Reports with attachments and supporting documentation 		

ABOUT RETAINING DOCUMENTATION

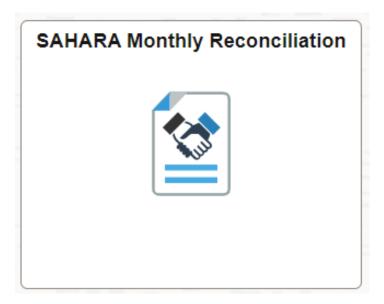
Documents may be retained in *any manner deemed most efficient by each department* so long as the documentation may be easily accessed and produced on request.

- Ensure continued compliance with UTRGV Retention Schedule
- If retaining Hardcopy documents, create a monthly packet (by month) and include all supporting documentation.
- If retaining Electronic documents, create a monthly PDF packet and save to departmental shared drive (create monthly folders).
- Include all supporting documentation.

- 1. Login to PeopleSoft 9.2
- 2. From the *Employee Self-Service* drop-down menu select *Accounting & Financial Reports*



On the Accounting & Financial Reports screen Click on **SAHARA Monthly Reconciliation** tile The Account Reconciliation Search page will open



The Account Reconciliation Search page opens.

Enter the Search Criteria information:

Business Unit: UTRGV

Year: <<defaults current fiscal year>>

Period: <<defaults to most recent closed accounting period>>

Department: <<optional or enter Department ID number & leave Cost Center/Project field blank>>

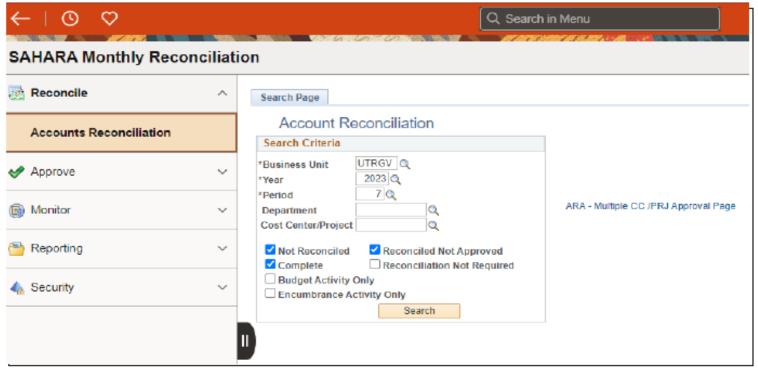
Cost Center/Project: <<one value at a time>> or LEAVE BLANK

Click Search button

CC or Project will be revealed in Search

Results section below

If you do not see the Cost Center or Projects you are looking for please click on the remaining check boxes (Reconciliation Not Required, Budget activity Only, Encumbrance Activity Only)



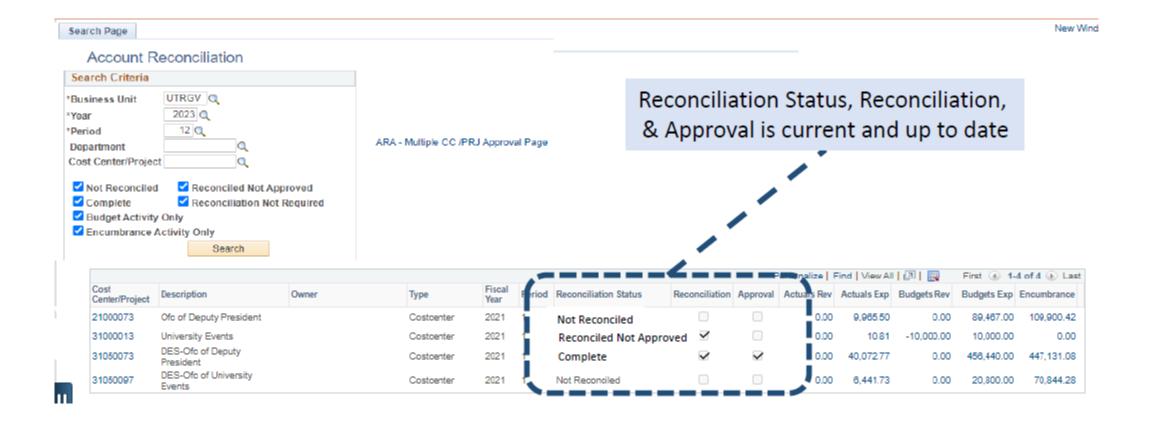
- Click Search button
- CC or Project will be revealed in Search Results Section
- Click on the Cost Center or Project ID



NOTE: A cost center/project will show

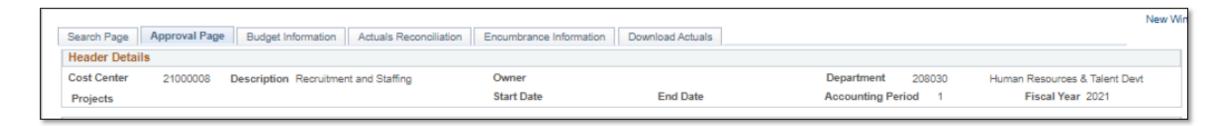
"Inactive\Unauthorized" or "Reconciliation

not Required" because they do not have any

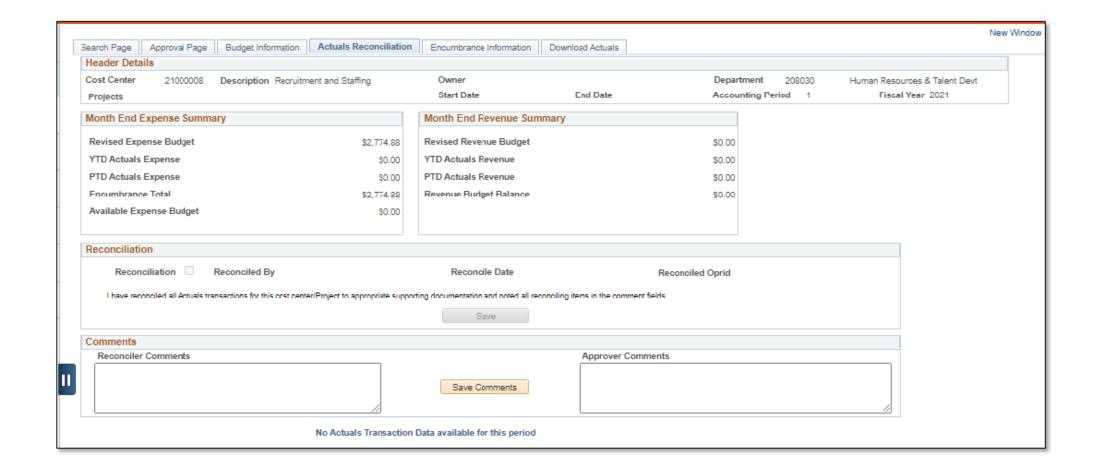


On the RECONCILIATION screen

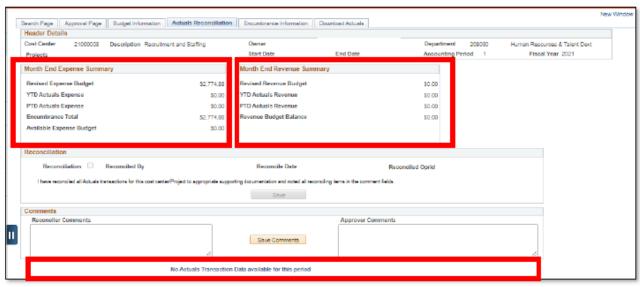
- 1. Six (6) tabs will appear across the top
 - 1. Search Page
 - 2. Approval Page
 - 3. Budget Information
 - 4. Actuals Reconciliation
 - Encumbrance Information
 - Download Actuals



ACTUALS RECONCILIATION TAB OVERVIEW



ACTUALS RECONCILIATION TAB OVERVIEW



Expense Summary:

- •YTD Actuals Expense (Fiscal YTD -2020)
- •PTD Actuals Expense (Project to Date –Inception)

Revenue Summary:

- •YTD Actuals Revenue (Fiscal YTD –2020)
- •PTD Actuals Revenue (Project to Date -Inception)

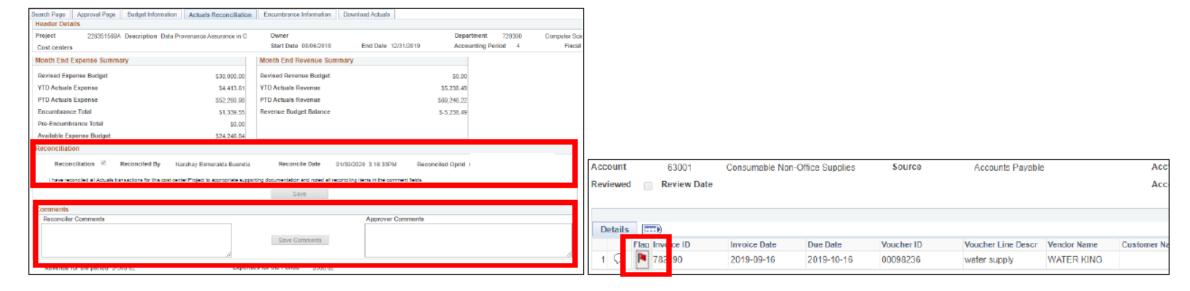
Revenue / Expenses for the Period:

Month to Date activity

(no transactions data notice displays if applicable)

(Note: even if no data is displayed you will need to continue in-house tracking)

ACTUALS RECONCILIATION TAB OVERVIEW



- "Reconciliation Status" allows users to confirm if a Cost Center/Project has been reconciled.
 - The reconciliation check box will NOT be available until Accounting Period has officially closed.
- General comments can be added to the reconciliation.
- Specific comments can be added to individual lines.
- Flags can also be enabled to highlight a transaction.

BUDGET INFORMATION TAB OVERVIEW

ALL THE DATA IN THIS TAB IS COMING FROM COMMITMENT CONTROL

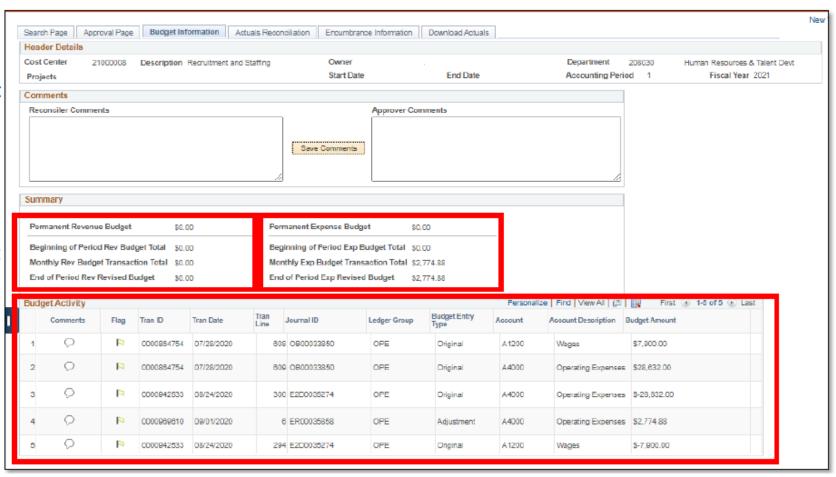
Permanent Revenue Budget

- Beginning Period Rev Budget Ttl
- Monthly Rev Budget Trans Ttl
- End of Period Rev Revised Budget

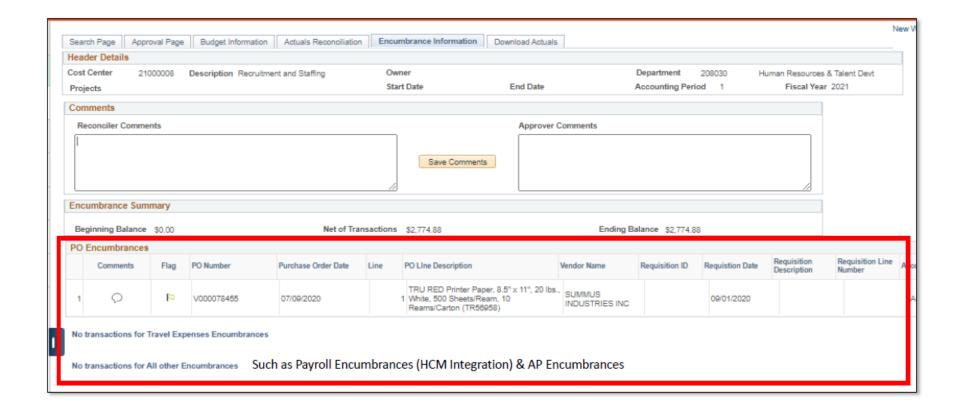
Permanent Expense Budget

- sourced from KK budget data
- Beginning Period Exp Budget Ttl
- Monthly Exp Budget Trans Ttl
- End of Period Exp Revised Budget

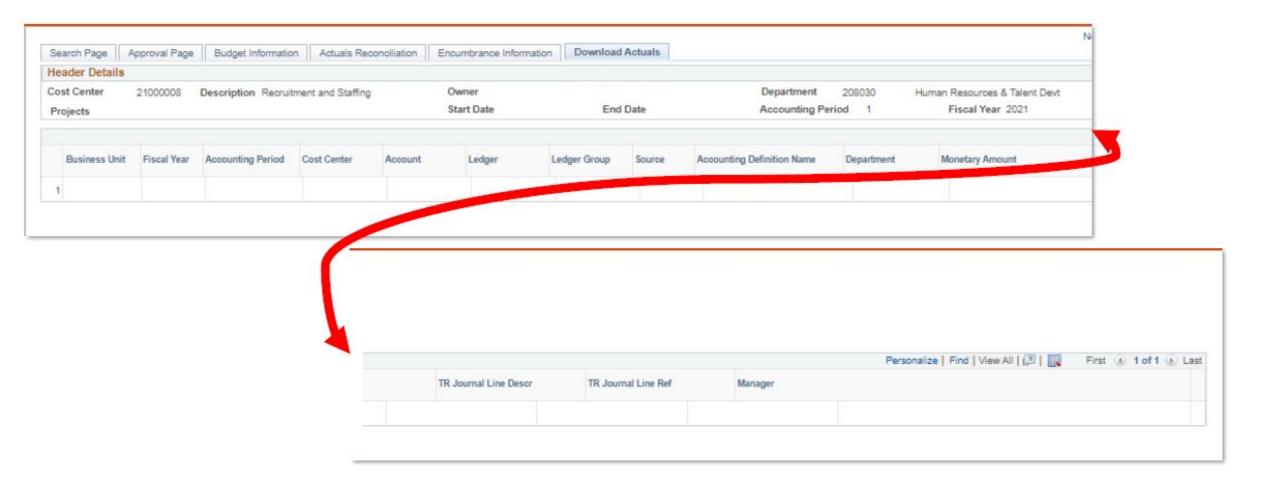
Budget Activity breakdown



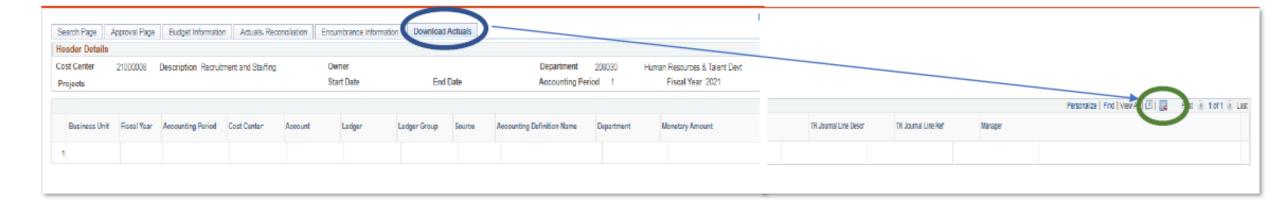
ENCUMBRANCE INFORMATION TAB OVERVIEW



DOWNLOAD ACTUALS TAB OVERVIEW



DOWNLOAD ACTUALS TAB OVERVIEW



- Click on Download Actuals tab
- Use the Download to Excel icon

DOWNLOAD ACTUALS TAB OVERVIEW

Accounting Peric ▼	Cost Center ▼					Parameter			
	COSt CEITER .	Accoun' ▼	Source ▼	Departmen ▼	Monetary Amount ▼	User Char 3 ▼	= Vouche	rs	
2	19080028	63633	ΑP	506000	694.44	00098585			
2	19080028	63003	AP	506000	1,304.74	00099867			
2	19080028	67645	AP	506000	400.00	00099867			
2	19080028	67645	ΔP	506000	400.00	00099867			
2	19080028	63633	AP	506000	708.10	00100171			
2	19080028	86115	AP	506000	259.00	MM229676			
						_			
Accounting Peri	Cost Center ▼	Accoun ▼	Source *	Departmen ▼	Monetary Amount ▼	User Char 3 🔻	Exp Doc ID 🚚	= Expense	ID
2	19080028	67645	EX	506000	300.00		232718		
2	19080028	63004	EX	506000	81.42		234483		
2	19080028	62102	EX	506000	11.60		235743		
			-						
Accounting Perio	Cost Center 🔻	Accoun ~	Source +	Departmen -	Monetary Amount 🔻	User Char 3 🔻	Exp Doc ID 🔻	Journal ID 🚅	= Journals
2	19080028	63801	IDT	506000	13.20			SC028FS001	
2	19080028	67606	IDT	506000	8.00			SC028HR001	'
2	19080028	67606	IDT	506000	8.00			SC028HR001	•
2	19080028	67106	IDT	506000	806.25			SC028SOD01	
2	19080028	63632	IDT	506000	0.06			SC028TI135	•
	2 2 2	2 19080028 2 19080028 2 19080028 2 19080028 Accounting Perion Cost Center v 2 19080028 2 19080028 2 19080028 Accounting Perion Cost Center v 2 19080028 2 19080028 2 19080028 2 19080028 2 19080028 2 19080028	2 19080028 67645 2 19080028 67645 2 19080028 63633 2 19080028 86115 Accounting Perior Cost Center Accountrates 63004 2 19080028 63004 2 19080028 63004 2 19080028 63801 2 19080028 63801 2 19080028 67606 2 19080028 67606 2 19080028 67606	2 19080028 67645 AP 2 19080028 67645 AP 2 19080028 63633 AP 2 19080028 86115 AP Accounting Peri Cost Center Accoun Source Accounting Peri Acc	2 19080028 67645 AP 506000 2 19080028 67645 AP 506000 2 19080028 63633 AP 506000 2 19080028 86115 AP 506000 Accounting Perior Cost Center Accounts EX 506000 2 19080028 67645 EX 506000 2 19080028 63004 EX 506000 2 19080028 62102 EX 506000 Accounting Perior Cost Center Accounts Source Departments 2 19080028 62102 EX 506000 Accounting Perior Cost Center Accounts Source Departments 2 19080028 63801 IDT 506000 2 19080028 67606 IDT 506000 2 19080028 67606 IDT 506000 2 19080028 67606 IDT 506000	2 19080028 67645 AP 506000 400.00 2 19080028 67645 AP 506000 400.00 2 19080028 63633 AP 506000 708.10 2 19080028 86115 AP 506000 259.00 Accounting Perit Cost Center Accounting Sourc Departmen Monetary Amount V 2 19080028 63004 EX 506000 81.42 2 19080028 62102 EX 506000 11.60 Accounting Perit Cost Center Accounting Sourc Departmen Monetary Amount V 2 19080028 63801 IDT 506000 13.20 2 19080028 67606 IDT 506000 8.00 2 19080028 67606 IDT 506000 8.06.25	2 19080028 67645 AP 506000 400.00 00099867 2 19080028 67645 AP 506000 400.00 00099867 2 19080028 63633 AP 506000 708.10 00100171 2 19080028 86115 AP 506000 259.00 MM229676 Accounting Peri Cost Center Accoun Source Departmen Monetary Amount User Char 3 2 19080028 67645 EX 506000 81.42 2 19080028 63004 EX 506000 81.42 2 19080028 62102 EX 506000 11.60 Accounting Peri Cost Center Accoun Source Departmen Monetary Amount User Char 3 2 19080028 63004 EX 506000 11.60 Accounting Peri Cost Center Accoun Source Departmen Monetary Amount User Char 3 2 19080028 63801 IDT 506000 13.20 2 19080028 67606 IDT 506000 8.00 2 19080028 67606 IDT 506000 8.00 2 19080028 67606 IDT 506000 8.00	2	2 19080028 67645 AP 506000 400.00 00099867

Note: Once all documents identified, gather all supporting documentation that supports transactions

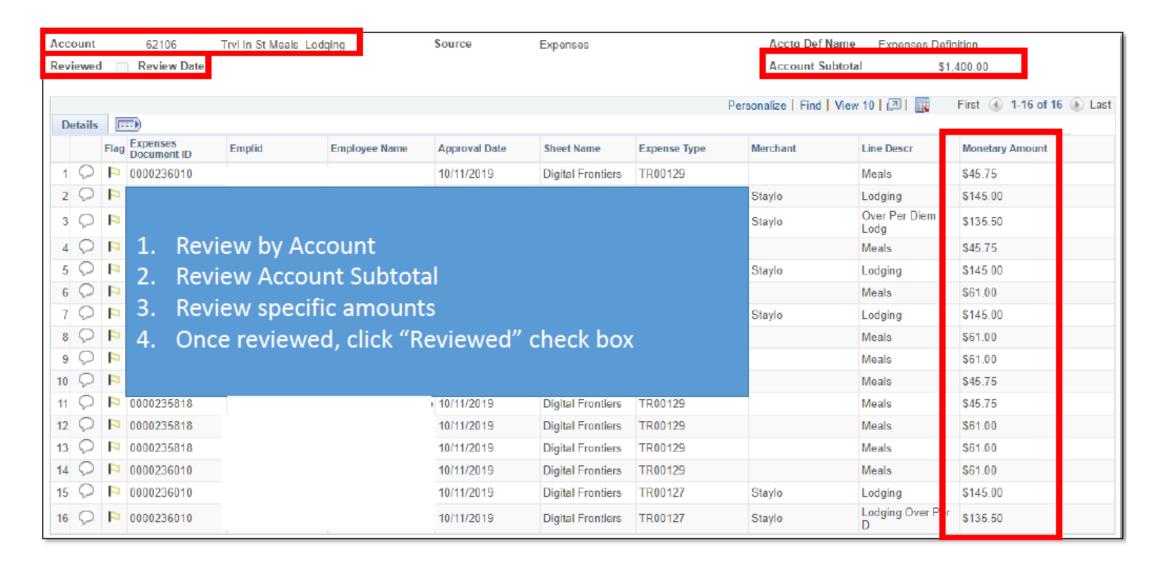
DOWNLOAD ACTUALS TAB OVERVIEW

Apply Filter for specific Account reconciliation.

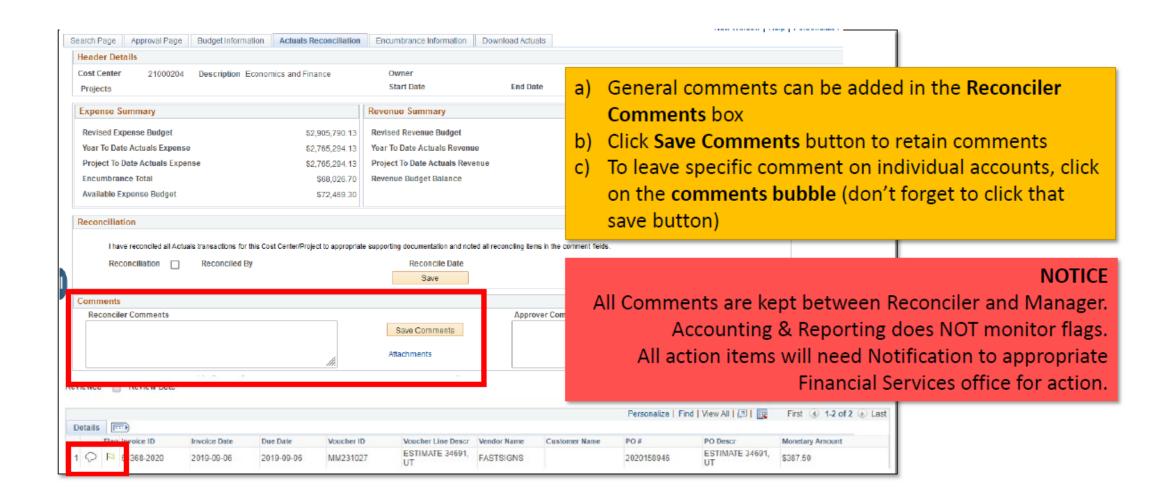
Fiscal Yea ▼	Accounting Perio	Cost Center	Account 1T	epartmen 🔻	Monetary Amount 🔻	Exp Line Descr 🔻	Exp Doc ID 🔻	Exp Emp Name 🔻
2020	2	19080028	62106	506000	145.00	Lodging	235818	Lugo
2020	2	19080028	62106	506000	61.00	Meals	235818	Lugo
2020	2	19080028	62106	506000	45.75	Meals	235818	Lugo
2020	2	19080028	62106	506000	61.00	Meals	235818	Lugo .
2020	2	19080028	62106	506000	61.00	Meals	235818	Lugo
2020	2	19080028	62106	506000	45.75	Meals	235818	Lugo
2020	2	19080028	62106	506000	145.00	Lodging	235818	Lugo
2020	2	19080028	62106	506000	135.50	Lodg	235818	Lugo
2020	2	19080028	62106	506000	61.00	Meals	236010	Pitcher_
2020	2	19080028	62106	506000	45.75	Meals	236010	Pitcher,
2020	2	19080028	62106	506000	61.00	Meals	236010	Pitcher,
2020	2	19080028	62106	609000	135.50	Lodging Over Per D	236010	Pitcher_
2020	2	19080028	62106	506000	145.00	Lodging	236010	Pitcher.
2020	2	19080028	62106	506000	61.00	Meals	236010	Pitcher
2020	2	19080028	62106	506000	45.75	Meals	236010	Pitcher
2020	2	19080028	62106	609000	145.00	Lodging	236010	Pitcher
								_

Verify total to SAHARA reconciliation GL Account #.

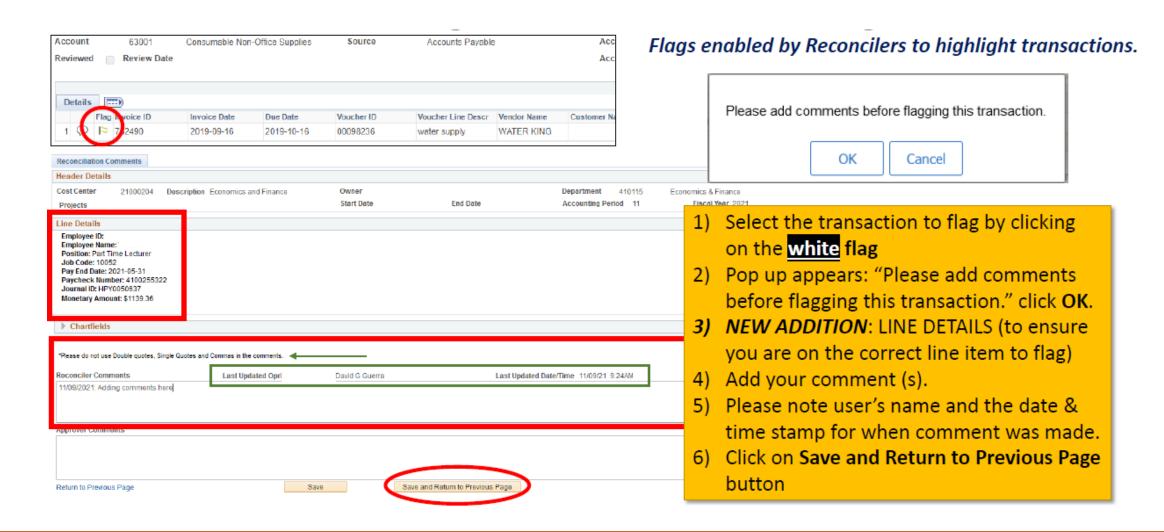
ACTUALS RECONCILIATION TAB – ACCOUNTS – REVIEWED CHECK BOX



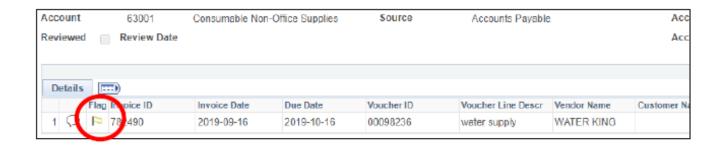
ACTUALS RECONCILIATION TAB – ADDING COMMENTS



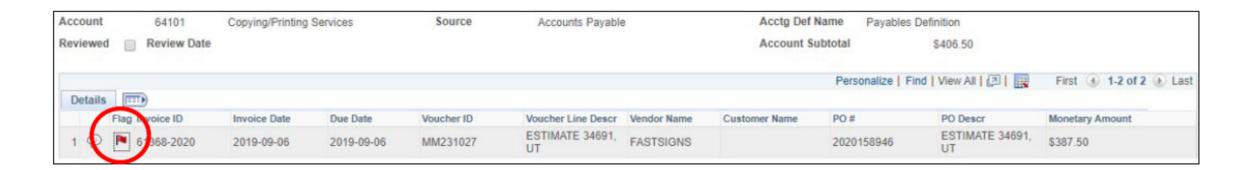
ACTUALS RECONCILIATION TAB – FLAGGING A TRANSACTION



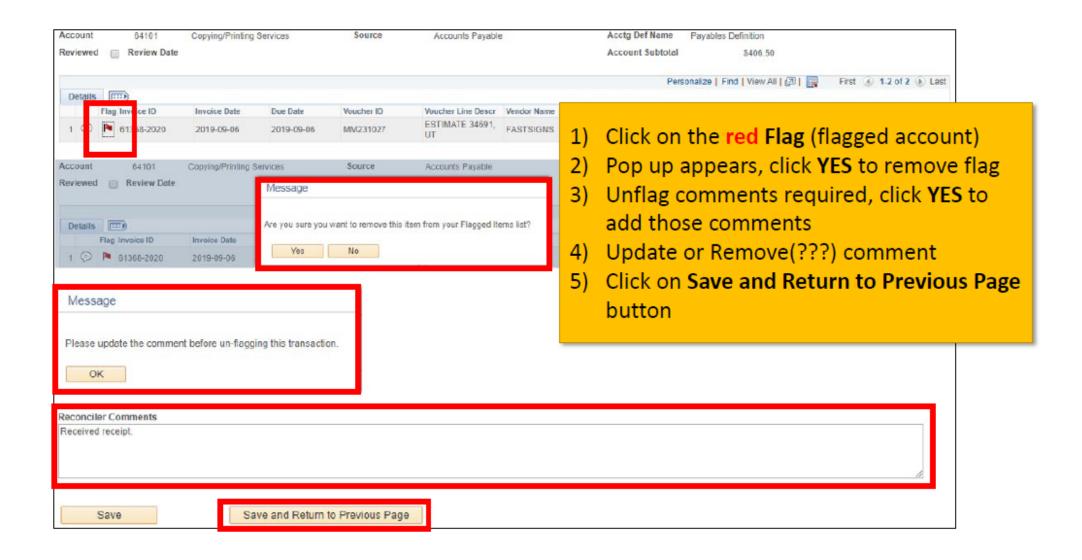
ACTUALS RECONCILIATION TAB – FLAGGING A TRANSACTION



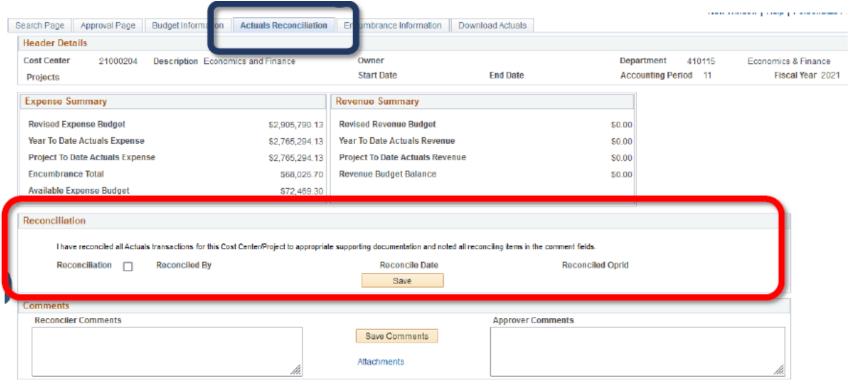
The WHITE flag has now turned RED



ACTUALS RECONCILIATION TAB – REMOVING A FLAGGED TRANSACTION



RECONCILIATION



- Once transactions have been *reviewed*, scroll to top of page (Reconciliation section)
- Read the revised acknowledgement statement
- Click "Reconciliation" box & click on Save button (failing to click SAVE will NOT lock the Reconciliation checkbox, please click SAVE).

SAHARA FOR MANAGERS

HOW TO REQUEST ACCESS – COST CENTER / PROJECT MANAGERS ONLY

- a. Ensure your assignment as Cost Center and/or Project Manager is confirmed.
- b. Please login at http://SUPPORT.UTRGV.EDU
- c. Click on the blue INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY button.

Information Technology

d. Click on Get Access



- e. In the following fields please enter the associated information:
 - a. Category: PeopleSoft –Financials
 - b. Resource: PeopleSoft –General Ledger
 - c. Description: As a **Cost Center/Project MANAGER**, I am requesting access to SAHARA with the role: **UTZ_FI_GL_SAHARA_APPROVER**
- f. Click on **REQUEST** (blue button at the bottom of screen).
- g. EULA agreement: **Check Your Email**



ABOUT REVIEWING CONTENT IN SAHARA

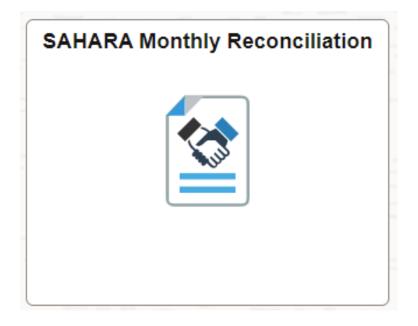
Reviewer should consider the following:

- Do the transactions appear appropriate for department/University business?
- Are there any suspicious looking transactions?
- Does it appear the accounts have been reviewed (i.e., the Reconciler has noted transactions)?
- Has the Reconciler explained any unrecognized transactions?
 - Using Comment(s) and/or Flag(s)
 - Supporting documentation
 - Follow-up emails

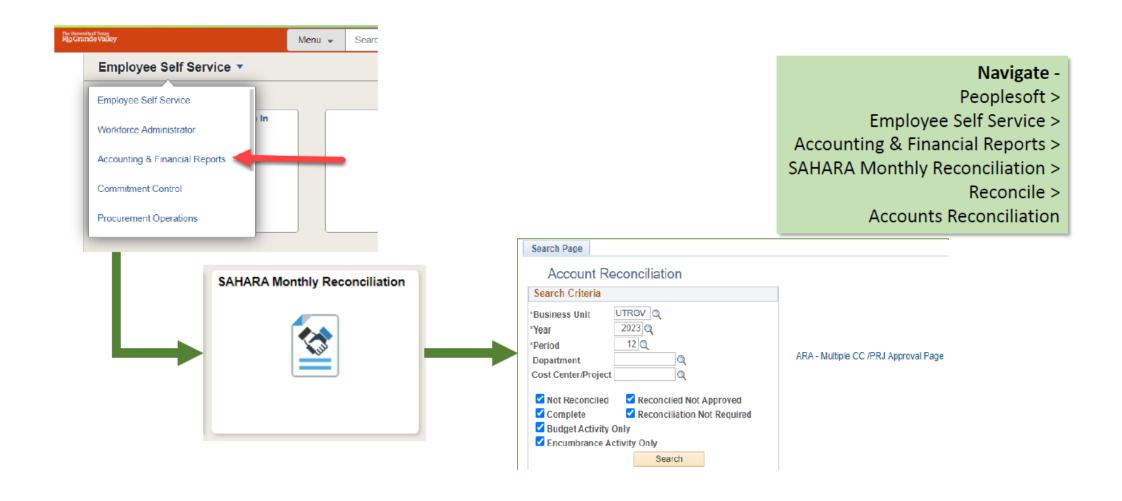
ABOUT RETAINING DOCUMENTATION

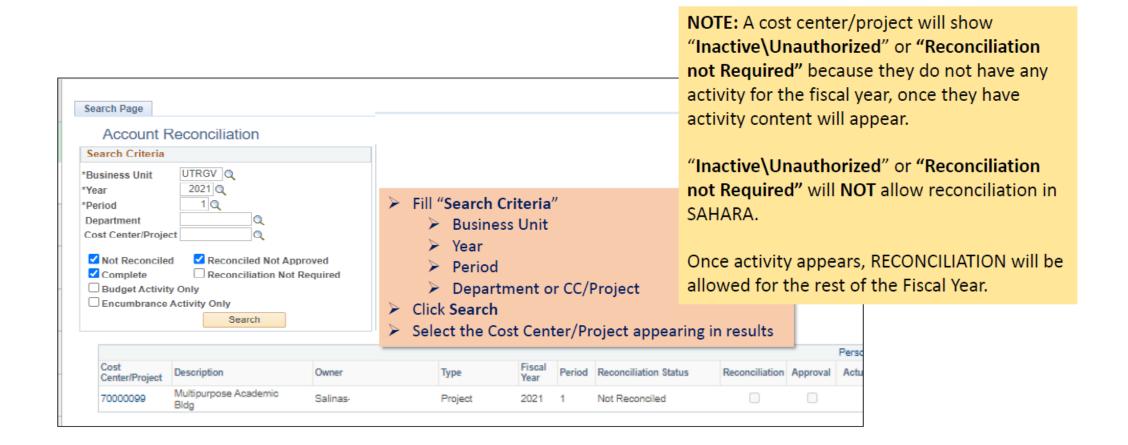
Documents may be retained in *any manner deemed most efficient by each department* so long as the documentation may be easily accessed and produced on request.

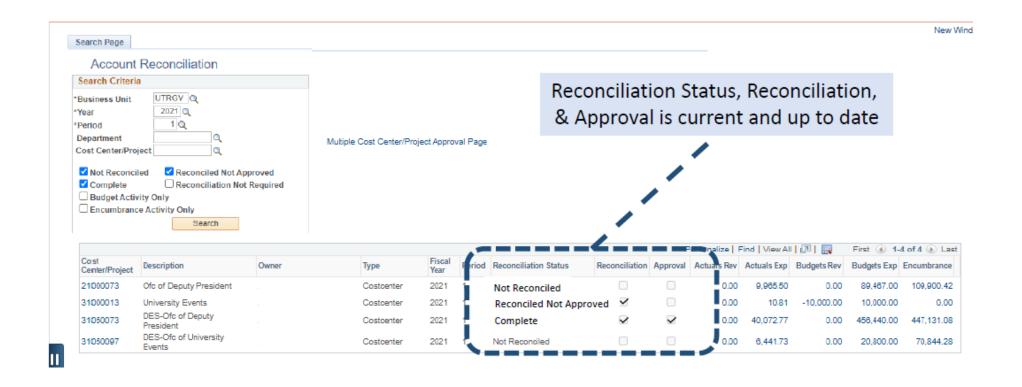
- Ensure continued compliance with UTRGV Retention Schedule
- If retaining Hardcopy documents, create a monthly packet (by month) and include all supporting documentation.
- If retaining Electronic documents, create a monthly PDF packet and save to departmental shared drive (create monthly folders).
- Include all supporting documentation.



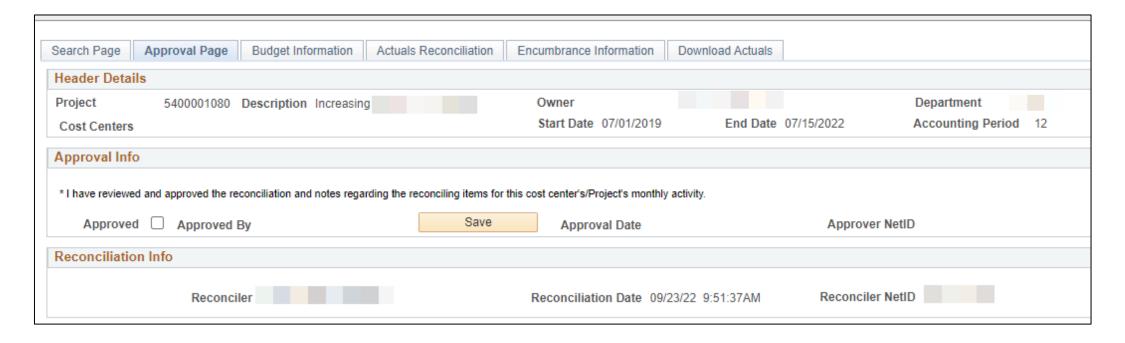
The following process is for Cost Center and/or Project Managers ONLY







- > Click on the Approval Page tab
- > The approval process will be completed by checking the "Approved" checkbox
- Click on Save button



Note: failing to click SAVE will NOT lock the Approved checkbox. Please click SAVE button.

APPROVAL cannot be completed until Cost Center/Project is reconciled



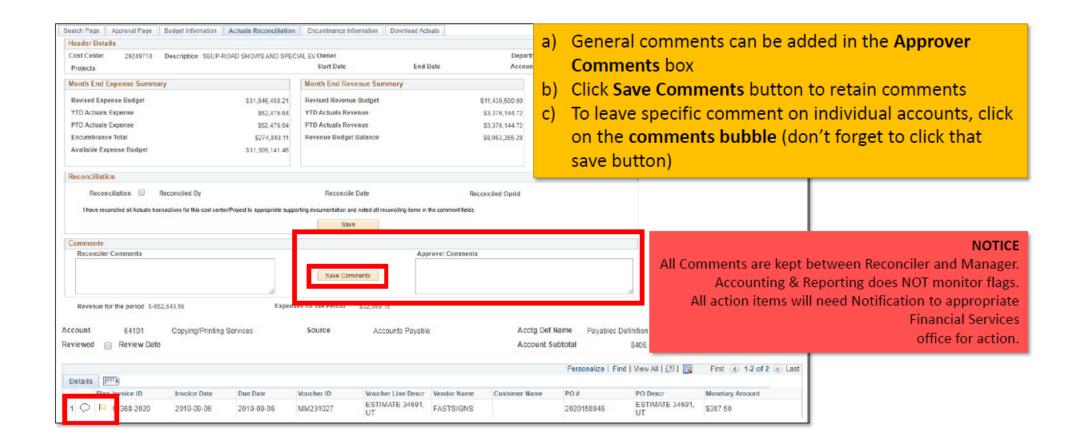
SAHARA RECONCILIATION & APPROVAL IS AN A-B-C PROCESS

A = Reconciler Reconciles CC/Project

B = Manager Reviews and Approves Reconciliation of CC or Project

C = Process is complete.

ADDING COMMENTS – MANAGERS ONLY

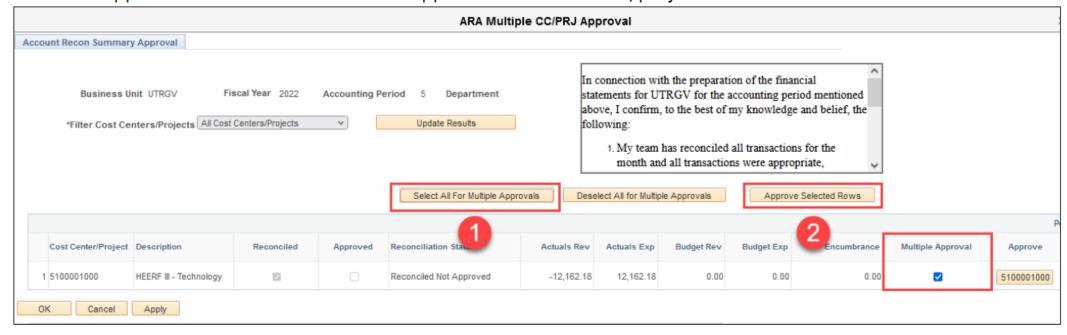




Select "All Cost Centers/Projects" in the drop-down menu and **Click** Update results. This will update the table to show all the cost centers/projects that have been reconciled and are ready for your approval



Click the "Select All for Multiple Approvals" button. All the rows under the "Multiple Approval" column will be checked. **Click** the "Approve Selected Rows" button to approve the cost centers/projects selected.



The approval statement will appear, please read and Click "yes".

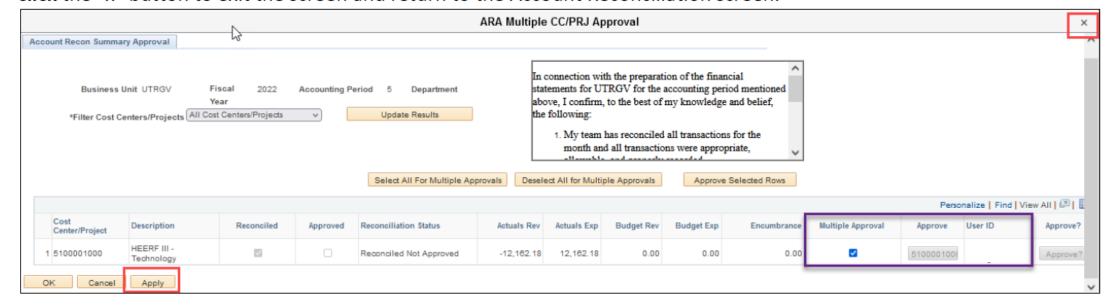
In connection with the preparation of the financial statements for UTRGV for the accounting period mentioned above, I confirm, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the following:

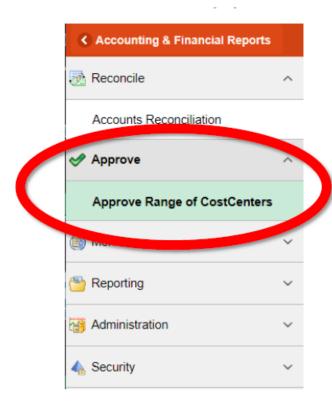
- 1. My team has reconciled all transactions for the month and all transactions were appropriate, allowable, and properly recorded.
- 2. All reconciling items have been adjusted or satisfactorily resolved and/or in the process of being resolved.
- 3. I understand my responsibilities for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls, and my requirement to report all suspected fraud.
- 4. I am aware that by using the "Approve Selected Rows" option, all the lines with the checkbox will be Approved and will reflect my employee ID.

Select Yes to continue to Approve all lines selected through the 'Approve Selected Rows' option



The "Approve" button will now be gray and your name will show under the "User ID" column. **Click** the "Apply" button and **click** the "x" button to exit the screen and return to the Account Reconciliation screen.



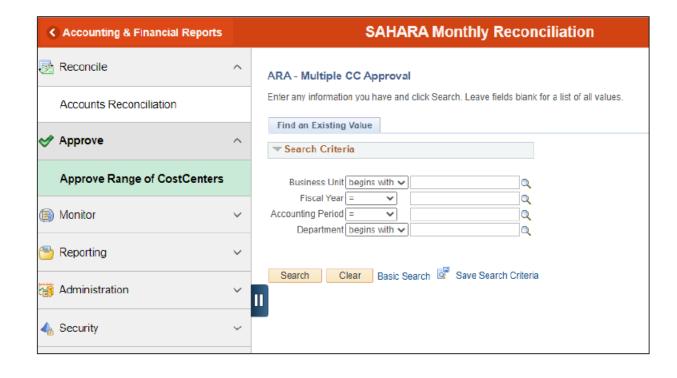


MANAGERS ONLY PROCESS

Using this option will display all assigned cost centers and/or projects assigned to you.

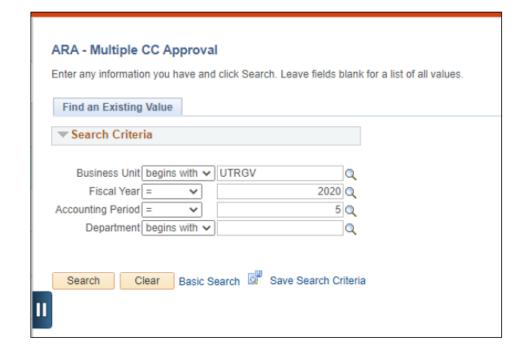
Displays list of assigned Cost Centers / Projects with the ability to look up CC/Projs ready for your approval (after reconciliation by Reconciler)

Additionally, Manager can review the reconciliation details for the CC/Project listed.



In the Approve menu option is the Approve Range of CostCenters submenu option to reveal the ARA – Multiple CC Approval screen.

There are four fields in the Search Criteria of which three (3) are required entry.



In the Search Criteria

Business Unit = UTRGV (required)

Fiscal Year = 2021 or current fiscal year (required)

Accounting Period = any current or past period (required)

Department = department code

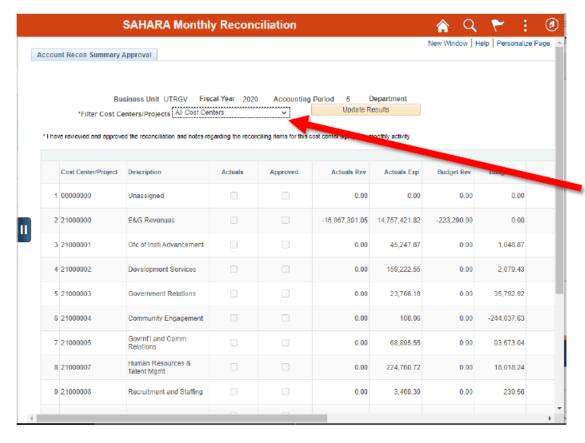
(required for FY 2021 Periods 1 & 2)

Once entry fields are present, click on **SEARCH** button and results will appear below.



No matching values were found

This notice shows reconciliation information is not present (i.e., selecting a period that has not yet closed, not yet occurred, or not yet reconciled by reconciler). Check the required entry fields and adjust accordingly.



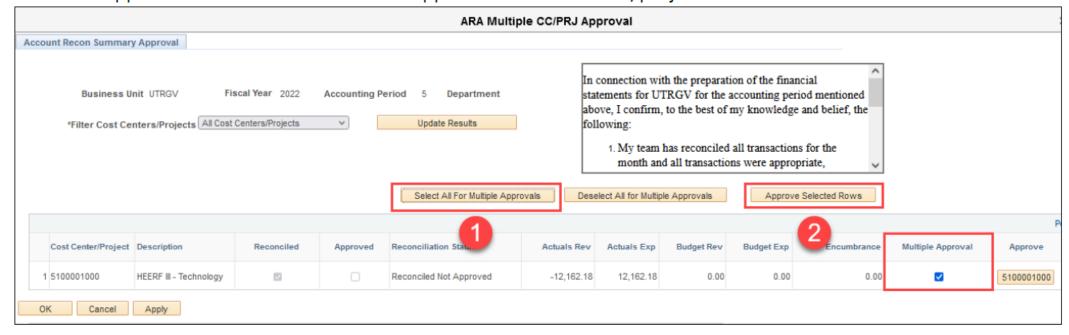
Search results display ALL Cost Centers & Projects assigned to you whether they are ready for approval or not.

If you have numerous assigned Cost
Centers/Projects, please use the
#Filter Cost Center/Projects
drop down option to narrow the content displayed.

Select "All Cost Centers/Projects" in the drop-down menu and **Click** Update results. This will update the table to show all the cost centers/projects that have been reconciled and are ready for your approval



Click the "Select All for Multiple Approvals" button. All the rows under the "Multiple Approval" column will be checked. **Click** the "Approve Selected Rows" button to approve the cost centers/projects selected.



The approval statement will appear, please read and Click "yes".

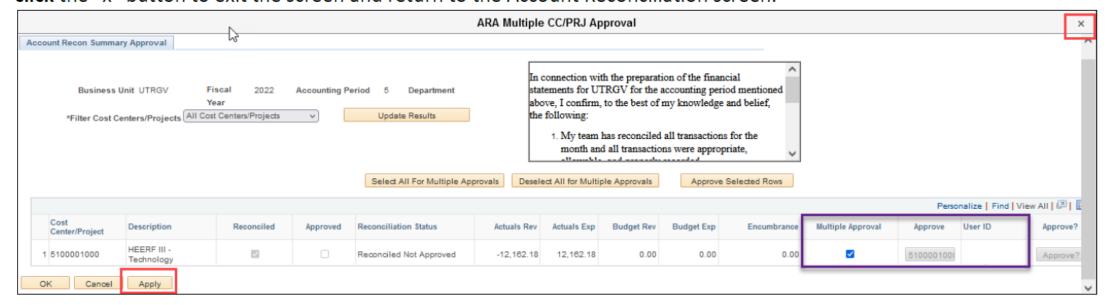
In connection with the preparation of the financial statements for UTRGV for the accounting period mentioned above, I confirm, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the following:

- 1. My team has reconciled all transactions for the month and all transactions were appropriate, allowable, and properly recorded.
- 2. All reconciling items have been adjusted or satisfactorily resolved and/or in the process of being resolved.
- 3. I understand my responsibilities for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls, and my requirement to report all suspected fraud.
- 4. I am aware that by using the "Approve Selected Rows" option, all the lines with the checkbox will be Approved and will reflect my employee ID.

Select Yes to continue to Approve all lines selected through the 'Approve Selected Rows' option

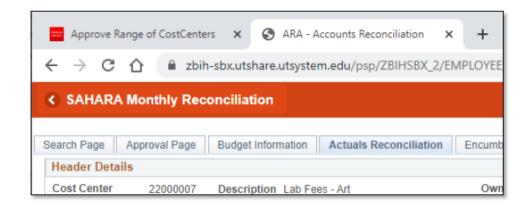


The "Approve" button will now be gray and your name will show under the "User ID" column. **Click** the "Apply" button and **click** the "x" button to exit the screen and return to the Account Reconciliation screen.





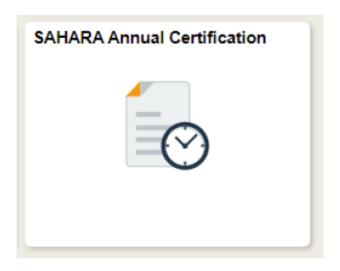
Clicking on the Link to Details link will open a NEW browser tab revealing the ARA Accounts Reconciliation page for that CC/Project mentioned in the link.



In the NEW browser tab, the ARA Accounts Reconciliation page, will display **ALL** reconciliation data (in tabs) for you to review, comment, flag, and approve.

When done with reviewing, close the ARA Accounts Reconciliation browser tab.

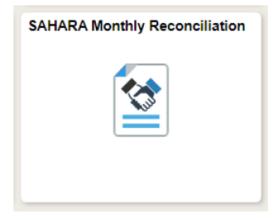
SAHARA ANNUAL CERTIFICATION – MANAGERS ONLY



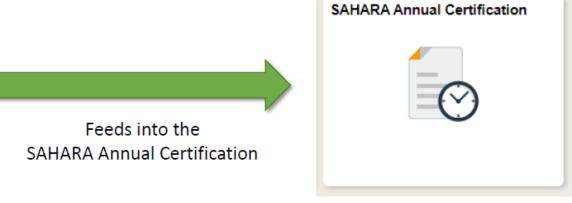
This process opens after the last accounting period of the fiscal year has closed.

This process is only for Cost Center and/or Project Managers

SAHARA ANNUAL CERTIFICATION – MANAGERS ONLY

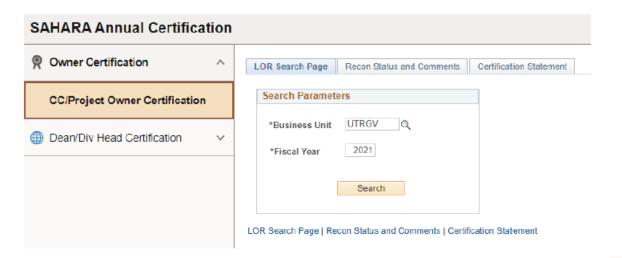


All Reconciled & Approved Data from Period 1 through 12 of the current fiscal year.



For Cost Center/Project Managers to certify as part of ANNUAL CERTIFICATION process.

NOTE: CC/Project Managers will be certifying for ALL CC/Projects at one time



Navigate -

Peoplesoft >

Employee Self Service >

Accounting & Financial Reports >

SAHARA Annual Certification >

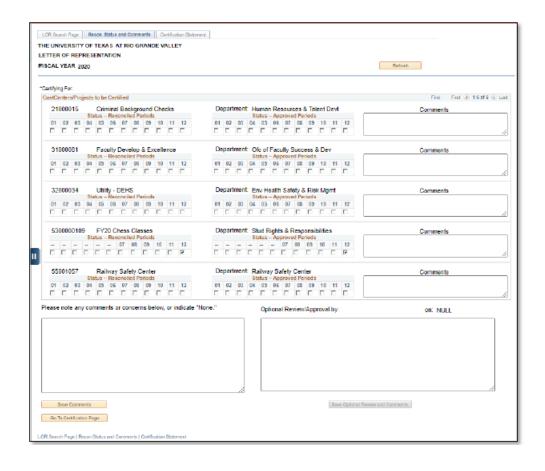
Owner Certification >

CC/Project Owner Certification

- To the right *Default* Data is populated
- · Click Search button
- Content in Recon Status and Comments tab will appear.



- In the LOR Search Page tab
- Business Unit = UTRGV
- Fiscal Year = (i.e., 2021)
- Click Search button
- Content in Recon Status and Comments tab will appear.

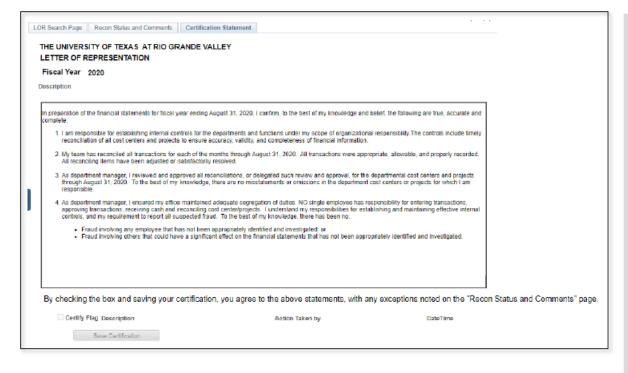


CC/Project Manager will be able to see ALL CC and/or Projects assigned and their reconciled & approval status for the entire fiscal year.

Comments may be added Click Save Comments button

When ready click on

Go To Certification Page button



When the CC/Project Manager is ready to complete the ANNUAL CERTIFICATION process for the entire fiscal year.

After reading the "Letter of Representation" the Manager will then click on the CERTIFY Flag check box.

NOTE: The Annual Certification is for ALL CC/Projects assigned to the manager. The certification is all or nothing.

NOTE: A pop-up notice will appear if any CC/Projects are NOT reconciled and/or approved. It will allow you to proceed with Annual Certification.

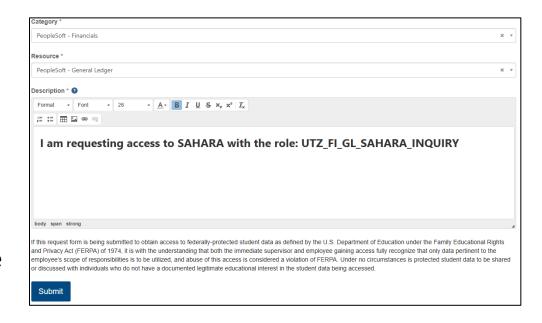
Lastly, click the **Save Certification** button to save and lock down the *Certification* for this fiscal year.

SAHARA FOR INQUIRY ONLY

HOW TO REQUEST ACCESS – INQUIRY ONLY

- a. Please login at http://SUPPORT.UTRGV.EDU
- b. Click on the blue **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY** button
- c. Click on **Get Access!**
- Get Access
- d. In the following fields please enter the associated information:
 - a. Category: PeopleSoft –Financials
 - b. Resource: PeopleSoft –General Ledger
 - c. Description: I am requesting access to SAHARA with the role: UTZ_FI_GL_SAHARA_INQUIRY
- e. Click on **REQUEST** (blue button at the bottom of screen)
- f. EULA agreement: Check Your Email
- g. **IMPORTANT:** Once access is granted by I.T. you must do the following to get access to view the CC/Projects.
 - a. Send an email to <u>AccountingandReporting@utrgv.edu</u> with the following information:
 - a. Your Name & Employee ID Number
 - b. The list of Cost Centers and/or Projects you want to view
 - c. The respective CC/Project Managers' approval
 - b. Delaying this email will delay your access to view CC/Projects

Information Technology



SAHARA FOR INQUIRY ONLY

Individuals with SAHARA FOR INQUIRY ONLY are limited to the following:

- 1. Able to view all financial data posted in SAHARA
- 2. Able to view attachments uploaded by the Reconciler and/or Manager
- 3. Ability to view comments on flagged items as well as general comments in the Budget Information, Actuals Reconciliations, and Encumbrances tabs

SAHARA FOR INQUIRY ONLY access has these additional limitations:

- 1. Cannot Reconcile on behalf of the Reconciler
- 2. Cannot Approve reconciliations on behalf of the Manager
- 3. Cannot initiate Flagging of transactions
- 4. Cannot remove flags on transactions
- 5. Cannot upload attachments

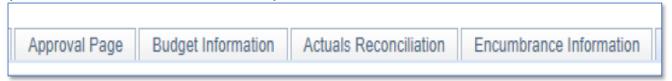
SAHARA PROCESSES & REPORTS

UPLOADING ATTACHMENTS

SAHARA now allows attaching files at Header level. SAHARA Reconcilers/Managers able to upload attachments at the Header level



Attachments link with counter **Attachments (1)** to be added to Approval Page tab, Budget Information tab, Actuals Reconciliation tab, and Encumbrance Information tab.



REGARDING UPLOADS

Please follow IT policy on storing information

(https://www.utrgv.edu/is/_files/documents/data-storage-guide.pdf)

DO NOT UPLOAD anything containing confidential information onto SAHARA

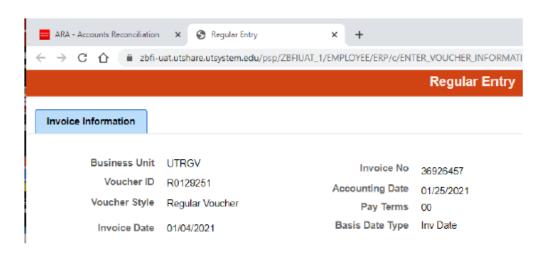
DO NOT UPLOAD anything that will violate HIPAA and/or FERPA onto SAHARA

Upload Specific Reconciling Items

Upload Specific Documents that have signatures, such as forms requiring approval.

DRILL DOWN TO SOURCE

Ability to drilldown into a source transaction - the user should have the ability to select a relevant transaction (voucher, expense report, journal, etc.) to see the detail of that transaction and the attachments on that transaction.

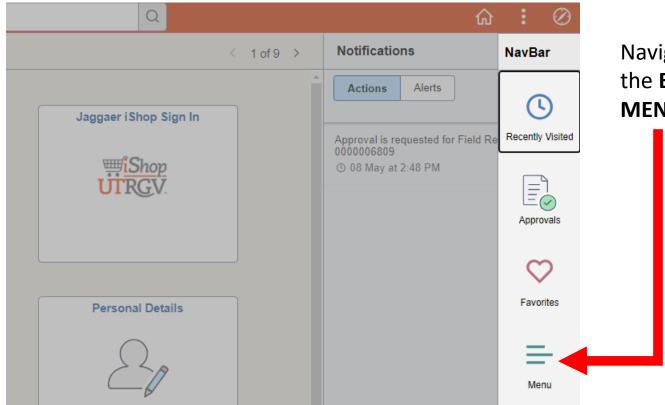




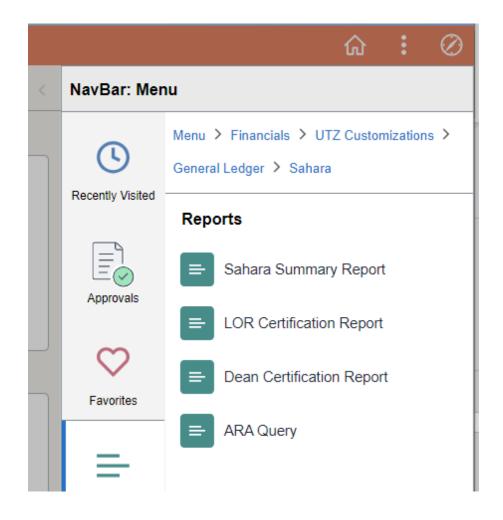
NOTICE:

Monetary Amount links do not go outside of General Ledger (will not go to iShop)

For Journal Entries results will not take you to specific line.



Navigate to & click **NAVBAR** on the far-right side of the **Employee Self Service** tab and click on the **MENU** option

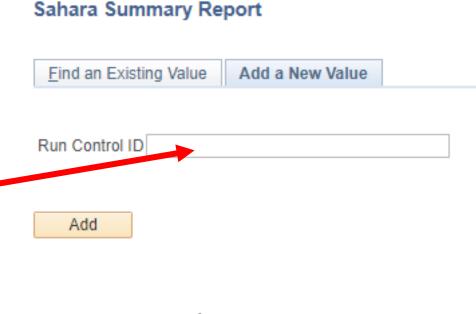


The screen will change revealing a vertical menu on the right side of the screen. Click on the menu options in the following order:

- a. FINANCIALS
- b. UTZ CUSTOMIZATIONS
- c. GENERAL LEDGER
- d. SAHARA
- e. REPORTS
- f. SAHARA SUMMARY REPORT

The center workspace will change to **SAHARA Summary Report** screen. **FIRST TIME USERS:** You will need to create a **RUN CONTROL ID**. Follow the steps in this order to do so:

- a. Click on the "Add a New Value" tab
- b. In the Run Control ID box enter:Sahara_Summary_Report
- c. Click on the **Add** button

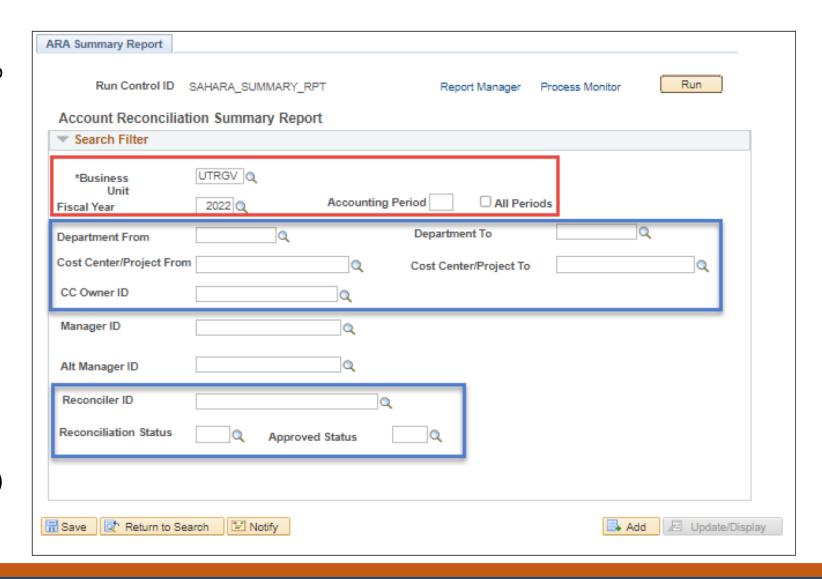


Find an Existing Value | Add a New Value

After you add search criteria and click on the **SAVE** button (see next step) you will **NOT** need to create a new Run Control ID. Click on the **Find an Existing Value** tab and then click on **Search** button, revealing the saved search criteria.

The screen will then change to reveal the **Account Reconciliation Summary Report**. To create the report, you will need to populate the following fields:

- a. REQUIRED: Business Unit field will be pre-populated with **UTRGV**
- b. REQUIRED: Fiscal Year
- c. REQUIRED: **Accounting Period** or check the **All Periods**
- d. OPTIONAL: Department From & Department To
- e. OPTIONAL: Cost Center/Project From & Cost Center/Project To
- f. OPTIONAL: CC Owner ID (Manager Employee ID Number)
- g. OPTIONAL: Reconciler ID (Reconciler Employee ID Number)
- h. OPTIONAL: Reconciliation Status (Y or N)
- i. OPTIONAL: Approved Status (Y or N)



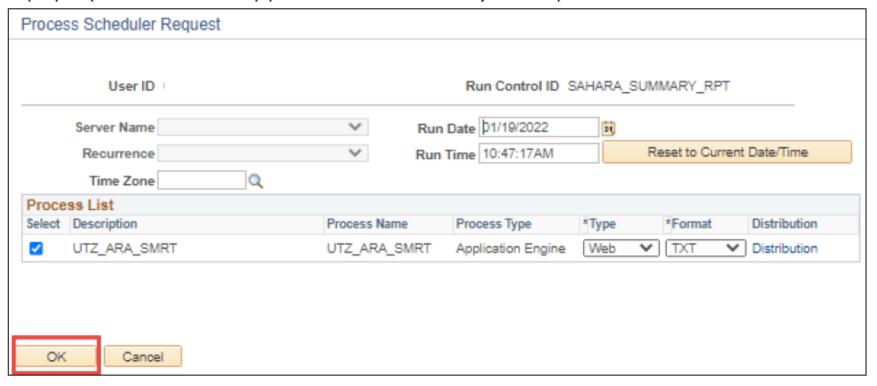
Once you have made your selection(s) click on **Save** button.



Next click on the **Run** button (upper right side)



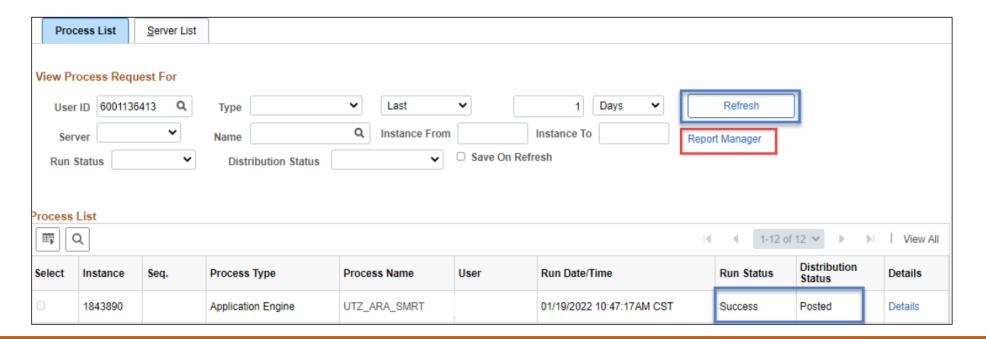
A pop-up window will appear. As there is only one option click on the **OK** button



The pop-up will disappear. Next, click on the **Process Monitor** link (just to the left of Run button)

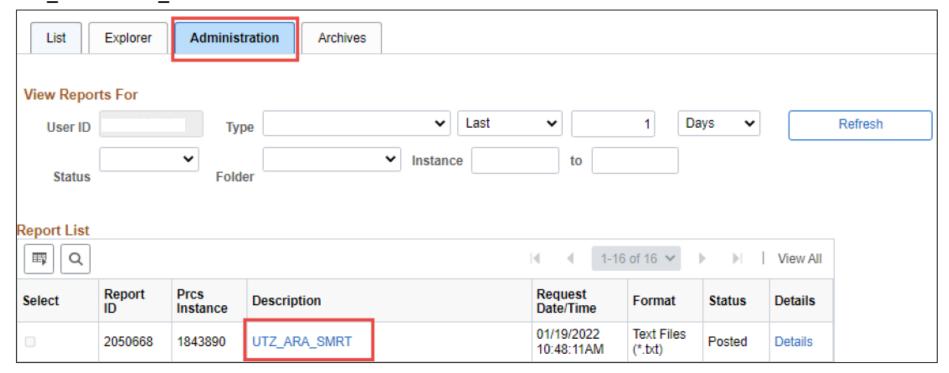


The screen will then change, periodically click on the **Refresh** button, and monitor the **Run Status** & **Distribution Status** columns until you see Success and Posted, respectively. Click on the link: **Report Manager**



On the new screen changes, click on the **Administration** tab. In the Report List section (center of screen) look for and click on UTZ_ARA_SMRT in the Description field. This will begin the downloading of the file titled:

ARA SUMMARY REPORT.csv



The **ARA_SUMMARY_REPORT.csv** file will open using Microsoft Excel. Based on criteria entered, the Search Result will return requested information. The file content depicts:

- a. **N**: Pending reconciliation/Approval
- b. Y: Reconciled/Approved
- c. --: Reconciliation not required

Columns A-F will show the cost center/project detail

Α	В	С	D	E	F
Business Unit	Fiscal Year	Cost Centr	CC/Project Descr	CC/Project Owner	Department

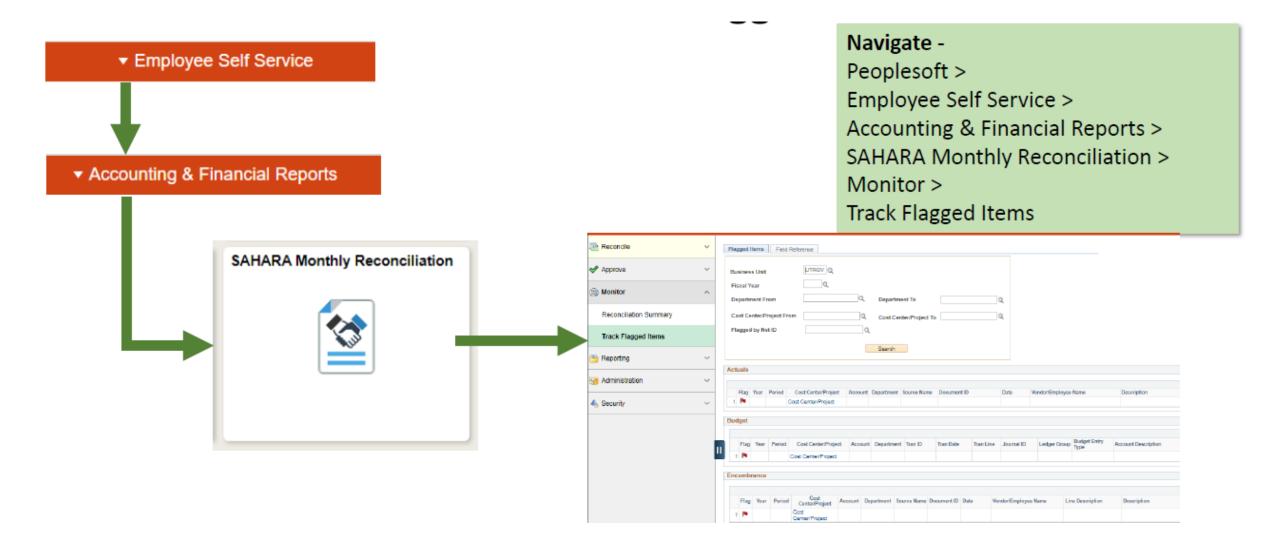
Columns G-R will show the reconciler status

G	Н	1	J	K	L	М	N	0	Р	Q	R
Reconciled											
Period1	Period2	Period3	Period4	Period5	Period6	Period7	Period8	Period9	Period10	Period11	Period12
		Y	Υ	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

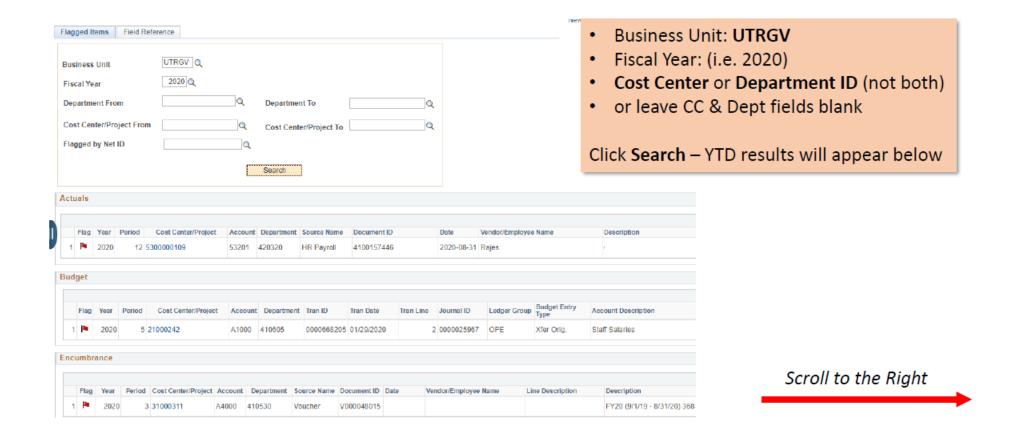
Columns S-AD will show the managers approval status

Т	U	V	W	Х	Υ	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD
Approved										
Period2	Period3	Period4	Period5	Period6	Period7	Period8	Period9	Period10	Period11	Period12
	Υ	Υ	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

TRACK FLAGGED ITEMS



TRACK FLAGGED ITEMS



TRACK FLAGGED ITEMS

Last Five (5) columns contain flagging information

- 1. Reconciler Comments
- 2. Approver Comments
- 3. Flagged by NetID (EIN)
- 4. Flagged by User
- 5. Flag Date/Time



Contact Us:

Training Coordinator: AccountingandTimekeepingTraining@utrgv.edu

Accounting and Reporting: AccountingandReporting@utrgv.edu

WWW: https://www.utrgv.edu/finance-and-fiscal-reporting/departments/accounting-and-

reporting/index.htm

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Finance and Fiscal Reporting