### **Purpose**

To create and prioritize budget modifications. The budget modification process, based on a percentage
of current new appropriations after certain base adjustments, is used by the Governor and the Legislature
in assessing priorities related to agency budget requests (also see Budget Modification General
Instructions).

### **Getting Started**

In the left-margin menu, under Modifications, click "Mod. Details".

- **Budget Cycle** defaults to the current cycle.
- Select Agency and Version from the options that have been assigned to you (see Time Saver Tip #1).

#### **Create a New Budget Modification**

- 1. Select "=== New ===" from the *Modification* drop-down menu.
  - The system will enter NEW mode. While in NEW mode, you must enter the Modification Title before you can continue.



Time-Saver TIP #1
Set default options to avoid repetitive selections of Agency and Version.

Start-Up TIP

show expected

adjusted.

Contact your

Division for assistance.

NBRRS Agency

Administrator or the State Budget

If any of the dropdown menus fail to

choices, you may

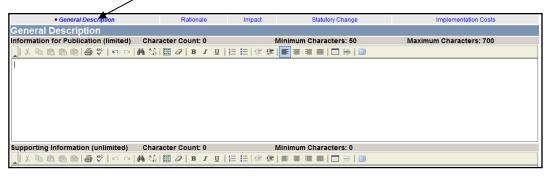
need to have your **Security** settings

Go to *User Options* in the upper right corner of any screen. Once your selections are made, press

Enter a Modification Title for the modification and click Save



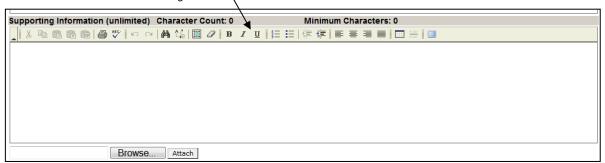
- Continuing on the modification's Narrative tab, begin to enter narrative information. The Modification Details narrative contains five tabs. See the Narrative Content section below for content guidelines on each tab.
  - The narrative tab currently selected appears in the **information bar**.
  - Narrative tabs with two edit windows are limited to a minimum and maximum number of characters which is pre-defined based on the screen. Text in the limited edit windows should be viewed as a summary of what is presented in the second, unlimited edit window. The limited edit window is intended to be included in various standardized reports that will be generated from the system, such as the Governor's budget recommendations.
  - All narrative tabs will display Character Count to assist with the satisfaction of the minimum and maximum character requirements for each edit window. This value is updated when Refresh or Save are clicked.



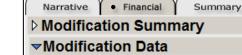
Formatting TIP
Avoid the use of hard returns when entering narrative text. Using hard returns prevents normal text "wrap" and hinders publication.

- The General Description and Rationale tabs contain two edit windows. The Impact, Statutory Change, and Implementation
  Costs tabs offer just one, unlimited edit window.
- If the number of characters in the section exceeds the Maximum Characters allowed the information will NOT be saved but the Character Count will be updated. Reduce the number of characters to under the maximum, then save.

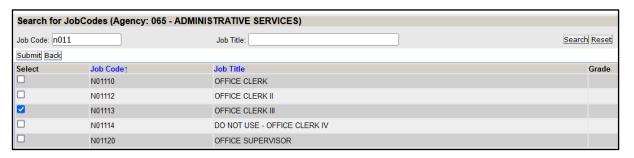
- Use the edit window **button bar** for standard word processing features. If any of the buttons look unfamiliar, scroll your mouse over the icon for a description of that feature. The (i.e., **Maximize the Editor Size**) button simply toggles you back and forth from full-screen editor mode to the normal screen.
- Copy & Paste text into the edit windows using either the Ctrl-C and Ctrl-V features (i.e., pressing the Control key and the V key at the same time) or by using the buttons on the left side of the edit window's button bar. To provide consistent formatting, a standard font style and size will be applied upon clicking Save.
- Attach supporting files (e.g., organizational chart graphics, picture files, etc.) by clicking the Browse... button to locate the desired file and then clicking the Attach button.



- 4. Click Save to commit the narrative entered to the database.
- Select the modification's Financial tab to provide detailed financial information for the modification by Job Code, Object Code and Fund Type.
- Begin adding Modification Detail (Programs) to the Modification. This can be done using two methods:

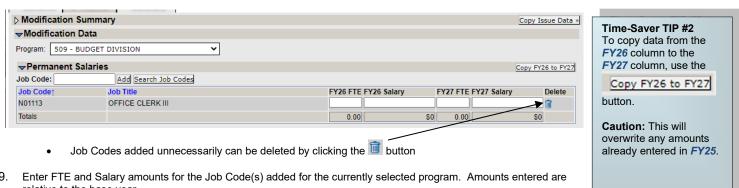


- 1) To manually add Program level detail, continue with Step 7.
- 2) To copy Issue Detail financial data from an Issue, skip to the "Copy Financial Details from an Existing Issue" section of this instruction.
- 7. Click Add Program to add Program Modification Detail.
  - Select a Program to be added.
- 8. To add Job Codes, either enter a known Job Code and click the Add button; or click the Search Job Codes button to search by Job Code or Job Title.
  - On the search screen, the Job Code field will search for codes that begin with what is entered while the Job Title field will search for the characters contained in the Title. Click on Search.

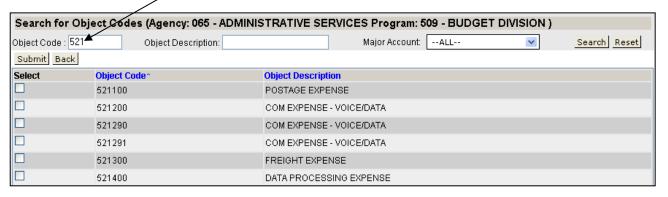


- You may select multiple Job Codes from the search results. Click Submit to return to the previous screen with the selected Job Code(s).
- Click Reset to clear the criteria entered.
- Click Back to return to the previous screen without returning a Job Code.

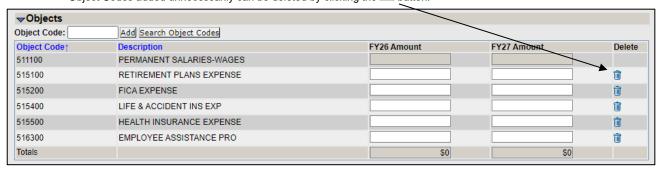
CAUTION: You must click whenever exiting a screen or risk losing unsaved data. Save frequently to avoid data loss.



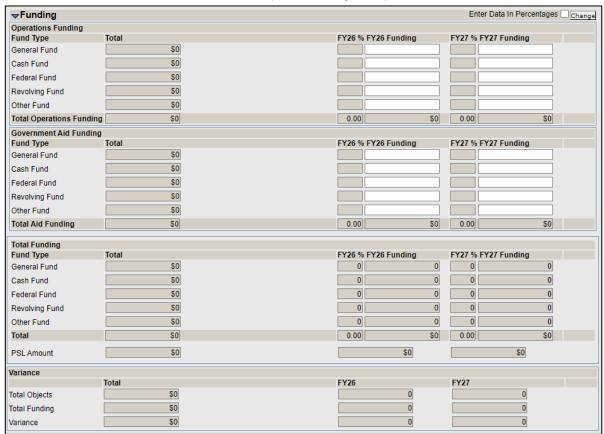
- relative to the base year.
  - Note that negative numbers may NOT be entered.
  - If an FTE amount is entered, than a Salary amount is required.
  - Note that common salary-related Object Codes are added automatically if a Job Code is added.
  - Click Copy FY26 to FY27 to copy numbers entered in the 1st year of the modification to the 2nd year. This will overwrite whatever is currently entered in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year.
- 10. Click Save to commit the data entered to the database. The FY26 and FY27 salary totals will be automatically inserted into the 511100 Object Code.
- 11. To add Object Codes, either enter a known **Object Code** and click the Add button; or click the search by Job Code or Job Title.
  - On the search screen, the Object Code field will search for codes that begin with what is entered while the Object Description field will search for the characters contained in the description. Click on Search.
  - Use the Major Account drop-down to limit the search results.



- You may select multiple Object Codes from the search results. Click Submit to return to the previous screen with the selected Object Code(s).
- Click Reset to clear the criteria entered.
- Click Back to return to the previous screen without returning an Object Code.
- Object Codes added unnecessarily can be deleted by clicking the III button.

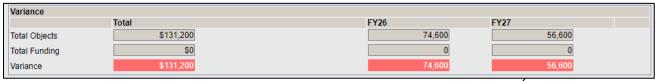


- 12. Enter amounts in the Object Code(s) added for the currently selected program. Amounts entered are relative to the base year.
  - Note that negative numbers may NOT be entered.
  - Note that you may not delete the Object Code 511100. This Object Code will appear as long as Job Code(s) are shown under the Permanent Salaries section.
  - Click Copy FY26 to FY27 to copy numbers entered in the 1st year of the request to the 2nd year. This will overwrite whatever is currently entered in the 2nd year.
- 13. Click Save to commit the data entered to the database.
- 14. Enter **Funding** amounts for both the **FY26 Funding** and **FY27 Funding** columns. **NOTE:** Modifications must have an ongoing impact. In other words, the funding impact may not be one-time only.
  - Funding amounts must be entered separately for Operations and Government Aid.
    - o The total of the funding amounts entered must balance with the total of the amounts entered by Object Code.
    - The system requires that Operations and Government Aid object totals balance to Operations and Government Aid Funding before the budget request can be submitted
  - There are five Fund Types: General Fund, Cash Fund, Federal Fund, Revolving Fund, and Other Fund (if Other Fund is used the Modification narrative should explain the funding source)



- Funding may be entered by two methods, Whole Dollar or Percentage.
  - To change methods, check the box to enter data in percentages then click Change
  - Un-checking the box and clicking Change returns the system to the Whole Dollar entry method.
  - i. Whole Dollar method
    - Enter amounts, by fund type, for each year.
    - Be sure to determine the amounts to be entered for Operations and Government Aid.
    - System will calculate totals and variance when Refresh or Save are clicked.
    - NOTE: System will only save dollar amounts, not percentages.
  - ii. Percentage Method
    - Enter percentage amount, by fund type, for FY26 and FY27.
    - If you enter amounts exceeding 100%, you will need to resolve the variance.
    - The system will calculate, based upon the respective object codes, the dollar amounts for both the Operations and Government Aid Funding sections.
    - Upon Refresh or Save , the system will calculate a dollar amount based upon the percentage.
       You may need to correct the effect of rounding using the Whole Dollar method
    - NOTE: System will only save dollar amounts, not percentages.

- 15. Click Save to commit the data entered to the database and check for Variances.
  - Variances do not need to be resolved in order to save. However all Variances must be resolved before your budget request can be submitted.



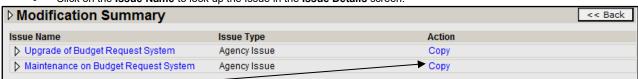
- The system will calculate the variance for FY26 and FY27. Any variance will be highlighted with red shading.
- Use of the Percentage funding method may produce a variance due to rounding. To correct, use the Whole Dollar method.
- 16. Click View Mode to exit Edit Mode. While in View Mode you may switch to a different Modification to continue entering your budget modifications or change to a different screen from the left-margin menu.

#### Copy Financial Details from an Existing "Issue"

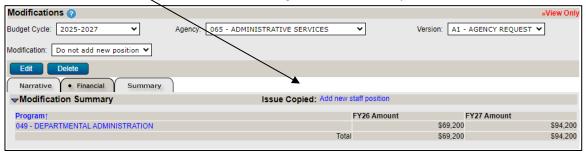
- 1. Select the Modification you wish to update from the *Modification* dropdown or create a new Modification as outlined above.
- Click to begin editing the Modification.
- 3. Select the Financial tab.
- 4. Click Copy Issue Data > to copy financial details from an existing Issue request.
  - When clicked, you will receive a warning indicating that all existing data in the Modification will be deleted. Click OK to continue or Cancel to stop the copy.



- A listing of all Issues available to the user will be shown
- Click BACK to return to the previous screen without selecting an Issue to copy.
- Click on the Issue Name to look up the Issue in the Issue Details screen.



- Click COPY to copy the Job Code and Object Code amounts entered in the Issue.
  - Subprogram detail will be rolled up to the Program level.
  - No narrative will be copied.
  - Funding will not be copied.
  - Negative numbers will be copied. However, negative numbers are not allowed in Modifications so you will not be able Save until all negative numbers are removed.
  - The name of the <u>Issue Copied</u> will be shown. Clicking on that name will take you to the Issue Details.



**NOTE:** Once copied, the source Issue and the Modification are not linked. If the source Issue changes, the Modification will not change, and vice versa. Consequently, it is highly recommended that entry of the Financial data for the source Issue be complete before copying.

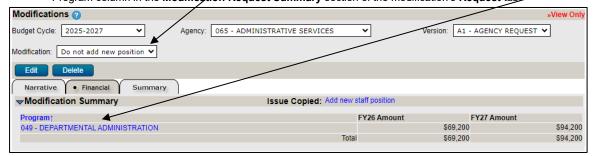
6. See Edit an Existing Budget Modification below to edit the Modification.

NOTE: The modification's Summary tab displays the Funding data in summary fashion, by year. No data entry is required on this screen.

# **Specific Modification Detail Instructions**

#### **Edit an Existing Budget Modification**

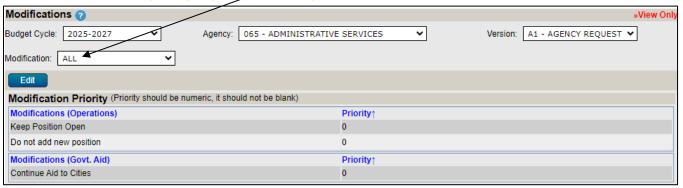
- 1. Select the Modification you wish to update from *Modification* dropdown.
- 2. Click to begin editing the Modification.
  - Select the Narrative, Request or Summary tab as needed.
    - NOTE: You can change the Title if necessary. Click Save after changing the title.
  - To load the modification financial data for a specific Program which was previously entered, click the "program link" under the Program column in the **Modification Request Summary** section of the modification's **Request** tab



- The currently selected Modification may be deleted by clicking the Delete button while the screen is in View Mode (also see the Modifications Summary screen).
- You may delete a Program from the issue in the **Modification Request Summary** section by clicking the 🗓 button while in Edit Mode.
- Follow Steps 3-16 under <u>Create a New Budget Modification</u> above to continue editing the existing modification.

#### **Set Budget Modification Priorities**

 From the Modification Details screen, select ALL from the Modification drop-down menu. The system will list all Modifications created by the agency – listed separately for Operations and Government Aid.



- Click \_\_\_\_\_\_ to begin editing the Modification priorities for each of Operations and Government Aid, if applicable.
  - Priority 1 is the very highest priority in addition to the 95% base level. In other words, it is the first function to be funded if appropriation is provided above the 95% level.
  - All Modifications, for each of Operations and Government Aid, must have a unique priority number in sequential order beginning with 1 before an agency's budget request can be submitted.

## **Specific Modification Detail Instructions**

#### **Modifications - Narrative Content**

The Budget Modification narrative should provide a detailed description of the Modification including an analysis of the impacts and statutory changes necessary.

NOTE: Where possible, cross referencing to the Agency, Division, Program, and Issue Narratives is useful.

**General Description -** The agency should describe the Modification in detail. As an example, explain what changes would be necessary to existing activities if the Modification is not funded or what proposed Issue would not be implemented.

**Rationale -** The agency should describe the rationale, criteria or priority system used in determining the relative importance of the specific Modification to the base level. Explain why this activity or service was determined to be a low priority in relation to items left in the base level.

**Impact -** The agency should identify the quantitative and qualitative impacts of the Modification. The description should include:

- a. What services would be continued, adjusted or expanded, what client groups would be impacted, what effects would be felt by the general public, etc.
- b. What would happen if funding is not provided for the specific Modification?
- c. <u>Clearly</u> indicate whether funding for the Modification matches other fund sources and include an estimate of the amount of other fund sources that may be lost or not received if the Modification is <u>not</u> funded. A reference to the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number should be included in the case of federal funds.

**Statutory Change -** In some cases, a Modification may require statutory change. The agency should identify the relevant statutes and the changes necessary to implement the Modification.

**Implementation Costs** - The agency should identify estimated costs of implementation, if any, if the Modification is not funded. Such costs should include accumulated vacation payments, unemployment, operating expenses carried into the next fiscal year, etc.