Understanding Budget Control

Budget control refers to the org code used to process the budget checking for NSF (non-sufficient funds) purposes. Budget control can be set using any org code. If left blank, the org will budget check itself (see below for examples). Use FTMORGN to query a specific org’s budget control (press F7, type the org code into the field, then press F8 to query), or use the attached query (Org_Rollup.tsm) to pull your entire unit’s org structure.

Figure 1 - Note “Budget Control Organization” field is blank. This org budget checks itself.

When an org’s budget control is set to itself, the operating budget (2001-8001 account codes) loaded into that org is compared to all expenditures, transfers, and encumbrances posted against that org, along with any in-process documents, to determine the availability of budget. In order to avoid NSF issues, budget revisions that increase the total operating budget of this org must be processed.
Sometimes, a budget control at the org level does not make operational sense, because the budget authority is delegated at a higher level, and the exact budget in any one org is not as important as the whole budget within that operational area. In this case, a budget control at the department, sub-unit, or even the unit level might be more appropriate. It is important to note that a pooled budget control is only shared amongst orgs that share the same budget control code.

In other words, if five orgs share a single D-Level org, and one of those orgs is set with the budget control organization at the D-level but the other four budget-check themselves, the org with the D-level budget control will show the same budget and activity as it would if it budget-checked itself. All five orgs must have the D-level entered as their budget control organization in order for their operating budgets to be pooled.

Any combination of budget control levels can be used within a unit in order to best manage the operating budgets as the unit’s financial manager sees fit. The highest level that may be used is level four, the unit level.

Figure 2 - Note “Budget Control Organization” field shows 62SPOS. This org budget checks at the unit rollup level. The operating budget of all orgs that share this budget control level is pooled.
**Checking Budget Availability**

The screen FGIBAVL is used to check available budget. In order to use the screen, select the fiscal year of interest, change the commit type to “Uncommitted,” enter the fund code of interest (generally 103010), enter the org code of interest (generally an entry-level org, such as 50528), and then type “PLBUD” as the Account. Next block (CTRL-PGDN) will return the resulting available balance.

![FGIBAVL screen and results for org 62000 in FY12. Note the "Control Keys" section that shows the organization as 62SFOS, the budget control organization for 62000 (as noted in Figure 2).](image)

If the results in the “Available Balance” column are not what you expected and do not match what you see using other screens, such as FGIBDST, the difference is a result of in-process (incomplete) documents. Because incomplete documents impact BAVL, and that is where budget-checking takes place, it is critical to manage those documents in order to avoid any unnecessary NSF (non-sufficient funds) situations.