The Grant is Over! Why Can't We Just Close It?

Financial Reconciliation & Closeout Process



Agenda

- Definitions
- Overview
- Financial Reporting
- FFR Examples
- Banner Billing
- · Final Invoicing Timeline
- Carryover
- Quiz
- Q&A







Definitions

FFR = Federal Financial Report

A statement of expenditures associated with a grant award for a given period of time. Recipients of federal funds are required to report the status of funds for grants or assistance agreements to the funding agency of the grant using the Federal Financial Report expenditure data.

Unobligated Balance

The amount of funds authorized under an award that the recipient has not yet obligated or expensed. The unobligated balance is calculated as follows: Unobligated Balance = Authorized amount - Expenditures - Unliquidated Balance

Carryover/Carry-forward

The process through which unobligated funds remaining at the end of the budget period may be carried forward to the next budget period. The carryover of funds allows the Grantees to use the unuscription of the budget period. The amount of carryover funds cannot exceed the unobligated balance.

Cost Reimbursement Projects

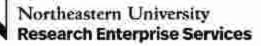
Awards or contracts where NU is reimbursed for incurred expenses, up to the budget limit. Cost-reimbursement invoices generally include a breakdown of expenditures grouped by cost categories (e.g. Salary, Fringe, Supplies, Equipment, Tuition, etc.). Invoices are submitted via email or a sponsor system.

Fixed Price Projects

Awards or contracts where NU receives payments based on completed milestones or a set schedule, regardless of incurred expenses. Fixed-price invoices include a description of the event or milestone for the amount being billed. Invoices are submitted via email or a sponsor system.

Residual Balance Transfer

For fixed price projects that do not require unexpended funds to be returned to the sponsor, Research Finance transfers the unexpended funds to non-research accounts. Typically, the direct cost portion is returned to a PI's overhead account, and the indirect cost portion is returned to the college.





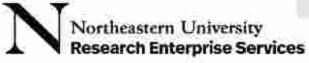
Overview

Recipients of sponsored awards are required to report the use of funds on a monthly, quarterly, annual or other basis. Financial reporting schedules and invoicing requirements vary by sponsor and by federal agency. The terms and conditions of the award/contract will speak to these requirements.

Financial reports and invoices are prepared and submitted by NU-RES Finance (RF) and are based on actual expenditures applicable to the reporting period. The timely reconciliation of financial reports and invoices is a shared responsibility between Principal Investigators, Research Administrators, and

Research Finance.

Process	RF Contact		
Financial Reports	Research Finance Analyst		
Invoicing	Research Account Analyst		
Letter of Credit (LOC) draws	Research Account Analyst		
Account Receivables	Research Account Analyst		
Payment application	Cash Management Accountant		
Collections	Research Account Analyst Cash Management Accountant		





NU-RES Finance Team Matrix

Activity	Research Finance Analyst (RFA)	Senior Compliance Specialist	Research Account Analyst (RAA)	Cash Management Team
Award Setup in Banner	X		X	
-Journal Vouchers -Cost transfers -Vendor Payments (Direct Pay Forms) -PO Requisitions	x			
-Concur Statements & Reimbursements -Payroll Distribution Changes -Summer Salary (Period Activity Pay)		x		
Research Annual Certification		Х		
Financial Reporting	X			
Invoicing & Letter of Credit (LOC) Draws			x	
Payments & Collections			X	X
Closeouts	X		X	X





Financial Reporting

Financial Reports document expenditures for a given timeframe on a grant or contract. Communication between the College Research Administrator and Research Finance is critical to ensure that the appropriate expenses are being reported.

Common due dates:

- NIH: annual FFRs due within 90 days of budget end date; final FFRs due within 120 days* of the project end date
- NSF: FFRs are not required; final draws are due within 120 days* of project end date
- DOD: quarterly/annual/final reporting may be required
- Foundations: due dates vary by sponsor, see NOA for specific requirements

*NU completes final reconciliations and/or reports within 90 days to allow sufficient timing for RF to complete final draws within 120 days

Report Type	Research Finance	Department/College
 Interim FFR (Quarterly, Semi-Annual) Annual FFR with <u>automatic</u> carryover (one index/fund for entire project period) 	FFR submitted based on expenditures posted through the last month of reporting period	N/A
3. Annual FFR with <u>restricted</u> carryover (one index/fund per budget period)	FFR draft sent to Research Administrator for review Pending adjustments are coordinated with department FFR is submitted and Banner budget is reduced to match reported expenditures	Department approval required Identify and provide support for pending expenditures Submit carryover request to NU-RES Administration for review/submission
4. Final FFR for project period	FFR draft sent to Research Administrator for review Pending expenditures are coordinated with department FFR is submitted and Banner budget is reduced to match reported expenditures Final draw is processed	Department approval required Identify and provide support for pending expenditures Reoccurring charges are stopped or redirected from the award to ensure timely closure Grant closeout procedure/checklist is completed



Financial Reporting Timeline

Developed measurement of work

Final FFR Timeline

Project FER Draft **FFR Submission** - 60 days CLOSEOUT **End Date** + 90-120 days # 60 clarys Distribute Closecut notification Receive and apply final draw Send FFR draft to Research Submit FFR to sponsor with 90 and refer to checklist - 60 days Administrator days of end date or sponsor payment prior to end date RESEARCH Process Residual Balance Coordinate final reconciling Reduce Banner budget to FINANCE Trainiters or Sponsor Refunds adjustments with department match reported expenditures (fixed-price awards) Reconcile and close project Submit final LOC draw request In Bariner...

	determine if NCE is needed.	Review Closeout checklist	Review FFR draff		
	Verify project will not continue and review linancials to date	Request final invoices from subcontractors	Identify and communicate final pending adjustments to Rf. Include supporting documentation.	Complete outstanding items on closeout checklist	
PI / Research Administrator	ALCOHOLD A CHOCK ALTON 13" POST	Reconcile final expenditures	Approve FFR Draft		
	Submit final PDCs. Concur reimbursements. Cost Tranfers. etc.	Stop reoccuring charges or recirect from the award			

Example: Closeout Notification

From: Office of Research Finance

Sent: Wednesday, June 1, 2072 3:55 PM Subject: 60 Day Project Closeout Notification

Dear Principal Investigator & Department Administrator,

This notification is to provide you with information on your project(s) that are nearing their end date. Based on our records the following grant(s), will end in the next 60 days:

Grant Code	Fund Code	(TE) Adjusted Studget	Pt Full Name	Fund Description	Grant External Sooners Name	Spouser ID Number	Grum Project End Date	Fond Budget End Oate
500001234	512000	\$ 500,000.00	Doe, Jane	NSFLATIC 123456TATION U	Namonal Science Foundation	1234587	2/28/3 (22	>28/3672

As a grant recipient, the organization must meet several requirements before clasing out a grant in the final budget period of the project. Proparation for classout should begin now, prior to the end date of the grant in order to accurately forecast expenses and complete any adjusting entries that need to be made. The Grant Classout Checking will assist you with the process and addresses many items that will facilitate in the successful closeout of your project(s).

If you believe you received this email in error or anticipate an extension or renewal of the award, please notify your NU-RES Grant Officer (cc'd).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Amelia Earbart

Besenrch Finance Coordinator

Northeastern University

Service (NII-973) 177 Humbert Av. | Boston, MA 02115

A Limbert #Northmenternands | 657-373-0000 (Voll)

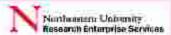
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Example: Closeout Checklist

GRANT CLOSEOUT CHECKLIST



from the other University is required by must federal sources and many private sources to submit final floatenial classour imports within 60 00 days after the award and date (some autumns may equire early submission.) Despired and conditions of the avaird/contract.

Phase your NO-BES in fulfilling channel requirements by reviewing the programmatic and francial status of your award at least 60 days prior to the end date. All reoccurring charges must be stopped or sediented by the project and date its ensure timely plocure, this checklet can be used by the Principal Investigator and Department Administrator to track when dissourt takes and deliverances, if applicable, are considered.

Classout Tasks (90 days prior to project and date)

Fregert Expenditures

- Review posted expenditures and verify they are allowable, although e. and resonable with the terms of the award.
- confirm of effort/salary charged to the project is ecourate.
- Process Regard Distribution Changes (PDEs) to some 4 values dranges and more personnel off, the protect.
- Review capital equipment charges posted to account codes 73001 73012, from seeting <\$5,000, must be coded as non-cooper purchases via unimportant of a torontal anather.
- Submit/reconstle final employee reimbursonients and NU Areex statements in Concur.
- Elegant/ipprove remaining invoices and follow-up on any that have not arrived in a timely manner.
- It formula butter explaints to subout hard reports and involves generally due 80 days after natioward and dates.

Cour Shoring III cumicoble)

- Ensure cost shere commitments are met and confirm expenses are properly allocated
- □ Verify internal families of each share account is a simple test by your department you begreet each your bornel your fier.

Final Review (following project and date)

- Annual washess furnished busters and marel
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 Stop of matters informed spending on the pagest.
- The inground the commitment and foundate/concel
- zemaining PO balances
- Barrour unaffewable court via PCC or Court Tourster/IV.
- Resolve buringst overruns and pefforts.
- Submit Final Progress/Fechnical, investion, and/or Property Reports.

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- Coll Transfer Toron
- F Durand Washing 2 sitte

- Review Posted Expenditures
- Confirm Cost Share Met
- Stop/Redirect Spending
- · Submit Final Transactions
- · Resolve Deficits
- Submit Final Reports





Example: NSF Final Reconciliation

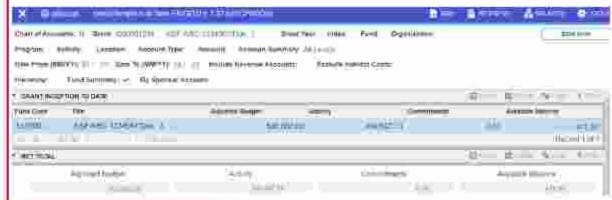
From: Office of Research Finance < Research Finance@northeastern.edu>

Sent: Friday, May 77, 2022 8:26 AM

Subject: G1234 | NSF Award ABC=1234567 | Firmal Reconciliation Due by MM/DD/YYYY

Dear Department Administrator,

We are in the process of preparing the final draw for the NSF award listed below. Banner reflects a final cumulative expenditure amount of 499,587.13.





Please reply no later than MM/DD/YYYY to confirm that all final expenditures have been posted to the account and that this final cumulative amount is correct. Research Finance will reduce the budget in Blanner to match this final amount, and the remaining usspent balance of \$412,87 will be deobligated upon submission of the final draw.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Albert Emstein

Hasearch Finance Analyst

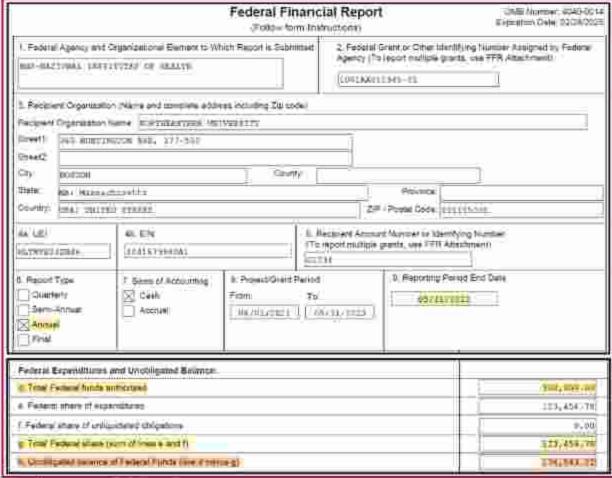
Research Futuripative Services [NIS-RES] | 377 Humbington Ave. | Bonton, MA 02115

A.binitmos Horttmastern edu | 617-373-0007 (voir)

The ALI-NES Team works in a hybrid-remote setting, pupporting the University's glabblinescorch enterprise. Email is the preferred means of promountation, we are also available to meet you Microsoft Teams or phone. Please feel free to contact the NC-RCS Research Emance albon to the state of the state of the state of animalored during angles in the power printers from a



Example: Annual FFR



FFR Submission & Carryover

 PI/RA approve FFR draft after accounting for all applicable expenditures for the budget period ending 05/31/2022

Authorized Budget: \$300,00.00 Total Expenditures: \$123,456.78 Unobligated Balance: \$176,543.22

- · RFA submits FFR to sponsor
- Max amount available to carryover is \$176,543.22
- PI/RA prepare a carryover request and submit to NU-RES
- NU-RES reviews and submits prior approval request to NIH





Example: Final FFR



Final FFR Submission

 PI/RA approve FFR draft after accounting for all applicable expenditures for the budget period ending 05/31/2022

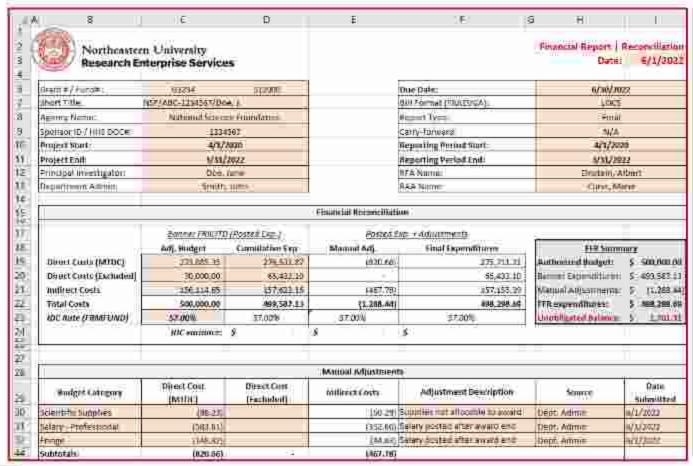
Authorized Budget: \$1,500,00.00 Total Expenditures: \$1,498,765.32 Unobligated Balance: \$1,234.68

- RFA submits final FFR to sponsor
- RFA reduces budget in Banner to match total final expenditures



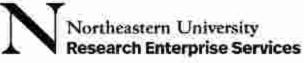


Example: Recon Manual Adjustment



Manual Adjustments

- Should be used in rare cases only (transactions should be addressed well in advance of final report/invoice deadlines)
- Require follow up by RF/Dept, to ensure correct posting of transactions in Banner





Final Invoicing Overview

Invoicing requirements and payment terms, including requirements for final invoicing, vary by sponsor and federal agency. The terms and conditions of the award/contract will speak to these requirements.

The RAAs prepare and submit invoices and LOC draws based on actual expenditures incurred in the billing period, or installments as defined in the award agreement. Draws/invoices for direct federal awards are done monthly for expenses, not as recon to interim (quarterly/annual) FFRs.

Final invoices are not auto-generated and require reconciliation with the College Research Admin/PI

Final invoices reconciliation is typically needed for all non-LOC cost-reimbursement awards (CRST & CRSP). Final invoices/draws for direct federal awards must reconcile to the final FFR.

The NU-RES Cash Management team receives and processes all incoming research payments, and oversees payment applications, collections, sponsor refunds.



Banner Bill Formats

Bill Format Code	Bill Format Name	Description	Typical sponsors / contract types	Invoice Timeline	Barrier System output	Invoice type	Additional requirements	Final Invoice/ draw
CRST	Cost Standard	Grants are billed dollar for dollar Impokes are emailed directly to funding agencies using NU standard invoke template.	Federal pass through, typically on EDP template	monthly/ quarterly	system growtated invoices	Standard templated includes breakdown of costs by category	Supporting documentation – payroll reports, receipts, vendor	60 days Recon prepared with College RA/PI
CRSP	Cost Special	Grants are tilled dollar for dollar; submission is typically through a funding agency portal or funding agency mandated template.	various - fed pass- through, some direct federal (e.g. NEH, VA, NSA, ARPA-E)	per spansor requirements	Aystem- generated statements	System statements are converted by RAA into sponsor template or submitted via sponsor system	invoices, etc Cost share reporting - Portal & = mail submission	
LOCS	LOC Standard	Letter of Credit draws for direct- federal awards from HHS & NSF	HHS & NSF		N/A RAAs create Alt	Combined draw per agency via tiplicad (NSF via ACMS, titts via PMS)	additional submission via ensail may be required (e.g. EDA)	90 days :Recon to FER:
roco	LOC OTHER	Letter of Credit draws for direct- federal awards for other federal agencies (non-LOCS)	Direct Federal e.g. DOD, DOJ, NASA, DEN, DED, EDA, NIST, EPA, NDAA	monthly	schedule and book in flammer	LOC draw via federal agency portal (e.g. ASAP, WAWF, PMS)		
FXP	Fixed Price Standard	Billing is on contract milestones, deliverables, billing schedule, etc. Action by NV-RES Finance is required for payment	industry, some direct federal	Per contract billing schedule	system- generated invoices	Standard involce for scheduled installment/milestone or payment request via sponsor portal	Installment and final payments may be contingent on programmatic deliveral final progress reports, or completion of milestones. Coordination between RA College RA/PI may be needed. Beware of award terms related to final reporting and residual balances.	
FPA	00-00	Funding agency releases payment installments No action by NU-RES Finance required for payment	Foundations, non-profit agencies	Norse	N/A RAAs creute AR schedule and book in Banner	none - no action required by NU-RESTituation		

Final Invoice Timeline

Budgel Period / **Final Invoice** + 30 days + 45 days - 90-60 days Project Submission End Date + 60 days Send out preliminary list of final Distribute Closeout notification involces due within 60 days Distribute final invoice Send final invoice draft to and checkfut ~60 days prior to Submit Final Invoice to sponsor Research Administrator tollowing the monthly financial motifications endidate: RESEARCH close: Coordinate final reconclina Reduce Banner budget to FINANCE adjustments with department match reported expenditures Draft final invoices Review progress of work. Confirm that final invoice ist is Complete outstanding Items Review final invoice draft Review Closeout checklist determine if NCF is needed. on closeout checkint accurate Identify and advise Research Identify and communicate Submit Carry-forward Verify project will not continue Finance if project a ending, final pending adjustments to Approve final invoice draft request Research Finance: Inlude and review financials to date continuing with NCE or it applicable continuing with new increment supporting documentation. PI / Research Review salary allocations and Administrator encumbrances and determine Request final invoices from if any final costs need to be vendors/consultants allocated Submit final PDCs, Concur Stop reoccurring charges or reimbursements. Cost Tranfers, redirect from the award etc Reconcile final expenditures

Final Invoice Matrix

			Is the project continuing?	
		YES - NCE	YES - Increment	NO.
5	YES	- Invoice for straight expense through the current POP end month - NO recon for expenses posted after the POP - NO New FUND# is created, extend end date of	- Invoice for straight expense through the current POP end month - NO recon for expenses posted after the POP - NO New FUND# is created, extend end date of existing fund. - RAA will extend billing schedule and Invoicing will resume when the new increment is received and processed in Banner - NO approval needed from college admin, CC on invoice as FYI.	- PROJECT FINAL INVOICE w full recon - Requires coordination with College RA - If account in deficit, confirm bill in full
Is it Auto	NO	existing fund. RAA will extend billing schedule and Invoicing will resume when NCE is received and processed in Banner NO approval needed from college admin, CC on invoice as FYI	- BUDGET PERIOD FINAL INVOICE reconciled for posted expenses only - Non-salary expenses after POP are included - Need review from college admin (no projections) - NEW FUND # to be created - When not billing in full, fund budget will be reduced to final invoice amount - College RA to work with NU-RES GO to request carry forward of unobligated balance, if needed	- If pending expenses, need projections fro College RA - JV may be needed to be able to book AR - When not billing in full, budget will be reduced to final invoice amount





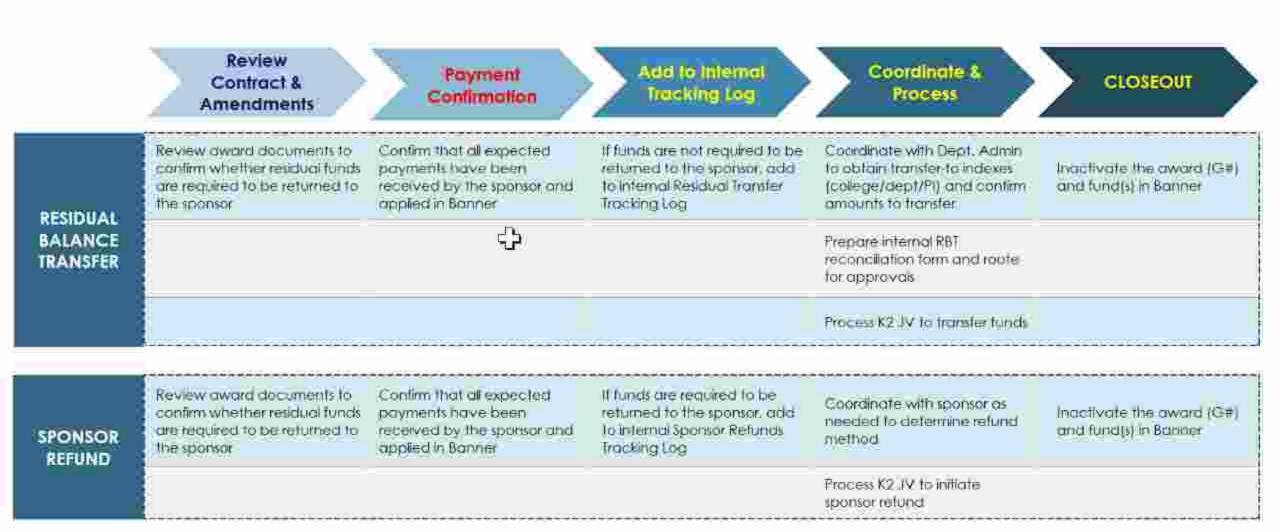
Carryover

- Carryover is the process by which unobligated funds remaining at the end of a budget period may be carried forward to the next budget period to cover allowable costs in that budget period. The carryover of funds enables grantees to use unexpended prior year grant funds in the current budget period.
- The amount of carryover funds cannot exceed the unobligated balance.
- Grantees that do not have automatic carryover authority are required to submit a written request.
- Carryover requests must be limited to actual needs for the current budget period. Subsequent needs would be considered in future budget periods.
- If carryover requires funding agency prior approval, a carryover request with a completed Transaction Form (T-Form) should be submitted to GO / NU-RES@northeastern.edu.





Residual Balances & Sponsor Refunds



Banner Inactivation



- Final Reconciliation, FFR, Invoice
- Paid in Full
- · Residual Funds Processed
- · Deficits Resolved
- Clean GL
- Inactivate





Key Takeaways

- Prepare for final reporting, invoicing, and closeout in advance of the project end date
- Final expenditures or adjustments should be completed within 60 days of the project end date
- Final invoices are not system-generated and require reconciliation with the College Research Admin
- If there are pending expenses at the time of the final invoice preparation, clear spending projections with supporting documentation are required
- Carryover requests cannot be submitted prior to FFR / final invoice submission
- Unobligated Balance ≠ Carryover
- Carryover requests require explanation of the unobligated balance, budget, and justification
- Final payment must be received from the sponsor before initiating a Residual Balance Transfer
- · Banner inactivation requires deficits to be resolved and sponsor payment in full







Questions?



True or False

- All Federal awards require an annual FFR.
- Carryover requests can be submitted prior to the annual FFR / budget period final invoice.
- 3. Final invoices are always due to the sponsor within 60 days.
- 4. Research Finance will reduce Banner budget upon submission of final FFR / Invoice.
- 5. Research Finance requires supporting documentation for reconciling items for final FFRs / Invoices.





Question 2:

Which of the following NU awards would be eligible for Letter of Credit (LOC) draws?

- a. A contract from the Department of Public Health
- b. A grant from the National Science Foundation
- A subcontract from Boston University (originating funding agency: NIH)
- d. Both b and c





Question 3:

If cost-share is part of the project budget / contract, are we required to report it on the final FFR / invoice?

- a. What is "cost share"?
- b. We can report it but it's not mandatory.
- No, because my cost share fund has no spending.
- No, because it was voluntary.
- e. Yes, because once it's in the contract, it's mandatory.





Question 4:

If cost-share is part of the project budget / contract, are we required to report it on the final FFR / invoice?

- a. What is "cost share"?
- b. We can report it but it's not mandatory.
- No, because my cost share fund has no spending.
- No, because it was voluntary.
- e. Yes, because once it's in the contract, it's mandatory.





Resources

- NU-RES LifeCycle Management Closeout Project
 - https://research.northeastern.edu/nu-res/lifecycle-management/closeout-project/.
- NU-RES Grant Closeout Checklist
 - https://research.northeastern.edu/app/uploads/sites/2/2021/10/Closeout-Checklist-FY22.pdf

Thank You!

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