



Norfolk County Overhauls Accounting System to Comply with National Standards and Diverse Operating Requirements

Norfolk County, Dedham, MA

“After installing BudgetSense®, it requires a lot less effort to comply with statutory reporting requirements of the Department of Education, the Department of Corrections and the Department of Revenue in Massachusetts. The revised account structure lets us serve all masters and also comply with National Accounting Standards.”

- Joe D’Auria, Norfolk County Accountant

Challenge

Consolidate the diverse functions of the County into a single accounting system; provide reporting flexibility that will meet management’s needs, regulatory requirements, and national standards.

Solution

Select UniFund’s BudgetSense software to capitalize on the extensive flexibility of its account code and overall customizability.

Benefits

Consolidation led to significant improvements in operating performance, regulatory reporting, and compliance with national reporting standards. They were also able to eliminate double-entry work with spreadsheets and other recordkeeping. The resulting timely reporting reduced clerical errors and improved budgetary controls.

Norfolk County Operates Like a Business Conglomerate

Norfolk County operates an agricultural high school, various recreational facilities (including a golf course), County Jail, Registry of Deeds, maintenance facilities, and centralized administrative functions. The diverse operating functions of Norfolk County presented a challenge to UniFund's installation and training consultants.

Diverse Operating Functions, Single Database, Distinctive Reporting

The County selected BudgetSense primarily because of the extensive flexibility of its account code, unique budgetary controls over wages and benefits, and an integrated software design that operates seamlessly with Microsoft Office®.

During various phases of the six-month project, County personnel began to realize the enormous potential for creating processing efficiencies and reducing clerical errors by shifting some of the data entry to originating departments. By applying BudgetSense's Distributed Accounting features, departments were given access to their own unique budgetary accounts and authorized to initiate online requisitions from their remote locations.

Significant Performance Improvements

Much of the success of this project can be credited to preliminary re-design of the County's account code and chart of accounts. UniFund’s consultants also recommended changes to existing workflows that took full advantage of BudgetSense’s conceptual design philosophy.