

JOURNAL APPROVER - REVIEWING AND DECIDING ON JOURNAL ENTRIES

JOB AID CM-15

CM

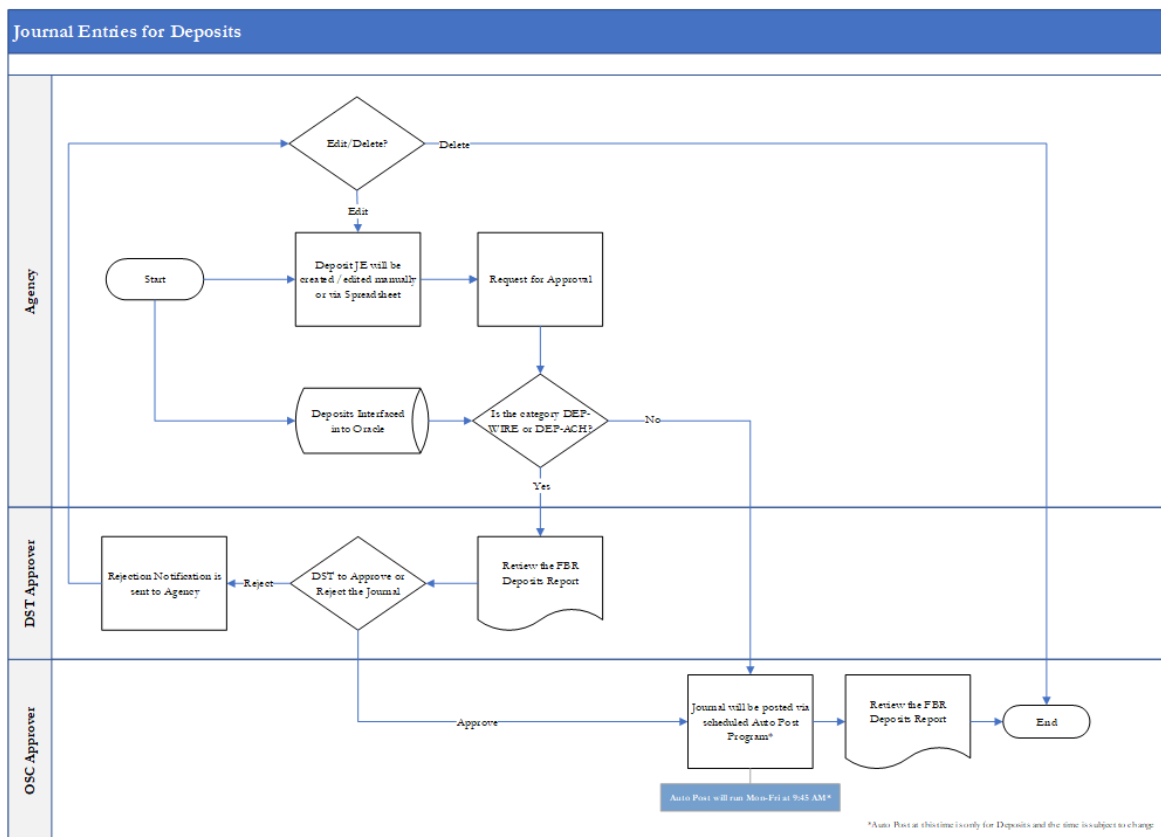
The purpose of this Job Aid is to explain how to navigate to, review and decide on journal entries in the North Carolina Financial System.

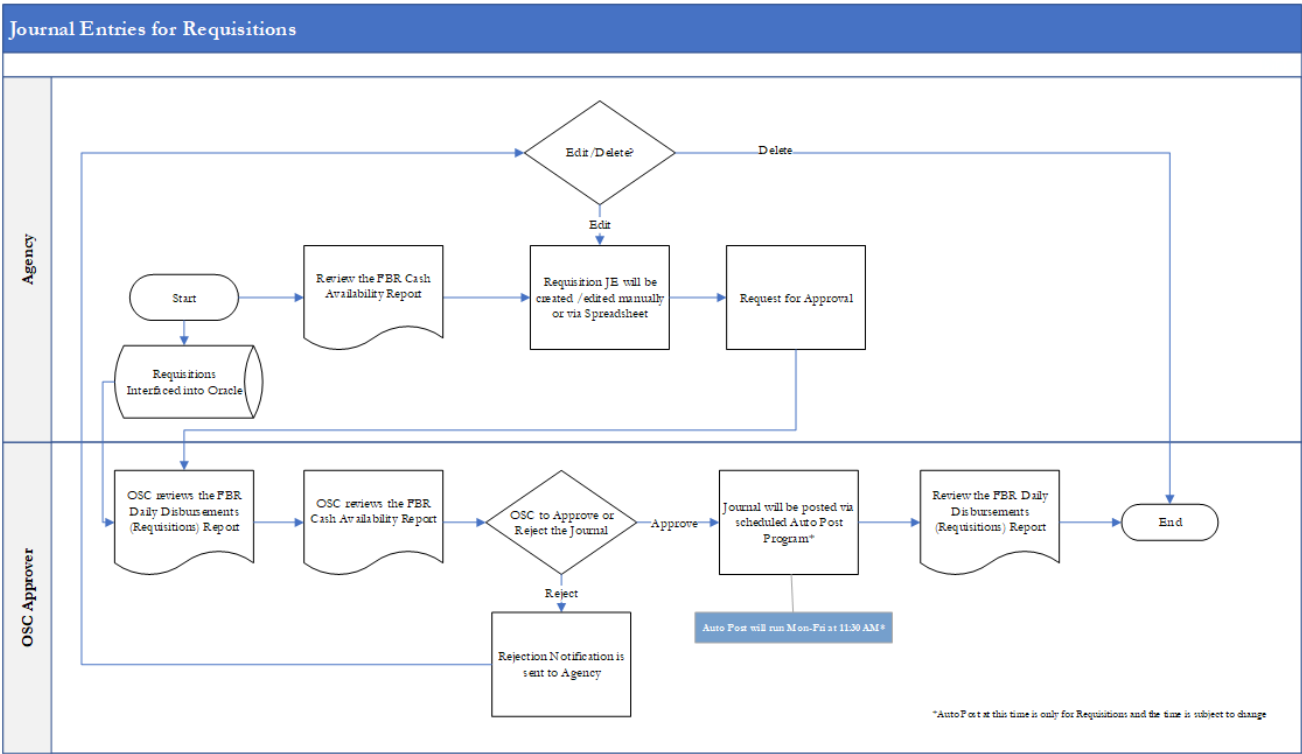
Introduction

This Quick Reference Guide (QRG) provides General Ledger (GL) Journal Approval users step-by-step instructions on how to navigate to, review, and decide on journal entries.

Overview

After organizations enter their deposits and disbursements, the Office of the State Controller (OSC) and the Department of the State Treasurer (DST) must review the journal entries and determine whether to approve them for posting or return them to the originator for updating and resubmission. If approved, the journals are posted which updates to the GL account balances. If rejected, the journals return to the user who initiated the entry and must be edited and resubmitted for approval. Users receive a system notification informing them that the transaction has been approved or rejected.





Key Terms

Key Terms	Description
Accounting Period	The fiscal period reports financial results, such as a calendar month or fiscal period.
Journal Batches	A Journal Batch is a single or group of journal entries processed under a combined "header."
Journal Category	Journal categories are used to differentiate journal entries by purpose or type, such as accruals, payments, or receipts.
Journal Entries	Journal entries are a tool to record financial transactions to the system's general ledger. Journal creation, posting, and editing work together in the recording process to produce accurate financial records.
Ledger	Ledger is the main record-keeping tool for financial transactions. It records transactional balances by using a chart of accounts with a consistent calendar and currency, and accounting rules implemented in an accounting method.


Information needed to complete this process:

- General Ledger Journal Entry Search Criteria



Outputs of this process:

- Approved General Ledger Transaction (ready for posting)

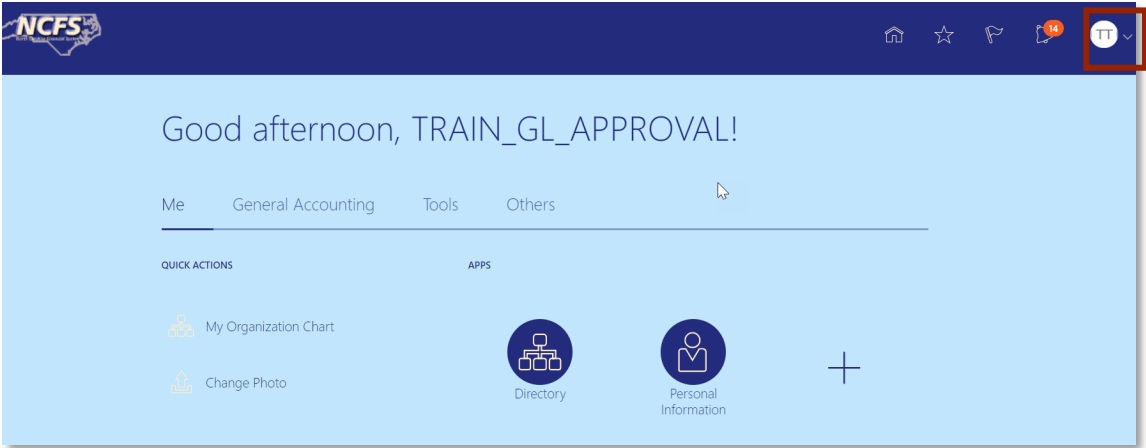


User Tip: All first-time users should ensure at login, the browser cache is empty prior to initiating the logon sequence.

Journal Entry Review and Approval or Rejection

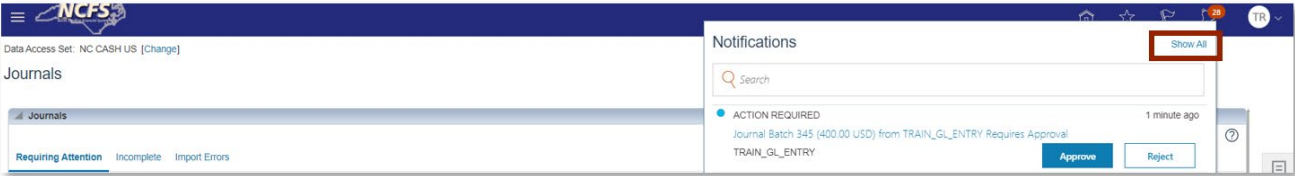
To approve a journal entry, please follow the steps below.

1. Access the Home Screen and click the **Notification** icon.



The Notification icon on the NCFS Home Screen

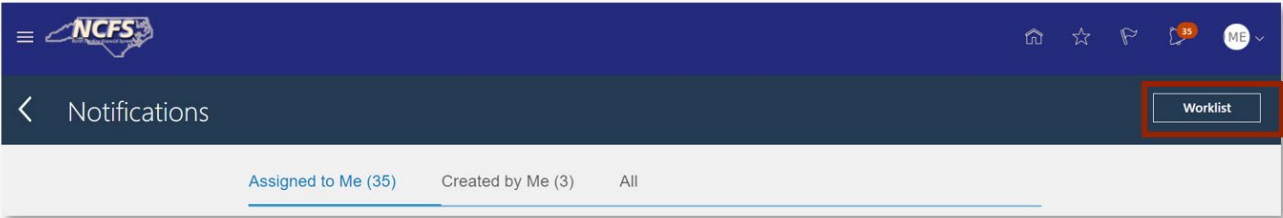
2. Click **Show All**.



Pending NCFS Notifications

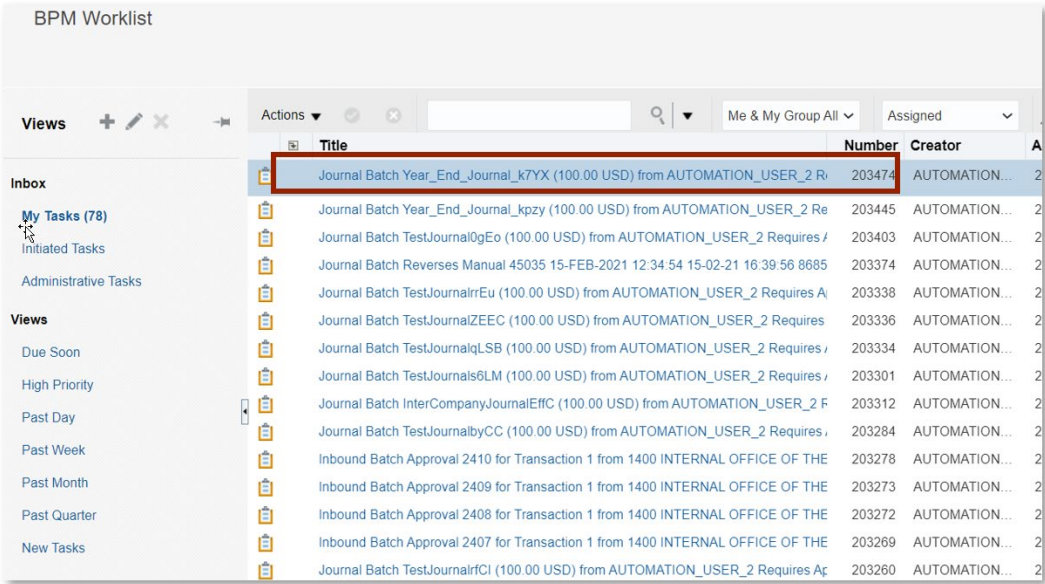


3. Click **Worklist**.



Worklist Button


4. Review the transaction information by clicking the title hyperlink.

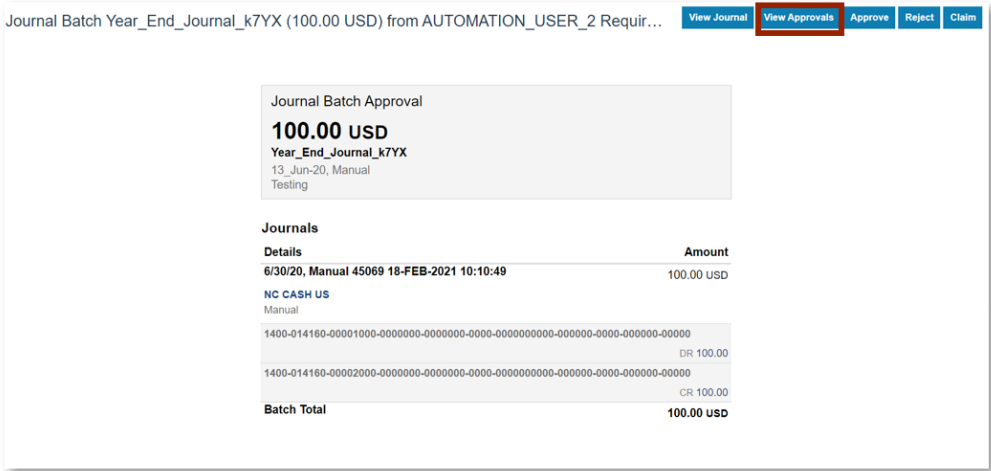


Title Hyperlink




5. To review the journal details. Click **View Journal**.

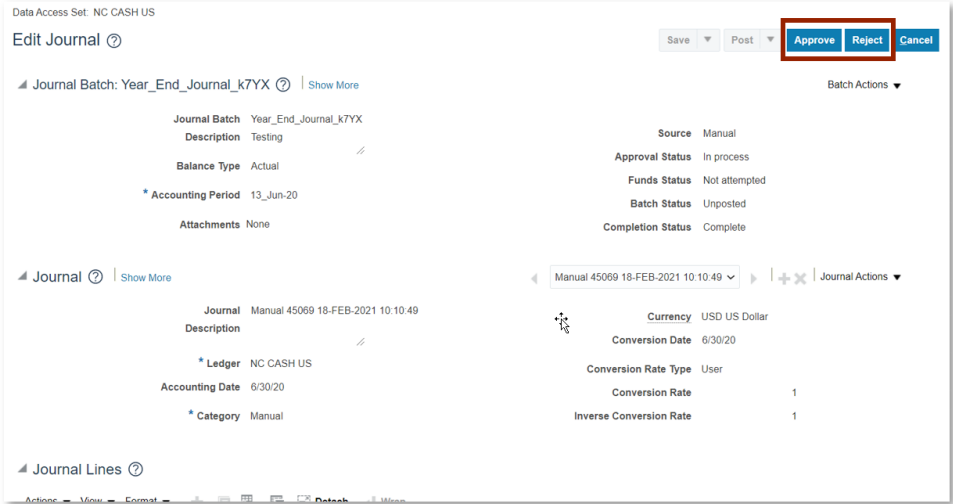
 **User Tip: Some common items to look for during journal review include account, transaction amount, and journal type.**



Journal Notification Screen

 **User Tip: When approving Deposit journal entries, journal approvers should review bank account information. When reviewing a transaction, bank account information is in the “Account” field. If bank account information is missing or incorrect, journal approvers should reject the journal entry.**

6. Review the journals details. Then click [APPROVE] or [REJECT].



View Journal Details Screen





User Tip: Approvers should review Cash Availability, account information, transaction amount and journal type.



User Tip: When approving Disbursement journal entries, journal approvers should review Disbursement account information. When reviewing a transaction, the Disbursement account information is in the “Account” field. If bank account information is missing or incorrect, journal approvers should reject the journal entry.

7. The journal is now eligible for posting to the General Ledger.

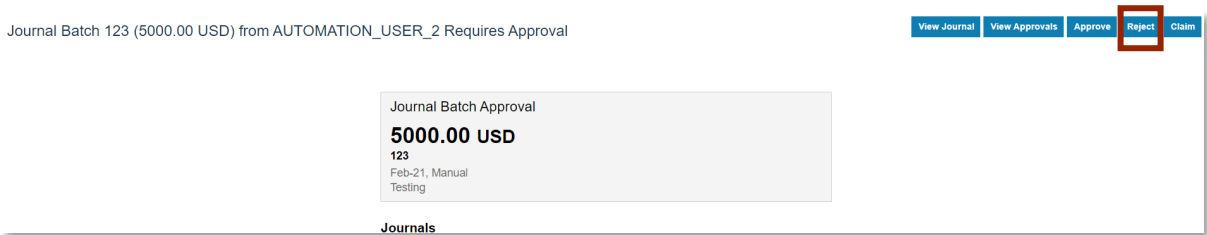
Transaction Types	Reviewing and Approving Organization	Approval Time	Posting Time
ACH/Wire	DST	An ACH/Wire Deposit must be approved by 9:44 am to be posted on the same day.	An ACH/Wire Deposit posts weekly (Monday – Friday) at 9:45 am.
Cash and Check	Auto Approved	A Cash Deposit must be approved by 9:44 am to be posted on the same day.	A Cash Deposit posts weekly (Monday – Friday) at 9:45 am.
Credit Card	Auto Approved	A Credit Deposit must be approved by 9:44 am to be posted on the same day.	A Credit Deposit posts weekly (Monday – Friday) at 9:45 am.
Disbursements	OSC Central Compliance	A Disbursement must be approved by 9:44 am to be posted on the same day.	A Disbursement posts weekly (Monday – Friday) at 9:45 am.
Transfer	OSC Central Compliance	Transfer must be approved by 11:29 am to be posted on the same day.	A Transfer posts weekly (Monday – Friday) at 11:30 am.




Rejecting Journal Entries

If rejecting a journal entry, please follow the steps below.

1. In the upper right corner of the screen, click [REJECT].

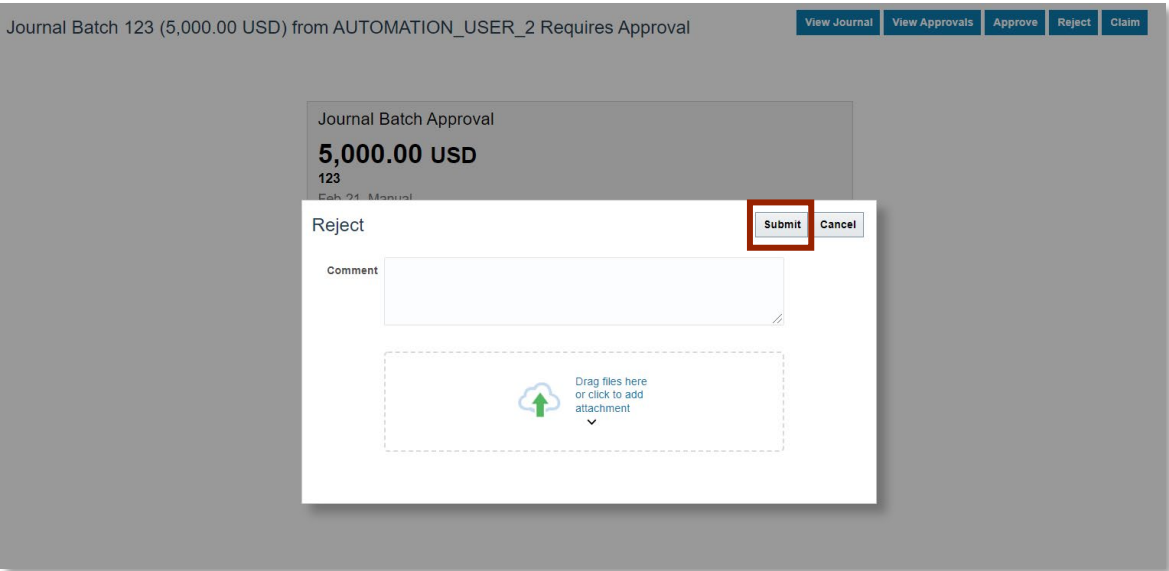


Journal Rejection Option



User Tip: A journal may be rejected due to incorrect deposit/disbursement categories, missing information such as bank or disbursement accounts, insufficient funds, or having a future date.

2. Enter a **Rejection Comment** then click [SUBMIT].



Journal Rejection Comments



Wrap Up

Once Journal entries are completed and the user requests approval, journals are routed for approval. ACH and Wire deposit journals are routed for DST approval while all other deposits are auto approved. Disbursements are routed to OSC Central Compliance for approval. If approval is given, the journal information will be eligible for posting and will be posted to the General Ledger. If the journal is not approved, the journal will be routed back to the user for either editing or deletion. No journal entry will be reflected in the General Ledger balances until approved and posted.

Additional Resources

For more information on journal entry approval, please review the following materials:

Web Based Training (WBT)

- GL 101: Journal Approval

Instructor Led Training (ILT)

- GL 100: Journal Entry

Quick Reference Guides (QRGs)

- Approving Journal Entries