

Making the Connection between Development and Finance

Five Benefits of an Integrated System



Nonprofit organizations benefit enormously from integrating their internal fundraising and financial systems. With an improvement in accountability, efficiency, auditing processes, and internal communication, organizations with an integrated solution are better prepared for the demands of today's nonprofit sector.

1. Expanding Fundraising and Grant Capabilities

Now more than ever, major donors, grantors, and private funders come with a variety of donor imposed restrictions and reporting requirements. These limitations consume valuable resources and create an overwhelming workload for your accounting department. Connecting your development and finance systems simplifies reporting for even the most complex income and expense allocation, even across multiple programs, projects, and fiscal years. This enables your staff to pursue additional funding opportunities without constraining your accounting department.

2. Increasing Accountability and Transparency

Fusion between accounting and development offices streamlines operations, improves constituent services, and reduces departmental overhead costs. With both departments gaining access to important information, your organization can better demonstrate accountability to investors.

3. Efficiency and Data Integrity

An integrated system allows you to post directly to your accounting software, eliminating the need for imports and reducing duplicate data entry.

4. Maintaining Tight Audit Trails

Linking gifts in development to account balances in accounting makes reconciliation simple and straightforward. An integrated solution allows you see source transactions by drilling down from a project in your accounting system directly to the constituent's gift record in your fundraising system.

“With its integration into fundraising and executive decision support systems, The Financial Edge is a first-rate accounting solution that was created for, and has served well, the nonprofit sector.”

—Accounting Today

5. Improving Communication

When systems work together, the same language can be used across departments creating a relationship that provides consistent reporting and the opportunity for goal alignment. Linking your fundraising and financial systems leads to active and effective communication that enables instant access to the information each system needs when it needs it.

Plus, your executive director, chief financial officer, and board members will enjoy the benefits of an integrated system, including:

- Increased visibility into the organization
- More secure internal controls
- Improved operational efficiencies

Considering integrating your solutions? See what other organizations with integrated systems have gained with The Raiser's Edge and The Financial Edge.

About The Raiser's Edge and The Financial Edge

With enhanced integration between The Raiser's Edge, Blackbaud's fundraising tool, and The Financial Edge, a best in class fund accounting solution, organizations can:

- Push financial information directly from The Raiser's Edge to an open Financial Edge journal entry batch
- Approve or change the batch before it is posted to The Financial Edge
- Drill down on screen to the gift transaction in The Raiser's Edge after the batch is posted
- Ensure a detailed audit trail between the gift in The Raiser's Edge and the revenue line item in the General Ledger™
- Access revenue and expense allocation information for a fund in The Raiser's Edge to tell how donations have been spent

► Learn more at www.blackbaud.com or contact us at solutions@blackbaud.com for more information.