FY21 Performance Management FAQs

General Questions

- **What is the timeline for performance management?** The FY21 performance cycle began in summer of 2020 and will come to a close in the summer of 2021.

- **Even if I’ve been having ongoing performance conversations, do I still need to have a year-end performance conversation?** Yes. While this new approach encourages managers to have continuous performance conversations with staff during the year, a short closing conversation is still called for.

- **My department has a different deadline. Which one should I use?** Individual departments and units may set their own timeframes for performance evaluations. If your own unit or division has set its own deadline, we encourage you to follow that timeframe.

Remote Performance Conversations

- **Should I still have performance discussions if my staff and I are still working remotely?** Although the format (Zoom, phone calls, etc.) may be different, managers should still have regular performance conversations with their staff members. Communication between staff and managers is more important than ever as we all adjust to this new way of working.

- **Do I still need to have an annual review?** Managers should schedule some time with each of their employees between now and the end of the summer for a summary conversation.

- **What if my performance has been impacted by working remotely?** The sudden shift to remote work could have changed staff members’ professional goals and plans for the year. Managers should share any new expectations they may have for employees. Tools like Microsoft Teams can help managers and staff members keep track of projects while working remotely and maintain accountability.

- **Where can I find resources about working and managing remotely?** Remote work resources for managers and staff members are available on the FAS HR website.

Assessments

- **Will staff members receive a rating for their performance?** As was the case last year, the use of ratings has been suspended for FY21. To close out the FY21 forms in PeopleSoft, a new drop-down option of “Not Applicable – No Rating” has been added to the list of ratings in the system.
PeopleSoft

General Functionality

- **How do I access the FY21 performance review in PeopleSoft?**
  From the PeopleSoft landing page, click on the “My Performance” tile and then select the annual review with an end date of 6/30/21. Click along the tabs to become familiar with the different sections of the document. Note that instructions for each tab are included at the top of that tab.

- **Does the “Start Sharing” button share the entire document (all tabs) or just the current tab?**
  This feature shares the entire document, not specific tabs. The staff member will be able to edit the document even while it’s being shared. Overall competencies and attachments are not shared until the manager clicks on the “Complete Annual” button.

- **How can managers and staff members use the sharing function throughout the annual performance management cycle?**
  We recommend that managers and staff members use this function to keep track of conversations and feedback throughout the year. During the annual review, the manager can click on “Stop Sharing,” write their year-end comments, and then start sharing again when they’re ready to communicate that information with their employee. Similarly, the employee can turn off sharing to write their self-assessment and turn sharing back on once they’re ready to discuss it with their manager. Documents also continue to be editable with the sharing function turned on.

- **Is it possible for a staff member to share comments with a manager while the manager has turned off their sharing?**
  Yes. The start/stop sharing function gives users control over their own comments. An employee would be able to share their documents with a manager, without the manager sharing their comments back, and vice versa.

- **Does the “Complete Annual” function share comments?**
  It does, but at that point the document becomes read-only and is no longer editable unless it’s reopened. To share comments while still making edits to the documents, the staff member and/or manager would need to click on “Start Sharing.”

- **I’m having issues with the “sharing” feature, which doesn’t seem to work. Can you help?**
  For the “sharing” feature to work, both the employee and manager documents need to be in the same status. For example, if both documents are “in progress” then the sharing function will work. If one document is “in progress” and the other is “complete,” then the sharing function will not work until both documents are “complete.”

- **Where can I review information about performance management in PeopleSoft?**
  Information for completing all steps of performance review in PeopleSoft are available on the “Instructions” tab.

Priorities

- **Where do I document my FY21 priorities?**
  Staff members should have a conversation with their manager about their priorities (goals) and professional development areas for FY21. Then staff members should document this conversation under the “Priorities” tab.

Updated: May 21, 2021
Self-Evaluation

- Where do I write my self-evaluation?
  In PeopleSoft, click on the “Summary” tab and enter your self-assessment in the “employee comments” section.

Feedback

- How does the “Feedback” tab work?
  - For Staff: Click on the “Feedback” tab. To select reviewers, use the “Steps and Tasks” panel to the left of the screen.
  - For Managers: To invite reviewers for your staff member, use the “Steps and Tasks” panel on the left side of the screen. Reviewer feedback is only visible to the manager, regardless of whether the manager has clicked “start sharing” or not. Feedback is only ever visible to the manager.

- Can a manager customize questions in the “Feedback” tab? No, the feedback questions are not editable. If managers want to ask more specific questions, they can opt to reach out for feedback via email or in person.

Completing the Annual Review

- Can a staff member enter a “final comment” after the manager has hit the “Complete Annual” button? Yes, employees will be able to do that.

- Will managers still be able to acknowledge on behalf of staff member if needed? Managers will be able to acknowledge on behalf of a staff member if needed, such as for leaves of absence or departed staff.

- I can’t see my manager’s shared comments anymore. What happened? If an employee clicks “Complete Annual,” they will lose the ability to see their manager’s shared comments. If that happens before an employee is ready to submit their self-evaluation, their manager or administrator will have to reopen the self-evaluation.

- My manager let me know that they uploaded an attachment to my performance document in PeopleSoft, but I can’t see it. How can I view the attachment? A staff member can only view attachments uploaded by their manager if the manager has clicked the “complete annual” button. If the manager is still actively working on the performance review and has not formally completed it in PeopleSoft, the staff member will not be able to view the attachment.