

The Influence of the Level of Guarantee of Operating Expenses on the Application of Accounting Software in Public Non-Business Unit



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ABSTRACT: Public non-business units are established by the state to perform public services and distribute those services to society. Through the document research method, the article has generalized the role, function, and accounting form of public non-business units and the importance of accounting. With this method, we can also evaluate the limitations in accounting and the reasons why many public non-business units do not see the need to apply accounting software in accounting. Three reasons were pointed out: unit leaders did not pay attention to accounting work, lack of funding for implementation and incorrectly identified the reasons for errors in accounting planning. The investigation method also helped us identify how accounting software applications are affected by the level of Guarantee of operating expenses. Analysis results have shown that financially autonomous units have a higher tendency to apply accounting software than units without financial revenue. The research team also proposed a number of solutions such as increasing the understanding and awareness of business unit leaders about the importance of accounting work and accounting software. Implement budget estimates for information technology construction at the unit, properly assessing the key points of existence.

KEYWORDS: Accounting software, Level of Guarantee of operating expenses, Public non-business unit, Vietnam

1. INTRODUCTION

Operating in areas such as education, healthcare, culture, information, science and technology, economics Vietnam's public non-business unit has contributed significantly to the process of economic reform. - Society. These units operate based on funding from the State or from other funding sources such as non-business revenue, fees, charges, business revenue, or non-refundable aid. To manage and be proactive in their regular expenditures, public non-business units must annually prepare estimates for each expenditure item and are responsible for complying with the provisions of the State Budget Law and standards norms and regulations on public accounting regimes issued by the State. In addition to meeting the requirements of economic and financial management and strengthening the management and control of state budget expenditures, public non-business units must manage public assets and improve the quality of accounting. Accounting work in public non-business units must ensure consistency between accounting and management requirements of the State and the unit. Accordingly, accounting needs to comply with the content and methods of accounting with the current accounting regimes of the State and be consistent with the characteristics of the unit. Accounting work in public non-business units has the role of controlling funding sources, the situation of using and finalizing funds, managing and using public assets and materials, and complying with revenue and expenditure estimates and implementing State standards and norms. At the same time, public accounting with the function of information on all economic activities arising in the process of implementing the state budget is used by the State as a tool for state budget management, making an effective contribution using capital economically and efficiently. Currently, the accounting organization at the public non-business unit, although gradually improving, still has many inadequacies and is still passive when applying information technology, mainly using the form of accounting manual, has not yet built a team of accounting staff to meet the requirements of technology transformation. Therefore, the information provided by accounting is mainly of an administrative reporting nature, with little practical effect in analyzing the unit's financial situation, the receipt, and the use of State funds. With the requirement to complete the tasks assigned by the state and effectively use funding sources, the organization of accounting work and the focus on accounting work needs to be innovated. Applying technology in accounting work, converting to machine

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accounting to minimize errors, accurately account, and effectively manage assets is the solution for public non-business units. This research aims to clarify the theoretical basis of public non-business units, accounting work and the benefits of machine accounting in accounting. Learn about the impact of the ability to ensure the operating costs of units and the application of machine accounting.

2. THEORETICAL BASIS

2.1. Public Non-Business Unit

Public non-business units are specifically defined in terms of functions and tasks in many documents guiding the implementation of the Laws and documents of Vietnam. In the Decree regulating the autonomy mechanism of public non-business units, "public non-business units are established by competent State agencies in accordance with the provisions of law, have legal status, and provide public services, serving state management" (Decree 16/2015/ND-CP). Author Loi (2008) believes that public non-business units were established by the Vietnamese state. These units perform administrative management tasks, ensuring security, national defense, and socio-economic development. Funding sources for these units are funded by the State and operate on the principle of no direct compensation (pp.29-30). According to the detailed regulations of a number of articles of the Accounting Law, public non-business units have the characteristic of operating not for profit purposes, serving the community (Decree No. 174/2016/ND-CP). Thus, we can understand that Vietnamese public non-business units are responsible for providing public goods and services to society and other goods and services in the fields of education, health, culture, and communication news, sports, agriculture - forestry and fishery, economics. These units are funded by the Vietnamese government and operate according to the tasks assigned by the state.

2.2. Classification of public non-business unit according to the degree of self-satisfaction of operating expenses from public service revenues

Public non-business units are classified according to three criteria: the level of self-sufficiency in operating expenses from public service revenue, the field of operation and according to Budget management decentralization. This study aims to classify according to the level of financial autonomy, the classification is as follows:

The public non-business unit ensures their own funding for regular operations. These are units with a stable source of income from non-business activities, so all regular operating costs are guaranteed, the state budget does not have to fund the unit's regular operations.

The public non-business unit must ensure its own regular operating budget. These are units that have revenue from non-business activities but do not fully cover their regular operating costs. The state budget must partially fund the unit's regular operations.

Public non-business units have all operating costs covered by the State. These are public non-business units with low or no revenue sources and regular operating funds according to their functions and tasks, with the state budget ensuring all operating costs.

2.3. Form of accounting at the public non-business unit

The form of accounting at the public non-business unit is content in the organization of the accounting book system. According to regulations, "Accounting books are used to record, systematize and store all economic and financial transactions that have arisen related to the accounting unit" (Accounting Law No. 88/2015/QH13). According to author Loi (2008), accounting books include many types of books with different structures but are combined together in a certain order to classify and synthesize necessary information to serve the preparation of financial statements. Accounting reports (p.244). Accounting forms at public non-business units include 4 types.

General Journal accounting form: This is an accounting form applied in public non-business units with simple revenues, a small number of accountants and a maximum of 20 accounting accounts both internally and externally. board. The characteristic of this form is that all arising economic and financial transactions are recorded in the General Journal according to the time order of occurrence and the content of that economic transaction. Data on the Journal is also taken to record in the Ledger according to each economic transaction that occurs. Accounting form: The General Journal includes types of accounting books such as: General Journal, ledger and detailed accounting books and cards, in which the General Journal and ledger are general accounting books used to record economic and financial activities in chronological order and according to the content of the economic and financial operations that arise. Detailed accounting books are used to specifically record economic and financial activities according to the unit's specific detailed management requirements for that financial activity.

Accounting form Diary - ledger: The form "Journal - ledger" is characterized by the combination of arising economic and financial transactions recorded in chronological order and according to economic content (according to accounting accounts) on the same general accounting book, the Journal - Ledger. The basis for recording in the ledger journal is accounting documents or a summary

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of accounting documents of the same type. The accounting book system used in the form of Diary - Ledger includes: Journal - Ledger and detailed accounting books and cards; Detailed accounting books are accounting books used to record economic and financial activities according to the unit's specific detailed management requirements for those economic and financial activities. Form of accounting Documentation - Bookkeeping: This form of accounting is often applied in public non-business units with large-scale revenue, complex operational content and organized production and business activities. The Voucher - Bookkeeping accounting form has some basic characteristics. Record in chronological order the economic and financial transactions arising in the register of book-entry documents. Record according to the economic content of economic and financial transactions arising in the ledger. Book entry documents are prepared by accountants on the basis of each accounting document or a summary of accounting documents of the same type, with the same economic content. Book-entry vouchers are continuously attached with data for each month or year (according to the sequential number in the book-entry voucher registration book) and have attached accounting documents, which must be approved by the chief accountant before being recorded in the accounting books. The accounting book system used in this form of accounting includes: Book-entry vouchers, book-entry voucher registration books, ledgers, detailed accounting books and cards. The register of book-entry documents is a general accounting book used to record economic and financial activities summarized in book-entry documents in chronological order.

Computerized accounting form: The basic characteristic of computerized accounting is that accounting work is done according to a computerized accounting software program. There are many software programs that vary in technical features and applicable eligibility criteria. Accounting software is designed according to the principles of one of two forms of accounting. Although accounting software does not fully display the accounting bookkeeping process, it must ensure that it can fully print accounting books and financial reports according to regulations.

2.4. Accounting Software and benefits in accounting activities

Each form of accounting book organization has its own characteristics, advantages and disadvantages depending on the type of unit. Depending on the specific characteristics of each public service unit in terms of scale, nature of operations, the field of operation, volume of economic operations arising, requirements for providing information to management, professional qualifications. With the services and capabilities of the accounting staff and the conditions and physical facilities for accounting work, the unit chooses one of the appropriate forms of organizing accounting books. However, good accounting software will help public non-business units promptly update the latest regulations and circulars from the State, thereby helping the units avoid making legal mistakes. Accounting software easily connects with other software systems such as electronic tax systems and electronic invoices to create a closely linked financial accounting ecosystem and help the process Operations are performed faster and more accurately. In addition, the interface of the accounting software is continuously improved and easy to use is quite important criterion. The unit uses software with a friendly interface for accounting staff to make operations easier, helping to reduce implementation time and optimize work efficiency.

3. RESEARCH METHODS

The research uses data collection and investigation methods to serve the research objectives. The data collection method is a method based on searching and synthesizing information, knowledge, and theory from available sources, thereby building theories, proving and synthesizing to form argument points. We searched for documents on Accounting Laws, Decrees, books and research reports related to public non-business units. From these documents, we use data collection methods to synthesize information and clarify the concepts, functions, and roles of public non-business units. Basic overview of accounting work organization and accounting, accounting forms at the public non-business unit. To determine the influence of the level of self-guarantee of operating expenses on the application of accounting software, we use a survey method. The investigation method is a scientific research method used to learn specifically about the characteristics of scientific research objects. Through investigation, find specific signs of objects to draw out their nature and rules. The object of investigation is the type of public service unit and the application of accounting software in that unit. The analysis used is a One-way - Anova analysis. This analysis method will prove to us whether the average values of 3 groups of business units are different in the application of accounting software. Analysis was performed on SPSS statistical analysis software.

4. RESEARCH RESULTS

4.1. Analyze investigation results

The research results are based on the analysis results between a quantitative variable "accounting software application" and a qualitative variable "level of self-guarantee of operating expenses". Quantitative variables were investigated for 186 accountants

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at public non-business units of different types. These observed variables are respectively "Accounting software meets management requirements and provides accounting information", "Unit leaders make necessary and appropriate changes to improve operational performance." activities in accounting" and "Development plan and vision of public non-business unit suitable for applying accounting software". These variables are evaluated from point 1 to point 5. The higher the selection score, the higher the ability to apply accounting software. One-way - Anova analysis results are as follows:

Table 1. Descriptions

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error	95% Confidence Interval for Mean		Minimum	Maximum
					Lower Bound	Upper Bound		
Self-funding for regular activities	74	4,3468	,36364	,04227	4,2626	4,4311	3,33	5,00
Self-guarantee part of regular operating expenses	64	4,0000	,25888	,03236	3,9353	4,0647	3,67	5,00
The state guarantees all operating costs	48	2,7431	,57628	,08318	2,5757	2,9104	1,00	3,33
Total	186	3,8136	,76321	,05596	3,7032	3,9240	1,00	5,00

Source: Author's analysis of survey data

From the Descriptives data, we see that out of the total 186 public non-business units investigated, there are 74 public non-business units in the Self-funding for regular activities type, accounting for 39.7%. The Self-guaranteed part of the regular operating expenses type has 64 units, accounting for 34.4%. The type of public service unit the state guarantees all operating costs has 48 units, a rate of 25.8%. The ratio of types of public non-business units according to the survey is consistent with reality in this area. Currently, public non-business units are gradually moving towards financial autonomy and the number of units relying entirely on state budget sources is lower than the remaining figure. The average descriptive results of quantitative variable data show that the choice of applying accounting software at Self-funding for regular activities and Self-guarantee part of regular operating expenses is quite high from 3.33 to 5. In contrast, the state guarantees all operating costs are low with an average of 1 to 3.33.

Table 2. Test of Homogeneity of Variances

Levene Statistic	df1	df2	Sig.
17.332	2	183	0.000

Source: Author's analysis of survey data

The next result we need to pay attention to is the Homogeneity of variance test. This table gives the results of testing the difference in variance of groups of values using the Levene test. There are two cases. In case 1, if the sig result is greater than or equal to 0.05, it shows that the variance between different types of public non-business units is no different. At this point, we evaluate the next results in the Anova table. If the sig in the Anova table is greater than or equal to 0.05, there is no statistically significant difference between types of public non-business units in the application of accounting software. On the contrary, if the sig is less than 0.05, it means there is a statistically significant difference between types of service units. In case 1, if Levene's sig is less than 0.05, the hypothesis of homogeneity between groups has been violated. This means that the variance between different types of public non-business units is not equal. We cannot use the results in the Anova table, now we use the results in the Robust Tests of Equality of Means table. In the table, if the sig is less than 0.05, we conclude that there is a statistically significant difference in the application of accounting software in different types of public non-business units. On the contrary, if the sig of Robust Tests is greater than or equal to 0.05, we conclude that there is no statistically significant difference in the application of accounting software in other types of public non-business units. Looking at the Levene Statistic results in this study we see Sig = 0.000 < 0.05, we need to ignore the results in the Anova table (table 3) and consider the results in Table 4

Table 3. ANOVA

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	78,277	2	39,138	242,921	,000
Within Groups	29,484	183	,161		
Total	107,761	185			

Source: Author's analysis of survey data

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Results Sig. of Welch test = 0.000 in Table 4, less than 0.05. We can conclude that there is a statistically significant difference in the application of accounting software in different types of public non-business units. This result also once again confirms that public non-business units in the Self-funding for regular activities type aim to apply accounting software more, and the Self-guaranteed part of the regular operating expenses type has the ability to apply accounting software. The application is almost as high as type 1 and the state guarantees all operating costs of public non-business units, showing that the application is not highly appreciated.

Table 4. Robust Tests of Equality of Means

	Statistic ^a	df1	df2	Sig.
Welch	146.813	2	100.227	0.000

a. Asymptotically F distributed.

Source: Author's analysis of survey data

Figure 1 presented in the article accurately describes the ability to apply accounting software in public non-business units of different types.

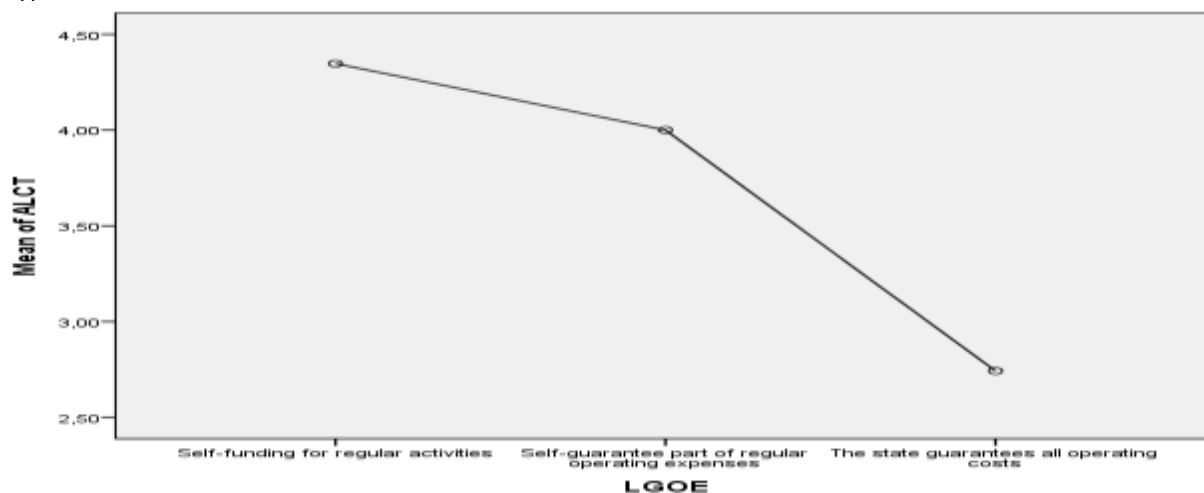


Figure 1. Ability to apply accounting software

Source: Author's analysis of survey data

4.2. Reason

Applying information technology is a requirement for Vietnam's public services to develop in quality and become more effective. However, the investigation results show that many public non-business units have not applied accounting software in accounting at the unit. Researching and discussing with accountants participating in the survey, we identified the following reasons leading to difficulties in applying accounting software. Firstly, many leaders of public non-business units do not pay attention to accounting work at the unit. Awareness and understanding of accounting software and its benefits in accounting are not high. Second, in terms of funding for technology application and use of accounting software. To deploy the software, in addition to the cost of using accounting software, public non-business units need to invest in modern machinery systems along with a group of personnel with professional qualifications and computer skills. Good. Meanwhile, the accounting department at many public non-business units is very small, has few personnel, lacks computer skills and funding for building technological equipment is not guaranteed. Third, many units do not have business revenue activities, so they think they do not need the support of accounting software. This is a wrong statement because errors in the accounting process mainly occur in asset management activities.

5. CONCLUSION

Research results have shown that accounting activities at public non-business units still have many limitations. Accounting reports are still heavily formalized, mainly for the purpose of complying with prescribed regimes and policies. Accounting information has not really become a useful basis for the decisions of unit leaders. Accounting has not proactively updated documents related to the field of accounting. Training to improve information technology capacity and skills and update new professional knowledge for accounting staff has not been paying attention. Not focusing on learning and properly realizing the benefits of accounting

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software. The financial conditions of some public non-business unit, especially those without revenue sources, do not allow investment in a comprehensive accounting information system. To improve the quality of accounting information, we need to focus on the following solutions: Increase awareness and understanding of the leadership of public non-business unit about accounting software. When we help them understand the benefits of accounting software, it will likely increase their intention to apply accounting software in their units. Prepare cost estimates to deploy the construction of an information technology system to be suitable for applying accounting software. Training computer skills and software usage skills for accounting staff. Re-evaluate the existing points in accounting activities.

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