

## **Instructions for Application to the Grants for Adaptive Sports Programs for Disabled Veterans and Members of the Armed Forces program**

---

### **BEFORE YOU BEGIN THE PROCESS PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING -**

- The Grants for Adaptive Sports Programs for Disabled Veterans and Members of the Armed Forces program is for ADAPTIVE SPORTS ENTITIES USE ONLY. Adaptive Sports Entities include diverse non-federal organizations such as National Paralympic Committees; National Governing Bodies; Veterans Services Organizations; Parks and Recreation Departments; colleges and universities; non-federal hospitals and healthcare systems; State, regional, local and Tribal governments; and Paralympic Sports Clubs.
- In compliance with the Office of Federal Financial Management (OFFM) policy directive, electronic submission is mandatory; hard copy submissions are no longer acceptable.
- In order to apply for an Adaptive Sports Grant (ASG), the total project cost must be no greater than the authorized annual limit of \$500,000.
- Applications for the FY2017 Adaptive Sports Grant List must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on April 21, 2017.
- Information to fill out Standard Forms (SF-424, SF-424A, and SF-424B) required in the application are located at Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/form-instructions.html>).
- In filling out the VA Administrative and Financial Review Questionnaire for Grantees, you will find a box referencing VA Regulation '38 CFR Part 49' on page 1. The VA rescinded '38 CFR Part 49' in late 2015, and the current regulations are now outlined in 2 CFR 200 which can be found at [http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2cfr200\\_main\\_02.tpl](http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2cfr200_main_02.tpl). Please remember to take these updated regulations into account when filling out the 'VA Administrative and Financial Review Questionnaire for Grantees' form.
- Information and updates including frequently asked questions and mandatory application forms not available through Grants.gov will be posted on the VA Adaptive Sports Grant Program webpage ([https://www.va.gov/adaptivesports/va\\_grant\\_program.asp](https://www.va.gov/adaptivesports/va_grant_program.asp)) during the application period.

### **STEP 1: Registration**

- To participate in the Grants for Adaptive Sports Programs for Disabled Veterans and Members of the Armed Forces program, you must be registered at Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html>) NOTE: Registration takes, approximately, 3-5 business days; but, allow 4 weeks to complete all steps. These steps include registration for a D-U-N-S Number (<http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>) and registration in the System for Award Management (SAM) (<https://www.sam.gov/portal/SAM/#1#1>).

**NOTE** – Only individuals registered for an organization as an EBiz POC in Grants.gov may submit a grant application through Grants.gov. Failure to verify and have a current organizational EBiz POC that can submit an ASG application is equivalent to failure to register the organization in Grants.gov.

**STEP 2:** Complete the initial request for an Adaptive Sports Program Grant, Opportunity Number VA-ASG-2018-01. Your initial application is complete when you have successfully submitted the application package in **Grants.Gov**.

**STEP 3:** The following information must be submitted when making the initial request for a grant.

- Download and complete the official Department of Veterans Affairs forms:
  - **SF-424**
  - **SF-424A**
  - **SF-424B**
  - **Project Abstract – 1-page Summary of the Grant Proposal**
  - **VA Form 10091 FMS Vendor File Request Form**
  - **VA Form 10096 Adaptive Sport Grant Application**
  - **VA Administrative and Financial Review Questionnaire for Grantees**

The SF-424, SF-424A, and SF-424B can be found on the Grants.Gov web site in the application package. The VA Form 10091, VA Form 10096 and VA Administrative and Financial Review Questionnaire for Grantees can be found on the VA Adaptive Sports Grant Web site at [http://www.va.gov/adaptivesports/va\\_grant\\_program.asp](http://www.va.gov/adaptivesports/va_grant_program.asp).

**NOTE** – Current FY2016 ASG recipients that are eligible for a renewal grant already have submitted the VA Form 10091 and VA Administrative and Financial Review Questionnaire for Grantees, and may opt to use those forms for their FY2017 ASG application. All other applicants must submit these forms as attachments in the FY2017 ASG application.

*Once you have downloaded the application package, you can complete it offline, a handy feature that allows you to share the document in your office and complete it at your own pace. The three VA forms will be loaded to the application package as attachments.*

**STEP 4:** Develop other applicable documents for inclusion and attachment in the grant application. The Project Abstract and other documents complementing the forms listed in Step 3 should be in Arial font, 12 point, and black print on white background in order to enhance clarity and consistency among applications, unless a specific alternate color scheme is required for data comprehension such as for charts and photos. An example of an attachment is letters of support from partners which will deliver services that reflect the applicant's engagement in providing adaptive sports activities, as cited in 38 C.F.R. 77.5(a)(5).

- *Review all documents for completeness and accuracy. Grants.gov conducts a review for inclusion of mandatory data in the SF-424 Series Forms in order to allow submission through Grants.gov; however, Grants.gov does not provide a review process for mandatory data in other attachments such as VA Forms.*
- *Review all documents for mandatory signatures. For example, a Letter of Support without a signature does not verify a partnership relationship exists and therefore will not be assessed as meeting the verification of partnership criteria.*
- *Review all documents for allowable expenses; unallowable expenses are not authorized and are grounds for elimination of the application from consideration for award. If an application is vague on whether an expense should be categorized as allowable or unallowable, VA can assess it as unallowable. For example, 2 CFR 200.438 identifies entertainment costs as unallowable unless necessary for a programmatic purpose and these costs are authorized in the approved budget by VA or with prior written approval by VA.*

**NOTE –** The Frequently Asked Questions Related to Adaptive Sports Grant Program Funding Opportunity Number: VA-ASG-2018-01 document provides information on diverse Adaptive Sports Grant considerations including some allowable and unallowable costs. It will be updated during the application period and is located at [http://www.va.gov/adaptivesports/va\\_grant\\_program.asp](http://www.va.gov/adaptivesports/va_grant_program.asp).

**STEP 5:** Save your application.

- *Save your application to your computer as changes are NOT automatically saved.*
- *Remember to click the Save button when you have completed the package and are ready to submit it.*
- *The package cannot be submitted until all required fields have been completed.*

**STEP 6:** Submit the above to the <http://www.grants.gov/> web site.

- *Using the username ID and password you entered when you registered, you can submit your application package. In order to submit your application, you*

must already be registered and you will need to have already completed the application package.

- The “Submit” button on the application package cover page will only become active after you have completed all required forms, attached all required documents, and saved your application package. Click on the “Submit” button once this process is complete and you are ready to send the completed application to Grants.gov.
- Next, review the provided application summary to confirm the application will be submitted to the correct program. Click the “Yes” button if this information is correct and you are ready to submit the application. If you are not already connected to the Internet, you will be directed to do so and will need to login to Grants.gov using your username ID and password.
- After you have clicked the “Sign and Submit” button on the summary page, your application package will automatically be uploaded to Grants.gov. A confirmation screen will appear once the upload is complete. Note that a Grants.gov tracking number will be provided at the bottom of this screen, as well as the submission’s official date and time. Record this number so that you may refer to it

You may review the status of your grant request at <http://www.grants.gov/> web site.

#### **STEP 7:** Track the Status of a Completed Grant Application.

- Once an application has been submitted, you can check the status on the Track My Application page at <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/track-my-application.html>.
- You may identify your application by CFDA Number, Funding Opportunity Number, Competition ID, and/or Grants.gov Tracking Number.

**STEP 8:** Applications should not be mailed to VA. Questions on the application process can be addressed to the following point of contact:

Mr. Michael F. Welch  
Office of National Veterans Sports Programs & Special Events (002C)  
Suite 912D  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
810 Vermont Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20420  
Phone #: (202) 632-7136  
[Michael.Welch5@va.gov](mailto:Michael.Welch5@va.gov) or [vacoadaptiveSP@va.gov](mailto:vacoadaptiveSP@va.gov)

**STEP 9:** If adaptive sports activities will be implemented through partnerships as described in 77 CFR §§ 77.5(a)(5) and 77.8(b), signed documentation of the partners confirming a partnership relationship must be submitted in Grants.Gov by April 21, 2017. Without the partnership documentation, the project will be evaluated as the proposed partnership has not been officially established and cannot be verified.

**Helpful Hints:**

Remember that all username ID and passwords are case sensitive. If the Submit button is not active, please check to be sure you have:

- Completed all mandatory fields in all mandatory forms and moved them to the Mandatory Completed Documents for Submission box.
- Clicked the Save button AFTER all documents have been moved to the Mandatory Completed Documents for Submission box.
- Completed all mandatory fields in all optional forms that have been moved to the Optional Completed Documents for Submission box.
- Closed all Internet browser windows.
- If the Submit button is active and you are still unable to submit the form, make sure that your computer meets the system requirements and you have the latest version for Grants.Gov as described on the web site.
- If you are using a dial-up modem, it may take several minutes for the application to upload and be submitted. A high-speed Internet connection or DSL connection will process the application much faster.