

Overview

Grants.gov simplifies the grants management process and creates a centralized, online process to find, and apply for, over 900 grant programs from the 26 Federal grant-making agencies. Grants.gov streamlines the process of awarding over \$360 billion annually to state and local governments, academia, not-for-profits and other organizations. This program is one of the 24 Federal cross-agency E-Government initiatives focused on improving access to services via the Internet. The vision for Grants.gov is to be a simple, unified source to electronically find, apply, and manage grant opportunities.

“Agencies will allow applicants for Federal grants to apply for and ultimately manage grant funds online through a common web site, simplifying grants management and eliminating redundancies...”
(The President’s FY 2002 Management Agenda)

Standardizing Federal grant management activities is a priority for the Administration and Congress, as evidenced by Public Law 106-107, the legislation that mandates streamlining and improved accountability for Federal grants, and related references in the President’s Management Agenda.

Benefits

Grants.gov is the common face for Federal grant program information and applications. Key benefits include:

- A single source for finding grant opportunities, helping applicants locate and learn more about funding opportunities in a standardized manner
- A single, secure and reliable source for applying for Federal Grants online, simplifying the grant application process and reducing paperwork

Grants.gov provides a unified interface for all agencies to announce their grant opportunities, and for all potential grantees to find and apply for grants. Grants.gov simplifies the entire application process while also creating avenues for consolidation and best practices within each grant-making agency.

Progress and Next Steps

The launch of the Apply for Grants (Apply) feature on October 31, 2003 was a major milestone for the Grants.gov Program. The Apply feature includes a simple, unified application to enable applicants to apply for grants online. Here’s how it works: a grant seeker visits the Grants.gov website to search for grant opportunities. Once a match is found, the organization downloads the grant application package, completes it offline and then submits it through the Grants.gov site. The application is time stamped and the appropriate Federal agency has immediate access to it. Now Grants.gov users can both find information on available grant opportunities and apply for them through the site.

In 2004, there will be a rapid ramp up of additional agencies and grant programs on the Apply feature. There will also be significant focus on advancing the grantor and grant community system-to-system interface, thus allowing organizations’ grant management systems to directly communicate with the Grants.gov system. Grants.gov will also continue to refine the Find and Apply features, as well as implement the addition of mandatory grants to the system in the Fall of 2004.

Participants

All grant-making agencies will participate in Grants.gov over time. The Department of Health and Human Services, managing partner for the Grants.gov program, is supported by 10 additional partner agencies. A list of these partner agencies can be found on the Grants.gov website (www.grants.gov) in the About Us section.

The Grants.gov team continues to work closely with the grant community and organizations that represent the grant community to facilitate delivery of a system that will meet their needs. We are in close contact with the Council of State Governments, the National Council for Nonprofit Associations, and the Federal Demonstration Partnership, to name just a few.

Questions?

Visit www.grants.gov and click on the “Customer Support” tab to access an online tutorial, frequent questions, and other resources, or e-mail your questions to info@grants.gov.