Succeed

A NEWSLETTER

GRANTS.GOV

FALL 2005

MANAGING PARTNER

Unifying Federal Grants

GRANTS.GOV REACHES MILESTONE 15,000th APPLICATION

Less than one year after receiving its 1,000th application, Grants.gov received its 15,000th application – reaching a core program goal.

 "The agencies have been working hard to post grant application packages on the site," said Rebecca Spitzgo, Grants.gov Program Manager. "Their hard work posting and getting the word out to their applicant communities has made this achievement possible."

OMB established specific operational goals for the program that helped Grants.gov meet the 15,000 application goal, including the requirement that Federal agencies post all grant opportunity notices and make at least 25% of their grant application packages available via the system.

Ten agencies, including the U.S. Departments of Commerce, Energy, Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Interior, and Labor, as well as the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Small Business Administration, and the Social Security Administration have already achieved their goal for grant application submissions. HUD alone accounted for over 5,700 application submissions.

Reaching this submission milestone also indicates that a diverse cross section of the grant community is indeed using Grants.gov to find and apply for Federal grant funds. Grants.gov is anticipating an influx of many more users as more agencies reach their electronic submission goals.

"We have proven the concept and the value Grants.gov delivers. Now we are continuing the focus on increasing usage," said Spitzgo. "Leveraging our current momentum, Grants.gov is launching its second marketing and advertising campaign to spread the word and build usage across the grant community".

NIH MOVES AHEAD WITH GRANTS.GOV

With a potential applicant pool of more than 3,000 organizations for the upcoming SBIR/STTR, one of the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) most prominent programs, officials at NIH decided that it was time to take advantage of Grants.gov's electronic grant application submission process and government-wide standardized forms that are now available on the site.

 "NIH led the way in posting announcements in "Find". We are now taking a strong stance by requiring the use of Grants.gov to make electronic grants a reality for all applications by May 2007," said Dr. Norka Ruiz Bravo, Deputy Director of Extramural Research, NIH.

The transition to electronic submission and a new set of application forms is a huge initiative involving numerous funding mechanisms and tens of thousands of applications—and NIH is committed to doing all it can to make it happen. The NIH SBIR/STTR grant application packages will be available in mid-October for December 1st, 2005 submission.

> ### What is the SBIR
> The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program is a set-aside program (2.5% of an agency's extramural budget) for domestic small business concerns to engage in Research/Research and Development (R/R&D) with potential for commercialization.

 "NIH has done a great job with communicating and promoting this new process through newsletters, websites, and conferences," Keenon James, Grants.gov Program Advisor said. "Their work and effort is exemplary. The forethought is very good."

WWW.GRANTS.GOV   FIND. APPLY. SUCCEED.

15,000th APPLICATION (continued)

Grants.gov is also ramping up its online user support tools, user aides, and personalized support through a dedicated Customer Support team, to help new applicants transition to the electronic submissions process.

With these combined efforts, Grants.gov is poised to exceed its next target milestone of 45,000 grant applications by the end of fiscal year 2006. Looking ahead, Grants.gov expects a three-fold increase in application packages and electronic submissions in FY06.

NIH (continued)

"Working with Grants.gov and NIH eRA Commons will offer NIH applicants a better experience during the application process—from tracking their application through Grants.gov to reviewing its status as it moves through the review process with NIH," James said.

Be sure that your organization is ready to apply – complete your Grants.gov registration (www.Grants.gov/GetStarted) and your NIH eRA Commons registration (http://era.nih.gov/commons) today.

OTHER GRANTS.GOV UPDATES

PureEdge Viewer Software Upgrade

Grants.gov PureEdge (PE) Viewer software has been updated – enhancing the user experience in submitting grant applications. The upgrade will install across all operating systems and browser versions currently supported by Grants.gov and PureEdge. The software will detect whether the upgrade has been installed in the Grants.gov user's program files. For more details related to the PureEdge Viewer upgrade, please visit http://www.grants.gov/DownloadViewer.

Grants.gov Site Update

In the near future, there will be changes to the Grants.gov grant opportunity search functionality. If you used www.fedgrants.gov in the past to find grant opportunities, you will now be directed to Grants.gov to conduct your search. Improvements will also be made in the search options offered at Grants.gov and Federal grant agencies will now use only Grants.gov to post both their grant synopses and application packages. Come to Grants.gov to find out more about these changes in the coming weeks.

Check Your Spam Filters for Grants.gov Email Messages

With unwanted email messages becoming more and more prevalent, many email systems have implemented strict email junk or "spam" filters. If you are not receiving notifications or other information from Grants.gov, please periodically check your spam filters or contact your system administrator to ensure that support@grants.gov is on your list of approved email addresses.

CCR Registration Renewals

Did you know that your Central Contractor Registry (CCR) Registration must be renewed once a year? Your CCR E-Business POC should check your renewal status yearly. If you are not sure of your status or who your E-Business POC is, you should contact www.ccr.gov for information.

GRANTS.GOV IN THE NEWS

Visit www.grants.gov/News for a full list of media coverage, newsletters, and news releases. Recent news stories include:

08/29/05, *Government Computer News* featured an article about a group of Federal and private-sector experts who want to use the success of the Grants.gov e-government project as a model for the government to create a set of data elements that can be used by all grant-making agencies.

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

"With literally thousands of non-profits in Northern Virginia, I'm often asked where people can go to get the necessary Federal grant money. The resource I always mention first is Grants.gov. Their capable staff, extensive knowledge of the grants process, and ability to match worthy organizations with Federal grants is unparalleled. They should be the first stop for every non-profit financial officer."

Congressman James P. Moran
Virginia – District 08

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendar! Connect with Grants.gov representatives at the following upcoming events:

9/27/05	Regional Foundation Center, Philadelphia, PA
9/28/05	Capital Area District Library, Lansing, MI
10/6-9/05	National Indian Education Association Annual Conference, Denver, CO
10/15-19/05	SRA International, Milwaukee, WI
10/20-21/05	Quadel 29th Annual Housing Choice Voucher Conference, Washington, DC
10/26-28/05	American Association of Grant Professionals, Scottsdale, AZ
11/02	NCURA 47th Annual Meeting, Washington, DC
11/07-09/05	Bureau of Justice Administration Workshop, Anchorage, AK

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