E-Grants

Overview for NIH eRA Retreat

Fulfilling the President's Management Agenda and PL106-107 Streamlining Goals

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The President's Management Agenda Says:

Agencies will allow applicants for federal grants to apply for and ultimately manage grant funds online through a common Web site, simplifying grant management and eliminating redundancies in the same way as the single procurement portal will simplify purchasing.

See also "E-Government Strategy" at

http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg/egovstrategy.pdf

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PL106-107 Purposes Include:

- Simplify Federal financial assistance application and reporting requirements
- Facilitate greater coordination among those responsible for delivering such services

Complex Landscape

Size

- More than 600 grant programs at 26 Federal agencies
- $300B to State and Local gov'ts via 141K awards
- $60B to academia, non-profits, others via 71K awards

Variety

- Discretionary, Formula, Block
- Research, Service, Infrastructure, Security

Culture

- Entrenched Grants Processes and Data Requirements

E-Grants, an E-Gov Initiative

Eleven Partner Agencies: HHS (managing partner), Defense, Education, HUD, Justice, Transportation, Agriculture, Commerce, Labor, FEMA, and NSF

Other Participants:

- OMB
- 15 other federal grant-making agencies
- Universities, FDP, and other academic institutions
- State, Local, and Tribal governments
- Non-profits, faith-based and community initiatives

2/20/02 -- Stakeholders & Mark Forman meeting

E-Grants Vision

The E-Grants project will:

Produce a simple, unified "storefront" for all customers of federal grants to electronically find opportunities, apply, and manage grants.

Facilitate the quality, coordination, effectiveness, and efficiency of operations for grant makers and grant recipients.
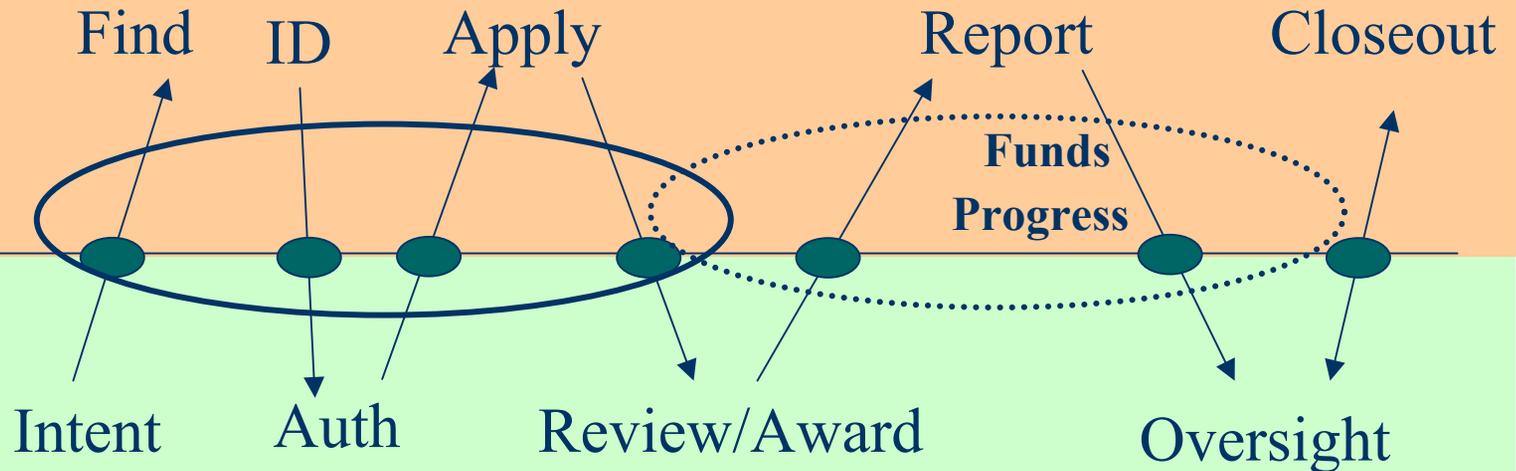
E-Grants Goals

1. Eliminate the burden of redundant or disparate electronic and paper-based data collection requirements.

2. Define and implement simplified standard processes and standard data definitions for federal grant customer interactions.

3. Protect the confidentiality, availability, and integrity of data.

4. Standardize the collection of financial and progress report data in support of audit and performance measurement activities.

E-Grants Objectives

- Finalize the E-Grants Business Case (4/15/02) [done]
- Evaluate existing capabilities, including COTS (6/1/02) [done]
- Pilot a simple, unified way to find federal grant opportunities via the Web (7/1/02) [done]
- Define application data standards (10/1/02) [done]
- Work with E-Authentication PMO and privacy groups [ongoing]
- Deploy simple, unified application mechanism (10/1/03)

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E-Grants Scope and Phases : Focus on the "Front Office"

"Front Office" – the customer view

Find　　ID　　Apply　　　　　　Report　　　Closeout

Funds Progress

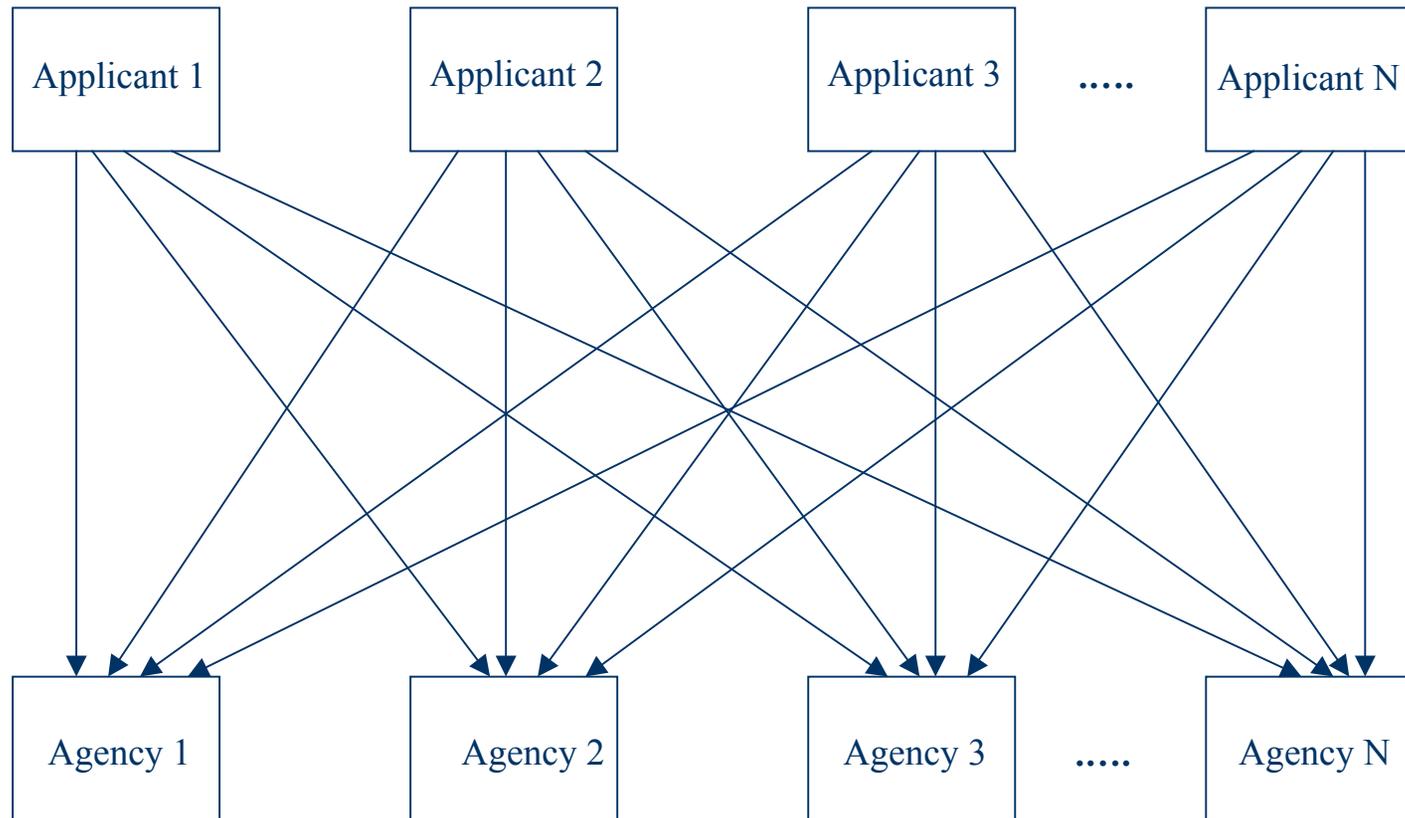Intent　　Auth　　Review/Award　　　Oversight

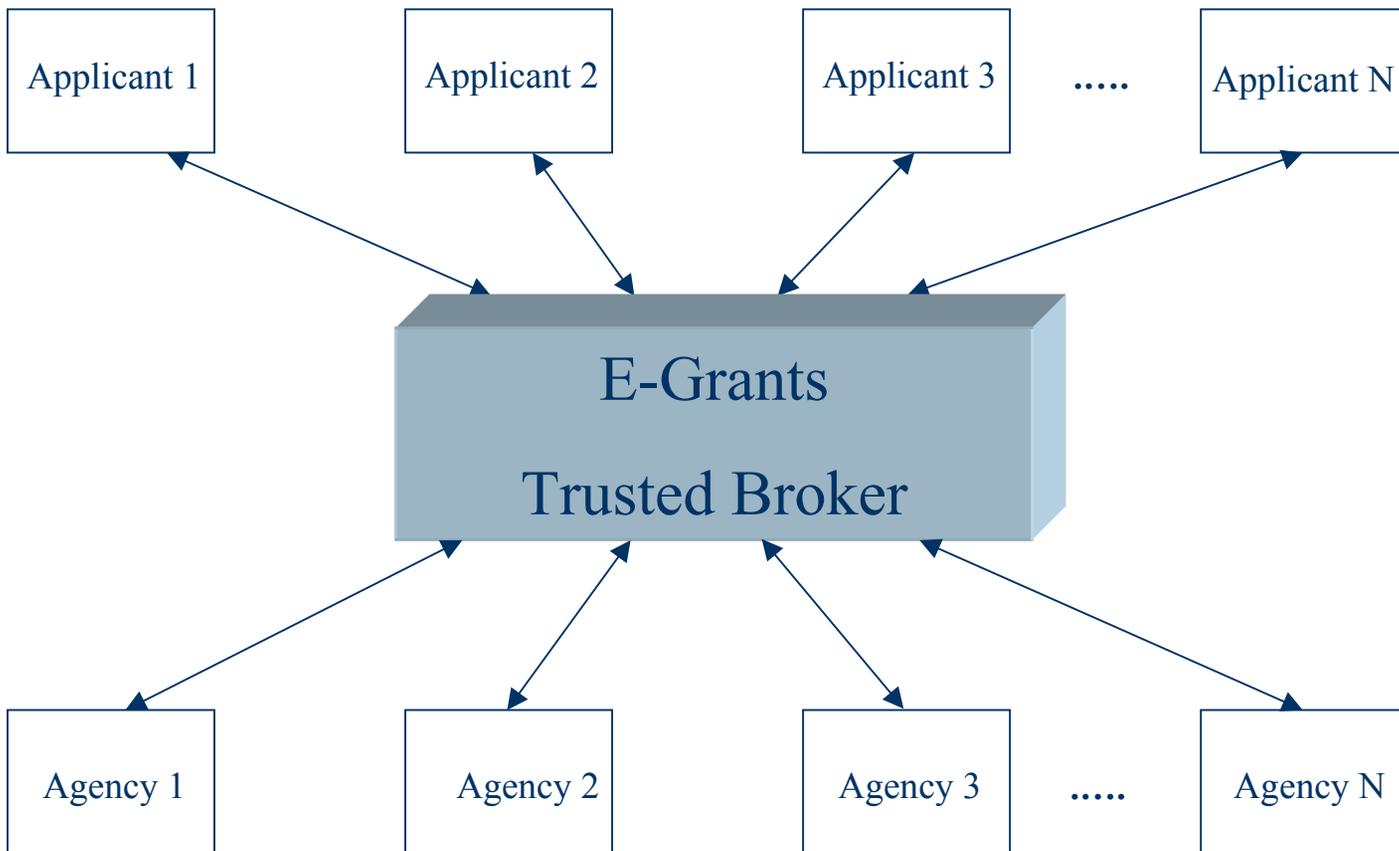"Back Office" – internal business processes

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Find Opportunity and Apply

- "Find Opportunity" Solution Concepts
  - Use FedBizOpps to store announcement synopsis
  - Standard synopsis and full announcement data via PL106-107 Pre-Award work group
  - Pilot participation for agencies and applicants
- "Apply Electronically" Solution Concepts
  - CCR for Organizational Profile
  - Single System to submit application data: "Trusted Broker"
  - Data standards for discretionary application
    - Core = SF424 + DUNS via TS194
  - Conform to E-Gov Architecture, including XML

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Grant Application Current Environment

"Many-to-Many" is Costly for Applicants and Agencies

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Single System Solution

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┌─────────────┐   ┌─────────────┐   ┌─────────────┐         ┌─────────────┐
│ Applicant 1 │   │ Applicant 2 │   │ Applicant 3 │  .....   │ Applicant N │
└─────────────┘   └─────────────┘   └─────────────┘         └─────────────┘
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Trusted Broker

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┌─────────────┐   ┌─────────────┐   ┌─────────────┐         ┌─────────────┐
│  Agency 1   │   │  Agency 2   │   │  Agency 3   │  .....   │  Agency N   │
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Trusted Broker Embodies Standards; Benefits Applicants and Agencies:

-- Facilitates System-to-System Interfaces

-- Builds applicant knowledge of "core" data

-- Helps identify commonalities among agency-specific data

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Agency Preparedness: Ready, not Redundant

- Applications are submitted via E-Grants
- Fit application data into Agency system(s) using E-Grants Integration Toolkit
- Consider consolidation and COTS when replacing Legacy Systems
- Collaborate with E-Grants on Priorities for Next Phases

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E-Grants and NIH eRA: Mutually Beneficial Collaboration

- Leverage NIH eRA experience and capacity
- Meet NIH Agency and grantee requirements
- Agreement on Standards, especially Data
- Set example for other HHS OPDIVs
- Collaborate on Priorities for next phases