

## MESSAGE FROM THE PMO

September marks the end of Fiscal Year (FY) 2005, a period of significant achievement for Grants.gov and all our agency partners. Together we exceeded expectations for posted electronic applications, to the tune of 213% above goal. Additionally, we reached the goal of 15,000 application submissions.

Plus, nearly all agencies, 24 of 26, are actively posting electronic applications on Grants.gov. In total, 10 agencies have joined the ranks of the Goal Star Program and 2 agencies reached the 100% Club level.

The utilization and momentum charts continue to tell our story! September marks continued increases with more than 712 electronic applications processed. Agencies also published more than 94 grant application packages. With nearly 18,000 registered users, Grants.gov is moving ahead and launching into FY 2006 with new goals, and new website functionality highlighted in this month's update. We look forward to closing out FY 2005 and beginning FY 2006 with you at the October Stakeholder Meeting. Mark your calendar for Tuesday October 25, 2005 from 1:30 -3:00 pm to join us for our kick-off to the new fiscal year.

Regards,  
Rebecca Spitzgo, Grants.gov Program Manager

## GRANTS.GOV ACTIVITIES AND NEWS

### Grants.gov FIND & APPLY Merge

Launching in the very near future, Grants.gov is integrating the Find functionality and features of Fedgrants.gov into the Grants.gov platform. With this enhancement, both the Find and Apply systems will reside in a single hosting facility and architecture in late October 2005. At that time, the Fedgrants.gov URL will be retired.

With the integration, there will be a single database and some new features provided, with no loss of functionality. The merger will present a single look and feel for Find and Apply, increase integration between the two functions, and standardize the terminology. Agency users will benefit from the convenience of one website URL to post opportunities and publish applications. The new functionality and improvements will debut at the October Stakeholder Meeting.

The changes provide improvements for both Federal agencies and the grant community. **(Continued on page 2)**

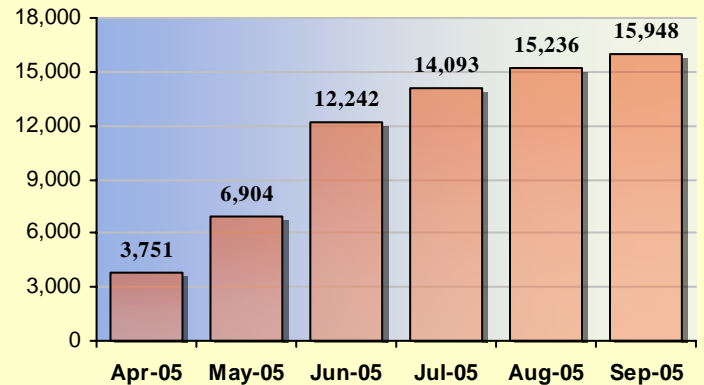
### Grants.gov User Group Update

The Grants.gov User Group conducted its first meeting on September 6, 2005. With 35 representatives in attendance, from 23 agencies, the main topics for the first session included the group charter, specifying "1-vote" per each agency and the User Group representative roles within their agency.

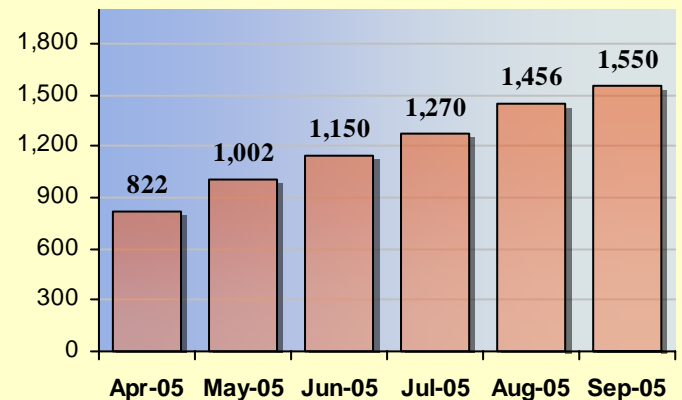
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## AT A GLANCE PROGRAM UTILIZATION AND MOMENTUM CHARTS

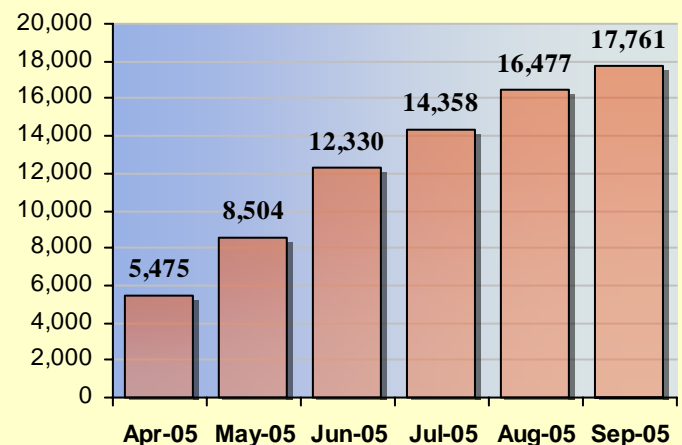
### Applications Received from Grantees



### Application Packages Posted on Grants.gov



### Grants.gov Registered Users Ready to Apply



**Grants.gov FIND & APPLY Merge (cont.)**

For Federal agency representatives, Grants.gov will be a true "one sign-on" system. Federal agency representatives will no longer have a separate sign-on and database access to post opportunities and publish applications.

Additionally, Grants.gov plans to update to an Oracle Text search engine to replace the current search engine. The combined functionality will define an opportunity and application package in a single flow with the same level of security used with the existing Grantor login process. The security roles defined in Apply will be extended to incorporate Find's unique functions to create, attach, and archive a synopsis.

For the grant community and Grants.gov users, the integration will be seamless and will provide many new benefits including:

- Eliminate the need to visit or remember another URL, other than Grants.gov for all Federal grant information
- Eliminate the need to open a new browser window and leave Grants.gov to access Federal grant opportunities
- One-stop grant opportunity email notification and Grants.gov communication subscription services

Use of the updated Find system will be simpler than the current system and should not require training for either Grantors or grant community users. Some Grantors may need to register at Grants.gov, if they are only registered within Fedgrants.gov. Grantors can begin registering immediately. Agency organization structures will also need consolidation, as they do not coincide between Find and Apply. Agency Advisors will conduct the initial review on consolidating the Find and Apply Agency Organization Structures. Then, each agency will be asked to verify and complete the effort.

Grants.gov Outreach will begin posting updates and instructions on the site beginning in October. A preview of the Find Search functionality and features is available for agency review at:

<http://www.infozen.com/Grants/index.html>

Please note the preview is only for the links and functionality related to Find. For access to other website links you will need to return to [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

On October 31<sup>st</sup> the Fedgrants.gov website will no longer be available. Users will be directed to Grants.gov from the Fedgrants.gov website. During the coming month, Grants.gov will conduct an outreach campaign to notify the grant community and grantors of the changes. For more information and to stay current on these developments please visit:

<http://www.grants.gov/BuildReleases>

**Grants.gov User Group Update (cont.)**

Charged with the responsibility of initiating suggestions, comments, or ideas to make Grants.gov a more user-friendly, as well as useful, site, one area of interest the User Group will consider is the Grants.gov registration process. This, as well as further topics, will be identified at the next User Group Meeting scheduled on October 4, 2005.

For more details on your agency's participation in the Grants.gov User Group, please contact your Agency Point of Contact (POC). To locate your Agency POC, please visit:

<http://www.grants.gov/assets/AgencyPointsofContacts.pdf>