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Applicant Enhancements

System Build 2008-02

August 9, 2008

APPLICANT ENHANCEMENTS SYSTEM BUILD 2008-02

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Introduction

In order to continue the mission and goals of Grants.gov, system enhancements and new functionality are constantly evaluated and executed. This document summarizes the new functionality and system enhancements that will be implemented on August 9, 2008. All enhancements performed during System Build 2008-02 were made to the Adobe System, no updates will be made to PureEdge system. The last day Grants.gov will accept PureEdge submissions is December 31, 2008.

APPLICANT ENHANCEMENTS

Notification of Opportunity Modification

An RSS feed function (see **Figure 12** below) has been added to the website to simplify the notification process for new and modified opportunities. Currently many applicants receive notification emails for new opportunities, which can become cumbersome if there are multiple postings. Also if an applicant is applying for multiple applications they may receive several modifications messages.

The new RSS feeds allow the applicant to choose the frequency at which they receive notifications in one consolidated message as they are updated. Applicants may view opportunities by agency name or by category.

Figure 12- Notification of Opportunity Modification (RSS Feed)



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Searching the Website

Finding information on the website is now easily accomplished with the newly added website search tool. The new search feature is powered by Google technology and will allow you to find information quickly and easily on the website. The search link is found at the top of the homepage under the **For Applicant** tab of the website's left navigation, see **Figure 13** below.

Figure 13 - Searching the Website – New Google Search



Searching Grant Opportunities (Browse by Agency)

All non-federal agency listings will be removed from the "Browse by Agency" search screen to provide a more accurate grant search when browsing opportunities by federal agency. Listings such as the following organizations will be removed from the list: [City of Orlando](#), [State of Texas](#), [State of Minnesota](#), [State of Minnesota](#), [District of Columbia](#).

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Figure 14 – Searching Grant Opportunities – Browse By Agency

The screenshot shows the GRANTS.GOV website interface. The top navigation bar includes the logo and links for 'Contact Us', 'SiteMap', and 'Help'. A breadcrumb trail reads 'Home > Find Grant Opportunities > Search Grant Opportunities'. The main heading is 'Search Grant Opportunities'. Below this, there are four search filters: 'Basic Search', 'Browse by Category', 'Browse by Agency' (which is selected and highlighted), and 'Advanced Search'. A 'Search Tips' link is located to the right. The main content area contains the text: 'To browse by Agency, please access any of the links below.' and 'Access Search Tips for helpful search strategies, or click the Help button in the upper right corner to get help with this screen.' Below this text are two columns of agency links. The left column includes: All Agencies, Administration for Children and Families, Appalachian Regional Commission, Casper, Corporation for National and Community Service, DOT-FWHA, Defense Logistics Agency, Department of Commerce, Department of Defense, Department of Education Developer Account, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Rexford, Department of Transportation, Department of the Interior, and Employment and Training Administration. The right column includes: AT, Air Force Office of Scientific Research, Casper, Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation, DOT CDFI, Defense Logistics Agency, Department of Commerce, Department of Commerce, Department of Education Developer Account, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Labor, Department of State, Department of Veterans Affairs, EDRED, and Environmental Protection Agency. A left-hand navigation menu contains various links such as 'FOR APPLICANTS', 'Find Grant Opportunities', 'Basic Search', 'Browse by Category', 'Browse by Agency', 'Advanced Search', 'Email Subscription', 'Not Registered', 'Apply for Grants', 'Track Your Application', 'Applicant Resources', 'Search FAQs, User Guides and Site Information', 'APPLICANT SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM', 'FOR GRANTORS', 'ABOUT GRANTS.GOV', 'HELP', 'CONTACT US', and 'SITE MAP'.


Searching Grant Opportunities (Repeated Opportunity Listing)

Duplicate grant opportunity listings have been removed from the system, to eliminate the illusion of multiple opportunities for a single opportunity. The new grant opportunity listing will give a more accurate view of grant opportunities in the system. Below the example in **Figure 15** shows the “Region 6 Fisheries Conservation Management” opportunity listed several times.

With this implementation of the system build, listings will no longer appear more than once for a single opportunity.

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Figure 15 – Searching for Grant Opportunities – Repeated Opportunity



The screenshot shows the Grants.gov search results page. The left sidebar contains navigation links for applicants and grantors. The main content area displays search results for 'REGION 6 FISHERIES CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT' with a close date of 09/30/2008. The results are sorted by Close Date, Ascending.

Close Date	Opportunity Title
09/30/2008	REGION 6 FISHERIES CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT
09/30/2008	REGION 6 FISHERIES CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT
09/30/2008	REGION 6 FISHERIES CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT
09/30/2008	REGION 6 FISHERIES CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT
09/30/2008	REGION 6 FISHERIES CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT
09/30/2008	REGION 6 FISHERIES CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT
09/30/2008	REGION 6 FISHERIES CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT
09/30/2008	REGION 6 FISHERIES CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT
09/30/2008	REGION 6 FISHERIES CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT

Results Page:

Managing Application Submissions (E-Biz POC)

The E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) assigns the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) role. The AORs are the only individuals allowed to submit a grant application on their organizations behalf. Now the E-Biz POC may manage AORs as well as AOR grant application submissions. Before the new E-Biz application submission managing capability was added, E-Biz POCs were only able to manage their AOR's status and ability to submit on their organization's behalf. Now the E-Biz POC can login to Grants.gov and view all of the applications submitted to Grants.gov by their AORs.

Viewing Opportunity Synopses and Opportunities

In order to create more consistent synopses and opportunity listings, all fields with no data provided by the agency will still display on the synopsis and opportunity; however they will appear blank if no information is provided (see **Figure 17**). **Figure 16** below shows an opportunity synopsis that does not have a Catalog for Domestic Assistance "CFDA" label, but does have a "Category Explanation" label with no information displayed for that field. This inconsistency between synopses labels has been corrected (see **Figure 17**), a "CFDA" label has been added to all synopses and opportunities synopsis.

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Figure 16 – Synopsis without CFDA label

The screenshot shows the Grants.gov website interface. The main content area displays the title 'SSA Revised Budget' and a synopsis. A red box highlights a table of key information. Below the synopsis, there is a section for 'Eligible Applicants'.

Document Type:	Grants Notice
Funding Opportunity Number:	SSA-OAG-000
Opportunity Category:	Discretionary
Posted Date:	May 02, 2007
Creation Date:	May 02, 2007
Original Closing Date for Applications:	Dec 31, 2099
Current Closing Date for Applications:	Dec 31, 2099
Archive Date:	Jan 30, 2100
Funding Instrument Type:	Cooperative Agreement
Category of Funding Activity:	Health
Category Explanation:	
Expected Number of Awards:	10
Estimated Total Program Funding:	
Award Ceiling:	\$100
Award Floor:	\$0
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	Yes

Eligible Applicants

Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification)

Document Type:	Grants Notice
Funding Opportunity Number:	SSA-OAG-000
Opportunity Category:	Discretionary
Posted Date:	May 02, 2007
Creation Date:	May 02, 2007
Original Closing Date for Applications:	Dec 31, 2099
Current Closing Date for Applications:	Dec 31, 2099
Archive Date:	Jan 30, 2100
Funding Instrument Type:	Cooperative Agreement
Category of Funding Activity:	Health
Category Explanation:	
Expected Number of Awards:	10
Estimated Total Program Funding:	
Award Ceiling:	\$100
Award Floor:	\$0
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	Yes

Eligible Applicants

Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification)

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Figure 17 – Synopsis with CFDA label

FOR APPLICANTS

- Find Grant Opportunities
- Basic Search
- Browse by Category
- Browse by Agency
- Advanced Search
- Email Subscription
- Got Registered
- Apply for Grants
- Track Your Application
- Applicant Resources

APPLICANT SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM

FOR GRANTORS

- ABOUT GRANTS.GOV
- HELP
- CONTACT US
- SITE MAP

Market Development Cooperator Program (MDCP)

Synopsis Full Announcement Application

The synopsis for this grant opportunity is detailed below, following this paragraph. This synopsis contains all of the updates to this document that have been posted as of **06/17/2008**. If updates have been made to the opportunity synopsis, update information is provided below the synopsis.

If you would like to receive notifications of changes to the grant opportunity click [send me change notification emails](#). The only thing you need to provide for this service is your email address. No other information is requested.

Any inconsistency between the original printed document and the disk or electronic document shall be resolved by giving precedence to the printed document.

Description of Modification

A change was made to the full announcement link. It has been changed to the homepage of the Market Development Cooperator Program.

Document Type:	Modification to Previous Grants Notice
Funding Opportunity Number:	1111206172008
Opportunity Category:	Discretionary
Posted Date:	Jun 17, 2008
Creation Date:	Jun 17, 2008
Original Closing Date for Applications:	Jul 31, 2008 The Department must receive completed applications by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, Thursday, July 31, 2008. Late applications will not be accepted. Applicants whose applications have been accepted will be notified via e-mail or fax within ten days of the submission deadline.
Current Closing Date for Applications:	Jul 31, 2008 The Department must receive completed applications by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, Thursday, July 31, 2008. Late applications will not be accepted. Applicants whose applications have been accepted will be notified via e-mail or fax within ten days of the submission deadline.
Archive Date:	Aug 01, 2008
Funding Instrument Type:	Cooperative Agreement
Category of Funding Activity:	Business and Commerce
Category Explanation:	
Expected Number of Awards:	3
Estimated Total Program Funding:	\$600,000
Award Ceiling:	\$250,000
Award Floor:	\$100,000
CFDA Number:	11.112 -- Exp
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	Yes

Document Type:	Modification to Previous Grants Notice
Funding Opportunity Number:	1111206172008
Opportunity Category:	Discretionary
Posted Date:	Jun 17, 2008
Creation Date:	Jun 17, 2008
Original Closing Date for Applications:	Jul 31, 2008 The Department must receive completed applications by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, Thursday, July 31, 2008. Late applications will not be accepted. Applicants whose applications have been accepted will be notified via e-mail or fax within ten days of the submission deadline.
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Archive Date:	Aug 01, 2008
Funding Instrument Type:	Cooperative Agreement
Category of Funding Activity:	Business and Commerce
Category Explanation:	
Expected Number of Awards:	3
Estimated Total Program Funding:	\$600,000
Award Ceiling:	\$250,000
Award Floor:	
CFDA Number:	
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	Yes

CONCLUSION

We at Grants.gov hope you find these enhancements valuable. The goal is to improve the user experience. If you have any questions regarding this system build please contact our Grants.gov Contact Center at 1-877-932-6701 or via e-mail at www.support@grants.gov.