

GRANTS

- RESOURCES
- APPLICATION TIPS
- ONLINE LINKS

OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN FRANK R. WOLF • 10TH DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

Who is ELIGIBLE for a Federal Grant?

www.grants.gov/aboutgrants/eligibility.jsp

Get Started at

www.grants.gov/applicants/organization_registration.jsp

1. *Obtain a DUNS number:* for same-day service call (866) 705-5711, or, go to Duns & Bradstreet at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform> (usually takes one to two business days)
2. *Register with SAM.gov* - the new System for Award Management (SAM) is a free web-site which consolidates Federal procurement systems and the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance. Currently CCR, FedReg, ORCA and EPLS have been migrated into SAM. Over the coming years, additional system migrations will be completed
3. *Create your Grants.gov profile at* www.grants.gov/applicants/org_step3.jsp

Search for funding opportunities at

www.grants.gov/applicants/find_grant_opportunities.jsp

- Search online by key word, category, agency, etc.
- Contact federal agencies via their websites - look for Regional Agency Offices and state/local agencies that administer federal programs

Write your grant proposal

- Take a class through The Foundation Center at <http://marketplace.foundationcenter.org/Training/Classroom>
- An Applicant User Guide is available at Grants.gov http://grants.gov/assets/Applicant-User-Guide_v5.1.pdf
- Utilize the Grantsmanship Training Program at <http://tgci.com/gtptraining.shtml>

What if your organization is not eligible for a federal grant?

- Search for private funding through The Foundation Center www.foundationcenter.org
- Including the Foundation Center's Cooperating Collections www.foundationcenter.org/collections
- Search at the Grantsmanship Center, www.tgci.com
- Investigate small business loans through the [SBA.gov](http://www.sba.gov)

Winning Reminders

- Research and plan in advance
- Use time wisely and identify funding opportunities early as possible
- Build the necessary partnerships
- Know your community & update statistics regularly
- Map out your project from the first day to the last day
- Understand project costs
- Finalize necessary registrations
- Follow application instructions and guidelines
- Review successful applications
- Contact awarding agency early and often
- Identify existing grantees in your area
- Write to the outlined selection criteria
- Be clear, concise and detailed
- Incorporate strong action verbs into goals and objectives
- Ensure goals are measurable but attainable
- Assess your progress regularly—quarterly if not monthly
- Request and then implement reader comments—win or lose
- Submit application at least 24 hours before deadline
- Apply! Apply! Apply!

Tips provided by David Downey at my 2009 Non-Profit Grants Conference.

MORE RESOURCE INFORMATION

Additional resources available online:

- **Weekly Federal Funding Report** - Weekly list of items published in the Federal Register which affect Federal Domestic Assistance Programs.
- **NonProfit Expert** - Links to Federal government information services, plus information about starting a nonprofit and links to Internet-related tools and resources your nonprofit organization can use for day-to-day operations.
- **A-Z Index of U.S. Departments and Agencies** (General Services Administration) - To better develop a grant proposal, search a department or agency's Home Page to learn more about its programs & objectives. The site USA.gov also links to Government Benefits, Grants & Financial Aid.
- **Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy** (Dept. of Energy) - Grants are EERE's primary funding vehicle for businesses, industries, universities and others. Most EERE grants are awarded on merit on a competitive basis. EERE financial assistance opportunities are listed in the Financial Opportunities by Audience database and on Grants.gov or FedConnect.net. For state-by-state information on state, local, utility, and federal incentives that promote renewable energy and energy efficiency, search DSIRE (Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency).
- **Homeland Security Open for Business -- Grants** (Dept. of Homeland Security) - Most Homeland Security non-disaster grant programs are designated for state and local governments and specific entities such as colleges, etc. Unsolicited applications from individuals are generally not accepted. Includes Urban Area Security Initiative, Citizens Corps, Medical Response System, Operation Stonegarden (border security), Infrastructure Protection. Contact homeland security State Offices. Programs for firefighters may be found at Assistance to Firefighters.
- **USA.gov for Business** (GSA) - Includes contracting with the U.S. government, international trade & exporting, and small business. See also financial assistance links at the Small Business Administration website.
- **USA.gov for Nonprofits** (GSA) - Links to federal department and agency information and service for nonprofit organizations, including fundraising and outreach, grants, loans and other assistance, laws and regulations, management and operations, online services, registration and licensing, and tax information. The White House Office of Faith-based and Neighborhood Initiatives includes information on Grants and Resources.
- **Student Aid on the Web** (Dept. of Education) - Information on funding education beyond high school, including grants, loans, and work-study assistance to qualified students.
- **GovBenefits.gov** (via Dept. of Labor) - Includes information on over 1,000 government assistance programs, and how to apply. Covers direct payment, loan, insurance, training, or other services.
- **FTC Consumer Alert** (Federal Trade Commission) - The FTC warns consumers to beware of paying "processing fees" for information that is available free to the public. Ads claiming federal grants are available for home repairs, home business, unpaid bills, or other personal expenses are often a scam.
- **OMB Grants Management Web Site** (Office of Management and Budget) - OMB establishes government-wide grants management policies and guidelines through circulars and common rules. OMB Circulars are cited in Catalog program descriptions and may be printed out full text.

Links:

www.house.gov/ffr/resources_all.shtml

www.nonprofitexpert.com

www.usa.gov/directory/federal/index.shtml

www.eere.energy.gov/financing/grants.html

www.dhs.gov/grant-funding

www.fema.gov/welcome-assistance-firefighters-grant-program

www.business.usa.gov

www.usa.gov/Business/Nonprofit.shtml

www.fafsa.ed.gov

www.benefits.gov

www.ftc.gov/bcp/index.shtml

www.whitehouse.gov/omb/financial_default