

*Comment:* Three commenters suggested alternative approaches for the Federal agency mailing and e-mail addresses. One questioned why the mailing address was needed in the Grants.gov FIND synopsis. Another asked for the complete postal mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone and fax numbers. The third asked that more than one Federal agency e-mail contact be allowed.

*Response:* We agree in part. We changed "Federal agency mailing address" to "Federal agency name." Given that the purposes of Grants.gov FIND are to provide sufficient information to allow a potential applicant to decide whether to review the full announcement and to provide a link to that announcement, the only reason that potential applicants should need to contact the agency after reviewing the Grants.gov FIND synopsis is if they are having difficulty with the electronic link to the full announcement. The proposal included data elements for that purpose, including the name of a Webmaster or other technical point of contact (called "Federal agency contact for electronic access problems") and his or her e-mail address (called "Federal agency contact e-mail address"). Other than that, potential applicants should not need to contact the agency before reading the announcement, where they will find points of contact for programmatic or award administration information.

*Comment:* Two commenters asked why the data elements allowed more than one Federal agency contact name for help with electronic access problems, but only one e-mail address. One commenter saw this as an inconsistency. The second commenter suggested that each name be associated with an e-mail address and the type of help available. In addition, this commenter asked that alternate contact information, such as a telephone number, be provided for those without e-mail.

*Response:* No change. "Help desk" activities for computer hardware or software system problems generally flow through a single, central e-mail address accessible by several people rather than through individual e-mail accounts. Therefore, agencies are given the option to provide names of multiple individuals at that e-mail address in order to provide the public with needed service. We did add, as suggested, a telephone number for contacting the agency for electronic access problems.

*Comment:* One commenter expressed concern that the requirement to provide a Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number in the

Grants.gov FIND synopsis would prevent agencies from listing international funding opportunities. The commenter asked that an additional or alternative system be used that would include international opportunities.

*Response:* We revised the guidance for the CFDA data element to permit an agency to post funding opportunities under programs that are not listed in the CFDA. However, doing so does not create a requirement for agencies to post international funding opportunities at Grants.gov FIND. The types of agency programs and opportunities that will be subject to the posting requirement is an issue to be resolved during the development of the Grants.gov FIND policy document.

*Comment:* Two commenters requested expansion of the "Funding instrument types" category. One commenter suggested that it would be helpful for potential applicants to know if the intended instrument is a discretionary or formula grant. That commenter also indicated that if an agency selects "Other," there should be a text field to describe the meaning of "Other." The second commenter requested that we explicitly include types of assistance instruments beyond those already specified.

*Response:* No change. With respect to the comment about formula grants (which can be discretionary or mandatory), if the Grants.gov FIND policy document applies the posting requirement to formula grant opportunities, the Grants.gov FIND user should be able to distinguish formula programs through other data elements (e.g., the funding opportunity title and description, as well as the link to additional program information through the CFDA Number). With respect to a text field to describe what is in "other," the use of instruments other than "standard" grants, cooperative agreements, or procurement contracts currently is limited to certain agencies and programs with special authorities. We believe it is best for the reader to consult the full announcement for the funding opportunity to learn details about any additional instruments.

*Comment:* Seven commenters indicated that the "categories of funding activity" were too broad and did not adequately represent the specific aspects of many Federal programs. Several of them asked that we consider using keywords to facilitate the search with more specificity than allowed by the proposed categories. One commenter suggested that we include a text field where an agency selecting "Other" could provide further information.

*Response:* Agree in part. We adopted the suggestion to require any agency choosing the "Other" category to use the accompanying text box to provide additional explanation. We did not create more specific categories of funding activity. The categories in the proposed data elements, which closely mirror the categories in the CFDA, are intended only to provide an initial "filter" to narrow the field of opportunities to match the user's interests. It is unlikely that a fixed set of categories or keywords could cover the very broad spectrum of Federal activities and still have the necessary degree of specificity to let a user search and find only opportunities in a specific interest area. Current plans for Grants.gov FIND are to have a full-text search capability and electronic announcements would be similarly searchable. Nonetheless, we will continue to consider keyword searches for possible use in the future.

*Comment:* One commenter suggested the guidance for the "categories of funding activity" encourage agencies to use as many categories as feasible to adequately characterize the program.

*Response:* No change. The guidance for this data element already indicates that the agency may list as many as needed.

*Comment:* Eight commenters asked for additions or changes to the proposed categories of eligible applicants. One commenter suggested adding a separate category for non-profits that do not have 501(c)(3) status under the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) code. Another commenter recommended including an "Other" category and accompanying text field that would allow agencies to provide more specific information about eligible applicant categories than the standard list allowed. Other commenters addressed the need for greater specificity in the categories and/or requested a variety of additions.

*Response:* Agree in part. We changed the proposed category of "Non-profits other than institutions of higher education [includes community action agencies and other organizations having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS]" to "Non-profits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education"; and added a new category for "non-profits that do not have 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education." We changed "All others (e.g., U.S. Federal or foreign governmental entities and non-profits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS)" to "Other" and added a text field that is required if "Other" is selected. We also changed "Unrestricted (i.e., open to any