

(The President's FY 2002 Management Agenda)

Standardizing Federal grant management activities is a priority for the Administration and Congress, as evidenced by Public Law 106-107, legislation that mandates streamlining and improved accountability for Federal grants, and related references in the President's Management Agenda.

Benefits

Grants.gov will serve as the common face for Federal grant program information and applications. Key benefits include:

- A single source for finding grant opportunities, helping applicants locate and learn more about funding opportunities in a standardized manner
 - A single, secure and reliable source for applying for Federal Grants online, simplifying the grant application process and reducing paperwork
- Grants.gov will provide a unified interface for all agencies to announce their grant opportunities, and for all potential grantees to find and apply for grants. Grants.gov simplifies the entire application process, while also creating avenues for consolidation and best practices within each grant-making agency.

Progress and Next Steps

The first stage of Grants.gov was a successful pilot that enabled participating grantors to post and grant seekers to search for grant opportunities. Each Federal grant-making agency will be posting all of their competitive grant opportunities to Grants.gov by October 1, 2003. Also in October, the Grants.gov team will deploy a simple, unified application to enable applicants to apply for these grants online. Here's how it works: a grant seeker from an organization, for instance, visits the Grants.gov Web site to search for grant opportunities. Once a match is found, the organization downloads an electronic application to apply for the grant. The organization would complete the application and then submit it through the Grants.gov site. The application is time stamped and the appropriate Federal agency has immediate access to it. The agency will receive the application, sending confirmation back to the applicant through Grants.gov. Processing will be accelerated by avoiding the handling of paper applications.

In 2004, the focus will shift to rolling out the management and reporting functions of the Grants.gov system. Additional tools will be available to assist the grant community in moving through the grants life cycle, and will

streamline and improve the grants application process.

Participants

All grant-making agencies will participate in Grants.gov over time. The Department of Health and Human Services, managing partner for the Grants.gov program, is supported by 10 additional "partner" agencies. A list of these agencies can be found on the Grants.gov Web site, at <http://www.grants.gov>.

The Grants.gov team is also working closely with the grant community and organizations that represent them, to facilitate delivery of a system that will meet their needs. We are in close contact with the Council of State Governments, the National Council for Nonprofit Associations, and the Federal Demonstration Partnership, to name just a few.

Questions?

Visit <http://www.grants.gov> to access past and current materials on the Grants.gov program or e-mail your questions to info@grants.gov.

New Office of Management & Budget Requirement—DUNS Number for all Federal Applicants

In order to improve the statistical reporting of federal grants and cooperative agreements, the Office of Management and Budget has directed federal agencies to require all applicants to provide a Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number when applying for Federal grants or cooperative agreements on or after October 1, 2003. The DUNS number will be required whether an applicant is submitting a paper or an electronic application, and whether an applicant is applying for a new award or renewal of a current award. While the current directive does not cover non-competing continuations, Phase II of the project, which begins in FY 2004, will cover these continuations. Therefore, we encourage all grantees to obtain a DUNS number.

Use of the DUNS number government-wide will provide a cost-effective means to identify entities receiving those awards and their business relationships. The identifier will be used for tracking purposes, and to validate address and point of contact information. The DUNS number already is in use by the federal government to identify entities receiving federal contracts, and by some agencies in their grant and cooperative agreement processes.

Organizations should verify that they have a DUNS number or take the steps needed to obtain one as soon as possible

if there is a possibility that they will be applying for Federal grants or cooperative agreements on or after October 1, 2003. Organizations can receive a DUNS number at no cost by calling the dedicated toll-free DUNS Number request line at 1-866-705-5711. Individuals who would personally receive a grant or cooperative agreement award from the federal government apart from any business or non-profit organization they may operate, and foreign entities are exempt from this requirement.

If your organization does not have a DUNS number, and you anticipate that your organization will apply for a grant or cooperative agreement on or after October 1, 2003, you should take steps to obtain a DUNS number in advance of the application deadline. If your organization does not have a DUNS number, you may not be able to apply for Federal grants or cooperative agreements after that time. Future potential applicants should also consider requesting a DUNS number now if there is any intention of applying for a federal grant in the future.

Further information can be found in the **Federal Register**, located at: <http://a257.gakamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2003/pdf/03-16356.pdf>

Register in the Central Contract Registry (CCR)

In order to help centralize information about grant recipients and provide a central location for grant recipients to change organizational information, the government will be using the Central Contractor Registry (CCR) for grant applicants and recipients. Use of the CCR is to provide one location for applicants and recipients to change information about their organization and enter information on where government payments should be made. The registry will enable recipients to make a change in one place and one time for all Federal agencies to use.

General Information

Organizations should register on how they want to do business.

A separate registration in the CCR may be required if an organization wants to have a single unit conduct business and it has a direct payment flow to that organization, it would require a separate DUNS number specified for that unit (if a different address from the parent organization). If the same address, the organization could use the DUNS + 4 found in the CCR. For example, a university that wants to have its payment information