



Grant News

Federal, State, and Private Grant Notices for Rural Communities

Vol. 6, No. 4
September 1999

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Accountability

Accountability has become a "buzzword" in the field of grant program evaluation. More and more, funders want to know their money is making a difference in the program areas they select to fund. Here are some ideas that may help prepare you and your organization for being accountable for the funds received from a grantor.

Establish Indicators

Indicators are numbers that reflect the original status of a program and the end result of a program. At the very least, indicators should show the number of persons affected by a program. Indicators should also reflect the overall goals of the program, and should be measured for a specified time period so comparisons between time periods and between events can be made.

Keep Simple, Appropriate Records

Records should provide a means to calculate established indicators. Records need not be cumbersome to maintain. Records should be simple and contain the "right" information.

Set up Processes for Easy Feedback

Some of the richest information comes from comments or suggestions made by program participants. Establishing a means of documenting comments and suggestions provides insight into "the numbers" and is a useful information source enhancing program success.

Measure Processes

Sometimes the process of implementing a program is as important as the outcomes of a program. Maintaining notes

and minutes will provide a means to understand how decisions and changes were made. Program outcomes may or may not be what was expected. Without an accounting of processes, the reasons for success or failure cannot be explained.

Understand and Measure Hidden Objectives

Funders may have hidden objectives, such as public relations, that are not publicly announced. Attempting to understand and measure the program in terms of these objectives may be a key to future funding. Tracking media coverage, attendance of key people at events, and organizational or political policy changes are examples of ways to measure underlying objectives of funders.

Kelly

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Community Development

Ameren Smart Lights

Objective: Provide funds to not-for-profit, civic and community organizations for energy-efficient lighting equipment to improve lighting in public areas through lighting upgrades or additions.

Award: In 1998, no individual grant exceeded \$20,000.

Eligibility: Tax-exempt organizations whose electricity is supplied by Ameren UE or AmerenCIPS willing to comply with lighting plans of experts. Projects widely supported by a high percentage of residents and backed by community leaders are preferred in the selection process. Grants are not made to individuals, or to political, religious, fraternal, veteran, or social groups. Current contributions are focused on education, services for youth and the elderly, and on the environment.

Deadlines: September 30, 1999. Winners will be announced in mid-November, 1999.

Application: Applications can be obtained by calling the number listed below. Application may be sent to either the local Ameren district office or to the corporate office. Applications should be submitted on letterhead and include the following information:

- √The mission of the organization;
- √How the project fits the mission;
- √An explanation of the project and its projected outcomes;
- √Current funding sources and fundraising goals;
- √Budget and audited financial statements;
- √Documentation of tax-exempt status;
- √Roster of governing board and executive staff; and,
- √Amount requested.

Information:

Public Affairs
AmerenCIPS
607 East Adams Street
C1301
Springfield, IL 62739
TEL: (314) 554-6441

Community Action Grants (AAUW)

American Association of University Women

Objective: Provide seed money for innovative programs and research projects that promote education and equity for women and girls.

Award: One-year and two-year grants. One-year grants are for start-up educational projects without topic restriction. Two-year grants are limited to funding kindergarten through twelfth grade girls educational improvement in math, science, and/or technology. Two-year grants support planning and coalition building during the first year, and implementation and evaluation the second year. The grant cycle is July 1 through June 30. Between 30 and 40 grants are available for one-year projects. Up to five grants are available for two-year projects.

Eligibility: Individual women, AAUW branches, and AAUW state organizations. Applicants must be US citizens or permanent residents. Projects must have public impact, be nonpartisan, and be US based.

Deadlines: Applications must be postmarked by February 1, 2000.

Application: Preference is given to proposals that involve AAUW participation and support. Technical assistance for preparing applications is provided upon request. Proposals for projects not funded for one cycle may be submitted only once again. Applications are available on-line or by writing or calling.

Information:

AAUW Educational Foundation
Department 60
2201 North Dodge Street
Iowa City, IA 52243-4030
INTERNET: <http://www.aauw.org/3000/fga.html>

Housing

Information:

Application, regulation, and compliance questions for the USDA housing programs in this section can be directed to:

Mr. Barry Ramsey
Rural Housing Program Director
United States Department of Agriculture

Illinois State Rural Development Office

Illini Plaza Suite 103

1817 South Neil Street

Champaign, IL 61820

TEL: (217) 398-5412, Ext. 256

FAX: (217) 398-5395

EMAIL: bramsey@rdasun2.rurdev.usda.gov

Housing (continued)

Farm Labor Housing Loans and Grants

Objective: Provide decent, safe, and sanitary low-rent housing and related facilities for domestic farm laborers.

Award: Special review of grant and loan applications in excess of \$400,000.

Eligibility: Farmers, family farm partnerships or corporations, and associations of farmers.

Deadlines: None.

Application: Preapplication is required on Form SF 424.2, "Application for Federal Assistance," through the District or State offices of Rural Development.

Rural Rental Housing Loans

Objective: To provide economically designed and constructed rental and cooperative housing and related facilities suited for rural residents.

Award: Initial insured loans to individuals range from \$60,000 to \$450,000 and average \$250,000. Initial insured loans to organizations range from \$75,000 to \$2,000,000 and average \$950,000.

Eligibility: Applicants may be individuals, cooperatives, nonprofit organizations, state or local public agencies, profit corporations, trusts, partnerships, limited partnerships, and be unable to finance the housing either with their own resources or with credit obtained from a private source. However, applicants must be able to assume the obligations of the loan, furnish adequate security, and have sufficient income for repayment. They must also have the ability and intention of maintaining and operating the housing for purposes for which the loan is made. Loans may be made in communities with up to 10,000 people in Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) and with up to 20,000 people in non-MSA areas. Applicants in towns of 10,000 to 20,000 should check with the local Rural Development office to determine eligibility.

Deadlines: None.

Application: The process of state Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs is followed in applying for assistance. Form SF 424.2, "Application for Federal Assistance," is completed by the eligible borrower. Eligible borrower must furnish a comprehensive market analysis, a legal capacity to incur the obligation and operate the housing, a budget, credit history, and inability to obtain necessary funds from other sources.

Rural Rental Assistance Payments

Objective: To reduce the tenant contribution paid by low-income families occupying eligible Rural Rental Housing, Rural Cooperative Housing, and Farm Labor Housing projects financed by the Rural Housing Service.

Award: Projects may be eligible for rental assistance for up to 100 percent of the number of units in the project. The State Director of Rural Development determines the number of rental assistance units to be given assistance from the total of units allocated to the State.

Eligibility: Owners or persons planning to become an owner of an eligible project.

Deadlines: None.

Application: The process of state Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs is followed in applying for assistance. Form RD 1944-25, "Request for Rental Assistance," is completed by the eligible borrower and reviewed by the Rural Development Manager. The preapplication must document the need for the loan or grant and the proposed amount requested. Attachments relating to the size of the proposed project, estimated cost, and budget are also required.

Very Low-Income Housing Repair Loans and Grants

Objective: To give very low-income rural homeowners an opportunity to make essential repairs to their home to make them safe and to remove health hazards to the family or the community.

Award: Loans to \$5,388; grants to \$4,547.

Eligibility: Occupants or owners of homes in rural areas who are citizens of the United State or reside in the United States after having been legally admitted for permanent residence or on indefinite parole. Loan recipients must have sufficient income to repay the loan. Grant recipients must be 62 years of age or older and be unable to repay a loan for that part of the assistance received as a grant. Applicant's income may not exceed the very low-income limits that range from \$6,300 to \$22,650 for a single person household, depending on an area's median income.

Deadlines: None.

Application: Applicants must file Form RD 410-4 at the Rural Housing/Development county office serving the county where the dwelling is located.

Museums and Preservation

Award for Outstanding Commitment to the Preservation and Care of Collections

Source: American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC) and Heritage Preservation.

Objective: Award an organization with exemplary conservation efforts for the preservation and care of cultural property.

Eligibility: Nonprofit organizations in North America with collections of any size.

Deadlines: Postmarked no later than November 15, 1999.

Application: Nomination guidelines and more information can be obtained by contact either sponsoring organization.

Information:

American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC)
 1717 K Street NW
 Suite 200
 Washington, DC 20006
 TEL: (202) 452-9545
 FAX: (202) 452-9328
 EMAIL: spenceraic@aol.com
 INTERNET: <http://aic.stanford.edu/>

OR

Heritage Preservation

1730 K Street NW
 Suite 566
 Washington, DC 20006
 TEL: (202) 634-1422
 FAX: (202) 634-1435
 EMAIL: chansen@heritagepreservation.org
 INTERNET: <http://www.heritagepreservation.org>

Museum Loan Network

Objective: To make works of art more accessible and understandable by encouraging collecting institutions to share objects over extended periods of time.

Eligibility: 501(c)(3) art museums or organizations with collections. Borrowing and lending institutions must employ at least one full-time, professional staff member who understands museum registrarial practices and who has a relationship with a professional conservator. Borrowing institutions need to meet basic facility standards and hold regular exhibition hours. Planning and Implementation Grants are available.

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Grant News is published four to six times annually by the Applied Social Research Unit, Illinois State University. Its purpose is to provide residents, community development professionals, health and human services providers, and others in rural Illinois counties and communities with information regarding grant and other funding opportunities from federal, state, and private sources. For assistance in preparing grant applications, contact your Regional Planning Commission office.

Grant and other information was obtained from multiple sources including the *Federal Register*, various federal and state agencies, and private foundations. Obtain additional information about the opportunities which appear in *Grant News* by contacting the appropriate foundation, federal or state agency, or:

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The Applied Social Research Unit's World Wide Web site includes past issues of *Grant News*. *Grant News* is produced with the support of Applied Social Research Unit staff: Lucinda Beier, Cindy Caldwell, Sharon Mills, Susan Savage, and Mark Steward.

Museums and Preservation

1) Planning Grants for Borrower and Lender Travel

Award: Borrower grants up to \$3,500. Lender grants up to \$2,000. Funding for personnel to travel to prospective lending institutions or to visit facilities of organizations that have asked to borrow objects. Funds for borrowers and lenders cover out-of-pocket expenses such as transportation, lodging, and per day expenses. Lending organizations are allocated an additional \$250 per day to help defray the cost of their institution's staff time assisting the borrower. Funds may also be used for materials and supplies associated with the project. Travel teams are encouraged to participate. Teams may include members from the community and university professors. Travel should be made within one year of award notification.

Application: An original and one copy of applications should include a proposal cover sheet, three-page proposal narrative, brief resumes of travelers, and Prospective Lender Participation Form. Detail regarding narrative guidelines and forms are available from the Network and on-line.

2) Planning Grants for Surveying

Award: Up to \$12,000 for identifying stored and underutilized objects suitable and available for future long-term loans; and for consulting with potential borrowers to identify the type of objects they would be interested in borrowing. Additionally, \$3,000 can be requested for images of 20th century artworks that need copyright permission for use; or for provenance research. Staff time, supplies and services to describe and/or catalog objects, condition assessment and/or conservation treatment proposal development, and photographic documentation

of potential loan objects are types of items for which grant moneys can be used. Objects are expected to be listed in the Network's on-line directory.

3) Implementation Grants

Award: Up to \$40,000 to support costs associated with loans of objects paid to borrowing institutions which reimburse the lending partner(s). Retroactive planning compensation is not funded. Moneys may be used to pay for insurance, matting and framing, packing and crating, transport, conservation treatments, staff time, installation costs, special security requirements, education programming costs and publications, promotion expenses, and other direct costs associated with the loan.

Application: Send an original and one copy of the application that should include a proposal cover sheet, five-page proposal narrative, letters of agreement, brief resumes of persons from borrowing institution, visuals showing objects to be borrowed and how objects will be integrated into the institution's collection, and other required attachments. Detail regarding narrative guidelines and forms are available from the Network and on-line.

Deadlines: Intent to Apply, November 18, 1999 and April 7, 2000; Application, December 10, 1999 and May 5, 2000.

Information:

Lori Gross, Director

Museum Loan Network

MIT

265 Massachusetts Avenue, N52-439

Cambridge, MA 02139-4307

TEL: (617) 252-1888

FAX: (617) 252-1899

EMAIL: loanet@mit.edu

INTERNET: <http://loanet.mit.edu/Grants/>

Education

Career Development Grants (AAUW)

American Association of University Women

Objective: Support women currently holding a bachelor's degree who are preparing to advance their careers, change careers, or re-enter the work force.

Eligibility: Applicants must be US citizens or permanent residents whose last degree was received before June 30, 1995. Special consideration is given to AAUW members, women of color, and women pursuing their first

advanced degree or credentials in nontraditional fields. Women who are eligible for another AAUW fellowship or grant program are not eligible for Career Development Grants.

Award: Funds are available for tuition, fees, books, supplies, local transportation, and dependent care. Approximately 60 grants are available in two categories.

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Education (continued)

1) Academic Grants

Objective: Provide support for course work toward a master's degree or specialized training in technical or professional fields.

Eligibility: Course work must be undertaken at a fully accredited two- or four-year college, university, or technical school. The institution must be accredited by the US Department of Veterans Affairs. Doctoral level work is not funded.

2) Professional Development Institute Grants

Objective: Support women's participation in short-term, academically based professional institutes.

Eligibility: Women accepted to an institute program. Funds are not eligible to support internships, research, or independent study.

Deadlines: The application request deadline is December 1, 1999. Completed applications must be postmarked by December 15, 1999.

Application: Applications are available on-line, or by calling or writing the AAUW.

Information:

*AAUW Educational Foundation
Department 60
2201 North Dodge Street
Iowa City, IA 52243-4030
TEL: (319) 337-1716, ext. 60
INTERNET: <http://www.aauw.org/3000/fgabod.html>*

First Book

Objective: Provide new books to children and families through eligible community literacy organizations.

Award: The number of books provided is determined by the organizational needs as outlined in the application, First Book resources, and the number of applicants.

Eligibility: Organizations that support literacy or reading training outside of the school classroom for low-income children and their families.

Deadlines: None.

Application: The national office can provide the contact person for the local area. On-line applications are available for completion and printing. Applications should be faxed or mailed to the local Board or to the national office.

Information:

*First Book
1319 F Street NW, #500
Washington, DC 20004
TEL: (202) 393-1222
INTERNET: <http://www.firstbook.org/recipientgrp/guide/html>*

Grants for Science Education Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Objective: Strengthen science education through fellowships.

1) Predoctoral Fellowships in Biological Sciences

Eligibility: College students at or near the beginning of their graduate study. Seniors or graduates with no or limited post-baccalaureate graduate study in biological sciences may apply. Individuals in a funded MD or PhD program are not eligible.

Award: Fellowships with an annual stipend of \$16,000 and \$15,000 annual cost-of-education allowance. Awards are announced in early April 2000.

Application: Request applications on-line to be sent via USPS in September, 1999: <http://www4.nas.edu.osep/fo.nsf>

Deadlines: November 9, 1999.

2) Postdoctoral Research Fellowships for Physicians

Eligibility: Physician-scientists who have completed at least two years of postgraduate clinical training and no more than two years of postdoctoral training in fundamental research. Applicants may not have current faculty or instructor appointments. Applicants must have received their first medical degree no more than 10 years prior to the fellowship.

Award: Fellowship for three years of full-time training with annual stipend in the range of \$40,000 to \$60,000. Fellowship institutions receive an annual research allowance of \$16,000, and institutional allowance of \$13,000. Applicants will be notified by the end of June 2000.

Application: The applicant is responsible for selecting a research mentor at an academic or nonprofit research institution and for making arrangements to work in that person's laboratory. Mentors must be members of faculty who will directly supervise the proposed research and be involved in the development of proposals.

Deadlines: Early December 1999.

Information:

*Howard Hughes Medical Institute
Office of Grants and Special Programs/POPA99
4000 Jones Bridge Road
Chevy Chase, MD 20815-6789
TEL: (301) 215-8889
FAX: (301) 215-8888
EMAIL: fellows@hhmi.org
INTERNET: <http://www.hhmi.org/grants/graduate/postdoc/awards.htm>*

Conservation

Conservation Technology Support Program

Objective: Support conservation organizations through grants of geographic information systems (GIS) equipment and software grants.

Eligibility: US based, tax-exempt conservation organizations that demonstrate a commitment to conservation objectives; compelling reasons to use GIS in achieving those objectives; and the organizational capacity to use GIS over a long period of time.

Awards: Hewlett Packard hardware and Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. software packages.

Deadlines: New guidelines for the 2000 grant cycle will be announced October 1, 1999.

Application: Applications are available through email or USPS request. Send a blank email to: form@ctsp.org. Help with applications should be directed to: ctsp@ctsp.org.

Information:

*Mr. Larry Ormine OR
Ms. Anna Potterat
CTSP
201 Mission Street
4th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
TEL:(415) 979-0474
EMAIL: ctsp@ctsp.org
INTERNET: <http://www.ctsp.org>*

American Wetlands Conservation Act: Small Grants Proposals

Source: Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service

Objective: Promote long-term conservation of North American wetland ecosystems and the waterfowl and other migratory birds, fish, and wildlife that depend upon such habitat through support of acquisition, enhancement, and restoration of wetlands and wetlands-associated habitat.

Eligibility: New grantees and partners who may not otherwise be able to compete in the Standard Grants program.

Awards: Fund matching.

Deadlines: New guidelines for the 2000 grant cycle will be announced October 1, 1999. Proposals for 1999 cycle funding were due December 4, 1998.

Information:

*Dr. Keith A. Morehouse
Small Grants Coordinator
North American Waterfowl and Wetlands Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4401 North Fairfax Drive
Suite 110
Arlington, VA 22203
TEL:(703) 358-1784
FAX: (703) 358-2282
INTERNET: <http://www.sustainable.doe.gov/management/fws.htm>*

National Rivers Coalition

Source: National Rivers Coalition members: American Canoe Association, American Rivers, American Whitewater Affiliation, National Wildlife Federation, River Management Society, River Network, Sierra Club, and The Wilderness Society.

Objective: Protect river resources and the public's access to them by providing seed money grants to efforts focused on river conservation.

Eligibility: Grassroots organizations involved with river recreation, lobbying and policy-making, hydropower reform, and urban river restoration are invited to apply. Educational, research, and monitoring efforts are not supported. Grants do not provide funds for paying salaries or hiring outside consultants.

Award: \$200 to \$1,000 for project-specific expenses such as printing, mailing, travel, phone, and meetings.

Deadlines: November 20, June 1, and August 20 annually.

Application: The Coalition meets three times a year to consider project proposals. Application forms are available on-line. The form should be sent with a two- to four-page proposal by USPS, FAX, or EMAIL.

Information:

*National Rivers Coalition
c/o Chad Smith, American Rivers
1025 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 720
Washington, DC 20005
TEL: (202) 547-6900
FAX: (202) 347-9240
EMAIL: chadsmth@amrivers.org
INTERNET: <http://www.amrivers.org/nr-coalition.html>*

Grant News

Applied Social Research Unit
Illinois State University
Campus Box 4950
Normal, IL 61790-4950

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Notice to Rural Health Care Providers

To: Potential Rural Outreach Grant and/or Rural Network Development Grant Applicants
From: *Julie Myers*
Center for Rural Health
TEL: (217) 782-1624
EMAIL: jmyers1@idph.state.il.us
RE: Change in application dates

In past years, the outreach/network application deadlines have been in March of each year. The application availability and deadlines are being changed starting in 1999 for the fiscal year 2000.

Beginning this year, the applications will be available in July or early August 1999. The deadline for application will be November 1999. Award notices and the start of newly funded projects will be May 1, 2000. The plan is to have this new timetable also apply in future years.

These earlier dates give unsuccessful applicants from the last cycle (March 1999) an opportunity to re-apply.

The new deadline for Rural Health Outreach Grants is November 15, 1999.

Conference Calls for technical assistance will be held on: September 29, 1999 at 11:00 p.m. Eastern time; and, September 30, 1999 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern time.

The new deadline for Rural Health Network Development Grants is November 22, 1999.

Conference Calls for technical assistance will be held on: September 21, 1999 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern time.

To register for technical assistance conference calls: (888) 300-4772 until September 12, 1999; or, (877) 477-2123 after September 12, 1999

The new mailing address for applications is:
HRSA GAC
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 4-91
Rockville, MD 20857

INTERNET: <http://www.nal.usda.gov/orhp>