

DOWNLOAD PDF THE ROLE OF THE GRANTS OFFICE IN THE POLITICS OF THE FUNDING PROCESS

Chapter 1 : Frequently Asked Questions | National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

Peer Review is the process of using non-federal independent evaluators, and/or in-house or other federal agency personnel who are subject matter experts to assess the merits of an application or concept paper for federal funding.

Historically, the relationship between the two levels of government has been defined by the courts, Congress, and funding policies. The role of the courts Questions concerning the respective powers of the states and the federal government are constitutional, and the courts must address them. Early Supreme Court decisions reflected the views of Chief Justice John Marshall, who personally favored a strong national government. In defining commerce in the broadest possible terms in *Gibbons v. At the same time, however, he believed the Bill of Rights imposed no restrictions on the states. As the makeup of the Court changed with the appointments made by President Franklin Roosevelt, so did the direction of its decisions. In the areas of civil liberties and civil rights in particular, the Supreme Court and the lower federal courts have set national standards that states and municipalities are obligated to follow. Through their interpretation of the due process and equal protection clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment, they have brought about a significant transfer of power from the states to the federal government. This amendment, along with the Fifteenth and the Twenty-fourth, has largely restricted the authority of the states to determine who can vote and where they cast their ballots. The courts have directed how state and local authorities draw their congressional, legislative, and school-board district boundaries. In recent years, the Supreme Court limited the powers of the federal government in favor of the states. *Lopez* held that Congress cannot prohibit guns in the area around a public school under the commerce clause. The role of Congress Legislation can compel states either directly or indirectly to take action they otherwise might not take. Again, civil rights provide a pertinent example. The Voting Rights Act intruded on the constitutional power of the states to set voter qualifications by challenging the literacy tests and poll tax that were used in the South to get around the Fifteenth Amendment. A wide range of environmental laws establishes requirements for air and water pollution control and the disposal of hazardous wastes to which states and municipalities must adhere. These are examples of mandates. Congress may also threaten to cut off funds if states do not implement a particular policy. Although a law forcing the states to establish 21 as the minimum drinking age or 55 miles per hour as the maximum highway speed might be unconstitutional, Congress can and did threaten to cut off federal highway funds to states that did not comply with the two limits. This is known as a condition of aid. The role of funding policies The most powerful tool the federal government has in its relations with the states is money. A grant-in-aid is funding provided by the federal government to the states or municipalities. The earliest federal grants were land. Under the Morrill Act , the states received large tracts of land for the specific purpose of establishing agricultural and mechanical colleges still known as land-grant colleges. A categorical grant earmarks funds for a specific purpose. The two types of categorical grants are project and formula grants. A project grant is awarded on the basis of competitive applications; money from the National Institutes of Health or the National Endowment for the Humanities is awarded in this manner. While many project grants go to individuals, formula grants go to states and municipalities that meet the requirements described in the legislation. Depending on what the grant is for, factors such as the age, education, and income level of the population; the number of miles of highway; or the unemployment rate might be relevant to qualifying for aid. A block grant is given for more general purposes than categorical grants – say, mental health, community services, mass transit, or job training – and state and local governments have a great deal of flexibility in how the money is actually spent. A county may decide to upgrade its buses rather than build a light rail system, for example. This does not mean, however, that strings are not attached to block grants. Recipients are bound by federal mandates. The county upgrading its buses may be required to buy a certain percentage of them from a minority-owned business or hire additional drivers from a training program for those on welfare.*

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Chapter 2 : SparkNotes: Federalism: Federalism in Practice

Grants and cooperative agreements, meanwhile, should be awarded when a Federal agency is providing assistance, such as funding for a lower-income housing program in an at-risk urban community. To help with the implementation of the law, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) published guidance in directing agencies to ensure that grants.

People or organisations with their own agendas can skew voting. They may secretly give parties big donations. Or parties and candidates can buy votes instead of winning them. It can lead politicians in office to steer away from good government. Their decisions can benefit those who fund them. The public interest comes second. Political corruption can divert scarce resources from poor and disadvantaged people. This is especially common in countries where democratic institutions are weak or absent. Private rather than public interests dictate policy. This means an ethical line has been crossed. Our trust in politicians is damaged. Then political corruption continues unchecked. Political corruption can feel daunting and remote. So can we really do anything about it? We need to call on our politicians and public officials to be accountable for their actions. We must demand that they put in place regulations which will force them to act openly. And our trust in the political process will improve. When leaders act transparently, showing us clearly what they do, we can make informed choices when we vote. And we can hold them to account once elected. From grassroots groups to big organisations, civil society has a crucial role to play. If state resources are abused, we must report it. Or regulations to stop corporate lobbying and political funding from distorting the democratic process. By speaking out, we can show that everyone gains from honest elections and open decision-making. Go back to the problem Romania: Integrity Pacts covering education, land registration and the distribution of EU funds Three Romanian CSOs will be using Integrity Pacts to monitor three public procurement processes affecting education, land and the distribution of EU funds in Romania. This is part of a Transparency International project funded by the European Commission to make sure that public procurement in the

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Chapter 3 : Federal-State Relations

federal grants in FY, funding a wide range of public policies, such as health care, nature of the federal grants-in-aid system, focusing on the role Congress.

Page Content The method for funding federal programs can seem extremely convoluted to the casual observer. It references jargon unique not just to Congress, but to budget and appropriations procedures as well. The process is expected to follow a rigid calendar and series of procedures, but those deadlines and procedures are rarely followed. The complexity and apparent randomness of federal funding decisions can be terribly frustrating, as these funds are an increasingly large source of support to American higher education. Some Basic Information A small number of key concepts are important to understanding the federal funding process. In the largest sense, the government funds a substantial and diverse range of programs and activities, from Pell Grants to scientific research to military operations. In mandatory funded programs like Social Security and Medicare, legislation defines the eligibility criteria for participation, and the government allocates funds to all who are eligible, regardless of the annual cost to the Treasury. Discretionary-funded programs have annual allocations that set the total level of funding they can provide within that fiscal year. A final category of funding of interest to campuses is federal student loans. Student loans have terms set through legislation and are dispersed directly to institutions on behalf of student borrowers, who are then obligated to repay the Treasury under the terms of their individual loan. The funding process is an annual event. Congress is tasked with producing a budget resolution and 12 appropriations bills for each federal fiscal year, which begins on Oct. Other funding legislation, such as emergency funding in response to a natural disaster, frequently occurs outside of the standard process. The CBO is also responsible for determining the baseline data used to assess the fiscal standing of the government under various criteria. This baseline data is used primarily to project future deficits or surpluses, but also to project the impact of legislation on federal revenues. The most frequently used baseline is a calculation of future federal spending, deficit and debt under the assumption that all current law remains unchanged. Traditionally, this is done on the first Monday in February, though that date often slips, especially when new administrations take office. The request encompasses economic projections and analysis, as well as detailed program-by-program funding levels proposed by the administration. It also projects deficits and surpluses for the government as a result of the recommendations in the budget for the immediate fiscal year, as well as the next nine fiscal years. In addition, the administration uses the budget request to introduce new policies, programs or changes they would like to see enacted. The budget document overall runs several thousand pages, including related information, appendices and charts. The OMB scores the program funding and policy changes detailed in the budget request. It has no binding authority on Congress and is best understood as a detailed statement by the administration of its fiscal goals and policy preferences. Additionally, as the OMB often produces different scores than the CBO, the budget request often has different numbers than those Congress uses to make its decisions. The first step in the funding process is the creation of a concurrent congressional budget resolution. While the resolution looks at total federal spending over a year window, it is not binding beyond the approaching fiscal year. The budget resolution is both similar to and different from traditional legislation. Like a legislative bill, budget resolutions originate in the relevant committee in this case, the respective budget committees of each chamber and must be approved by the whole chamber. Unlike a traditional bill, budget resolutions do not require presidential action and can pass with a simple majority, and the Senate is barred from filibustering votes on these bills. Budget resolutions are supposed to be filed by April 15, although this has been rare in recent sessions. Budget resolutions often include multiple policy proposals, usually along the lines of extending or rescinding various tax provisions, though occasionally as detailed as making changes to the Pell Grant eligibility formula. Due to their non-legislative status, these proposals are understood to be an effort by the majority to send a message about their fiscal priorities. Congressional Appropriations With the allocations determined, the funding

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process moves to the appropriations committees in each chamber. Long considered one of the most powerful and prestigious committees on which to serve, Appropriations is responsible for determining program-by-program funding levels. This is done through 12 separate appropriations bills, each generated by a specific subcommittee, covering individual federal agencies or groupings of agencies. The chairs of the appropriations subcommittees, under direction of the appropriations committee chairperson, divide the allocation among the 12 subcommittees. Armed with their allocation, the various subcommittees then divide that funding level among the programs under their authority. This process is accompanied by multiple activities. The most visible are public hearings by the subcommittees, where they invite the secretaries of the various agencies to testify on their budget requests. Simultaneously, legislators and their staff from outside the subcommittees submit requests for funding levels they would like to see, expressing their support for programs. Finally, committee staffers often meet with advocates of the programs to discuss the funding outlook. The subcommittee staff then produces an appropriations bill that is brought to the full subcommittee for a vote. While it is possible to amend a bill in subcommittee, it is not common. If it passes, the bill is then taken up by the full committee, often with several amendments to the underlying bill. This process works in identical fashion in both the House and Senate. Even when the chambers work from similar allocation levels, differences often occur between the total funding levels for the many programs in each bill. Other riders may make policy changes in order to lower the overall cost of a program, such as changes to Pell Grant eligibility made to close a projected funding shortfall. These riders may vary significantly between the chambers, adding further complication to the process of passing a unified bill. Failure to provide appropriations by that date would result in a nearly complete shutdown of federal operations. While uncommon, the government did shut down for 16 days in , and the threat of a shutdown has occurred numerous times in recent years. Over the last few years, few if any of the appropriations bills passed in regular order, even those enjoying wide bipartisan support such as the Defense and the Military Construction-Veterans Affairs bills. CRs can last for as little as a day but usually are for a number of weeks or months, and are renewed when negotiations extend beyond the new deadline. CRs also can contain policy provisions and revisions to funding levels. With so many bills and areas of possible disagreement between the House and Senate, it is not surprising that Congress has difficulty passing each appropriations bill in regular order. As the fiscal year ends, leadership in both chambers will often negotiate on passing all the bills together in one combined package, known as an omnibus bill. Regardless of the final form the appropriations bills take, the last step in enacting program funding consists of the president signing the bills. As with more traditional legislation, the president has the authority to veto appropriations bills, and Congress can then attempt to override the veto. A two-thirds vote is required in both chambers to overturn a veto. Emergency Spending and Deficit Legislation While the standard budget and appropriations process is meant to encompass all federal operations, in practice, there are a number of occasions where the Congress and the president pass legislation outside the normal order that impacts federal budgeting and spending. This course of action is most commonly seen in what is known as emergency funding. Emergency funding is essentially what it sounds like: Over the last decade, it has also become common to fund ongoing overseas military operations—most notably those in Iraq and Afghanistan—outside of the traditional defense appropriations bill through emergency appropriations. One of the appeals of this approach to lawmakers is that funding designated as emergency funding is not subject to the limits imposed by budget resolutions or committee allocations. As a result, emergency funding can mask total spending by a Congress. Other approaches to addressing federal spending have also been taken up outside of the regular process. Recent concern over federal spending has prompted several legislative efforts to address federal deficits and debts by setting limits on current and future spending levels, and creating mechanisms for enforcing these levels. The most recent example was the passage in August of the Budget Control Act BCA , which created several extra-ordinary procedures to limit federal spending and reduce the debt. Such procedures usually focus on the big-picture, capping overall spending levels while leaving the decisions as to how to meet them up to Congress. More about the BCA and its impact on higher education can

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be found here.

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Chapter 4 : Corruption by topic - Politics and government

There are usually two Federal entities that play a role in overseeing your grant: the grant management officer and the program officer. The grants management officer (GMO) is the official responsible for the business management and other non-programmatic aspects of an award.

The vision of democracy is that the federal budget "reflects" and all activities of the federal government "reflects" the values of a majority of Americans. And it is a complicated process. Many forces shape the federal budget. And while the federal budget may not currently reflect the values of a majority of Americans, the ultimate power over the U. We have a right and responsibility to choose our elected officials by voting, and to hold them accountable for representing our priorities. An Evolving Process The U. Constitution designates the "power of the purse" as a function of Congress. The Constitution does not, however, specify how Congress should exercise these powers or how the federal budget process should work. As a result, the budget process has evolved over time. Over the course of the twentieth century, Congress passed key laws that shaped the budgeting process into what it is today, and formed the federal agencies - including the Office of Management and Budget, the Government Accountability Office, and the Congressional Budget Office - that provide oversight and research crucial to creating the budget. Before the Budget Congress creates a new budget for our country every year. This annual congressional budget process is also called the appropriations process. Appropriations bills specify how much money will go to different government agencies and programs. In addition to these funding bills, Congress must pass legislation that provides the federal government the legal authority to actually spend the money. Authorizations often cover multiple years, so authorizing legislation does not need to pass Congress every year the way appropriations bills do. When a multi-year authorization expires, Congress often passes a reauthorization to continue the programs in question. Authorizations also serve another purpose. There are some types of spending that are not subject to the appropriations process. Such spending is called direct or mandatory spending, and authorizations provide the legal authority for this mandatory spending. There are five key steps in the federal budget process: The President submits a budget request to Congress The House and Senate pass budget resolutions House and Senate Appropriations subcommittees "markup" appropriations bills The House and Senate vote on appropriations bills and reconcile differences The President signs each appropriations bill and the budget becomes law Step 1: Congress then passes its own appropriations bills; only after the president signs these bills in step five does the country have a budget for the new fiscal year. It sets overall annual spending limits for federal agencies, but does not set specific spending amounts for particular programs. After the House and Senate pass their budget resolutions, some members from each come together in a joint conference to iron out differences between the two versions, and the resulting reconciled version is then voted on again by each chamber. House and Senate Subcommittees "Markup" Appropriation Bills The Appropriations Committees in both the House and the Senate are responsible for determining the precise levels of budget authority, or allowed spending, for all discretionary programs. Subcommittees cover different areas of the federal government: All subcommittee members then consider, amend, and finally vote on the bill. Once it has passed the subcommittee, the bill goes to the full Appropriations Committee. The full committee reviews it, and then sends it to the full House or Senate. After the conference committee produces a reconciled version of the bill, the House and Senate vote again, but this time on a bill that is identical in both chambers. After passing both the House and Senate, each appropriations bill goes to the president. When the president has signed all 12 appropriations bills, the budget process is complete. Rarely, however, is work finished on all 12 bills by Oct. This chart shows how all of these pieces fit together to make the annual federal budget process. When Congress does not pass a continuing resolution by October 1, it can result in a government shutdown, as in The fiscal year budget was the result of a combined omnibus and continuing resolution enacted by Congress in December of Supplemental Appropriations From time to time the government has to respond to unanticipated situations for which there is

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no funding, such as natural disasters. In these cases the government has to allocate additional resources and do so in a timely manner. This type of funding is allocated through legislation known as supplemental appropriations. Other factors that include the state of the economy, party politics, differing economic philosophies, and the impact of lobbying and campaign contributions also have a considerable impact on the federal budget process.

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Chapter 5 : CDC - Legislation, Regulations, and Policies - Policy - STLT Gateway

The government website where federal agencies post discretionary funding opportunities and grantees find and apply for them.

What else should I know? You can check out various divisions and locate names and e-mails of staff who might work in the specific areas of your interest. For information on funding support of grant applications, look on the NIDA home page under Funding And the related Requests for Applications, Program Announcements, and other guidelines. For information on funding support of contract proposals, look under Funding, then Contract Requests for Proposals. If you are in an institution of higher education, your school probably has an Office of Sponsored Programs or Office of Research Development that can assist you with developing your application. Back to Top How do I find out about different types of funding mechanisms and how do I know what kinds are appropriate for me? NIH supports many types of research and training funding mechanisms including small R03 grants, innovative R21 grants, and traditional R01 research grant application opportunities, as well as Program Project and Center P mechanisms. Again, contacting NIDA staff by email, phone or at scientific meetings will help you to learn about the types of mechanisms that best match your research or research training interests and the current priority areas for NIDA. Back to Top Are there specific opportunities for basic, applied, or clinical science researchers? NIDA supports science related to drug abuse as broadly defined, and this includes an extensive array of projects and programs involving training and research in basic, applied, and clinical research. Back to Top What kind of training or career development award might be right for me and how do I find out about them? NIDA supports several types of training and career development programs. See Research Training Opportunities for Young Investigators and Research Training and Career Development Time Table to learn about funding mechanisms and opportunities for predoctoral, postdoctoral, early career, and career transition funding opportunities. Back to Top How do I know whether my application needs to be submitted electronically or by hard copy? Where can I get application forms? Many of the common funding mechanisms R01, R21, R03 now require electronic submission, while a few others e. P mechanisms may transition later. For either paper or electronic grant application submission, all applications are now submitted in response to a Funding Opportunity Announcement FOA. Applicants may be interested in SBIR, Loan repayment, research or other funding mechanisms, and obtaining the corresponding forms and instructions is necessary. For grant application funding mechanisms that have transitioned to electronic application submission, most organizations have already registered for electronic submission. This login and password will enable you to enter the eCommons website , and your DUNS number and other information will be entered along with that of the organization to enable the upload of your application at the grants. You will also need to download the electronic form package specific to a particular funding opportunity announcement FOA and a specific funding mechanism R01, R21, R03, and others that have transitioned to electronic applications. Since forms and procedures are sometimes modified, use recently posted grant application packages, and when you download an application package, sign up to receive and be alert to updates. An important difference from research applications is that, while it may be helpful to obtain guidance from many sources, once a contracts-related FOA is issued, the NIDA Contracts Office should be your primary point of contact. Back to Top What does "extramural" mean? What does "intramural" mean? The intramural program consists of the research activities conducted by investigators that NIDA employs; it is located in Baltimore, Maryland. The extramural program consists of the research and associated activities that support scientific endeavors conducted mainly by non-federal persons. NIDA supports extramural research projects through grants, but contracts and other mechanisms are also used. There are four classes of professional staff that you are most likely to encounter in your interactions with NIDA. Their roles are complementary and interlocking, and each is typically more active at different stages of the research process. The PO is usually the primary contact during the time period in which the Principal

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Investigator plans, develops and submits the application or proposal. The SRO has primary responsibility for the review of the application. Research oversight and management, usually based on progress reports from the Principal Investigator, involve the PO and either the GM or CS officials. The SRO is the designated federal official responsible for ensuring a fair, equitable, and appropriate scientific review of grant applications or contract proposals. Using his or her knowledge of a variety of scientific areas, the SRO assesses the scientific content of an application or proposal to determine the types of expertise needed for its review. The SRO then identifies potential reviewers with the requisite skills, selects the review group from this pool of potential reviewers, assigns particular applications to participating reviewers for written comments, selects the committee chair, and arranges and manages the review meeting. As needed, he or she provides training regarding review criteria and procedures, as well as NIH policies. The SRO also ensures that applications are complete and ready for review and that certain requirements are met. He or she manages and conducts the Scientific Review Group (SRG), also known as a "study section," for grant applications or the Technical Evaluation Group for contract proposals and prepares a summary that reflects the comments and recommendations of the reviewers. Review staff also make presentations at scientific meetings and organize conferences and workshops to disseminate information about NIDA and NIH policies and procedures. From the time you submit a grant application until completion of its review, the SRO is your point of contact. For contract proposals, the Contract Specialist and Contracting Officer are the points of contact. The PO identifies areas of science in which more research is needed and communicates this information to potential grant applicants. The PO does this through writing sections of Program Announcements, Requests for Applications, and Requests for Proposals, which are documents that formally notify the field about research areas of interest to NIDA and opportunities for funding. Program staff also make presentations at scientific meetings and organize conferences and workshops to disseminate information about NIDA programs and new scientific directions. After the summary statement is made available to you at eCommons, the assigned Program Official is your point of contact. Program Officials also monitor progress with research based on annual progress reports and other interactions with grantees, and evaluate possible changes in research directions and other issues raised by grantees. In the event that an application is not funded and a decision is made to resubmit, Program Officials work with applicants, providing both scientific and technical assistance as needed. Back to Top

What is the role of Grants Management? The GMO signs the grant award and is the NIH official responsible for the business management and other non-programmatic aspects of the award. These activities include, but are not limited to, evaluating applications for administrative content and compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and guidelines; negotiating grants; and providing consultation and assistance to applicants and grantees including interpretation of grants administration policies and provisions and administering and closing out grants. The GMO is the focal point for receiving and acting on changes in the terms and conditions of award and is the only NIH official authorized to obligate NIH to the expenditure of funds or to change the funding, duration, or other terms and conditions of a grant award. The GMS is responsible for the day-to-day management of a portfolio of grants. Grants management personnel work closely with counterparts in other NIH institutes and as a team with program and review staff. They also work with investigators and their business organizations to ensure appropriate financial management of the grant. The Grants Management Specialist should be contacted when there are questions about fiscal requirements of a grant. The Contracting Officer receives and acts on contract proposals, and the Contract Specialist is assigned day-to-day management responsibilities. Applications for grant support may cite a PA, but this is not necessary. A Request for Applications (RFA) indicates a specific interest in receipt of applications and solicits applications, and funds are set aside for applications reviewed in response to that announcement. A receipt date is specified, and the applications submitted in response to the RFA are reviewed and considered together as a group competing for funds. The application must cite the RFA to be considered with that group. Back to Top

What is the difference between a solicited and an unsolicited or investigator-initiated grant application? All applications to NIH must now identify a specific funding opportunity announcement. Back to Top

How much

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money should I request? Budget limits and guidelines for preparation are provided with each funding opportunity announcement, and these differ significantly for each funding mechanism; generally R03, K and R21 budgets are lower than R01, T or P mechanism budgets. Your application should request only what is necessary to conduct the research that you propose. Your budget should be consistent with the project. Back to Top Whom should I contact if I need help completing the application or proposal? See "How do I start to apply for support? The SRO can explain review processes, review procedures, review-related policies, and review group expertise. For contract proposals, contact only the Contracting Officer or Contract Specialist listed in the Request for Proposals or Presolicitation Announcement. Back to Top Where do I submit my application? For new, revised, and competing renewal grant applications, follow the instructions in the PHS or other application kit. Electronic applications will be uploaded by the submitting organization to the grants. Competing applications are not considered submitted unless they are sent to, and received by, the Center for Scientific Review. Applications for non-competing supplements should not be submitted without prior discussion with your Program Official, who will give you instructions on submission procedures. For contract proposals, submit only to the Contracting Officer or Contract Specialist at the address specified in the Request for Proposals. More information on CSR can be found at: Back to Top What happens after submission? For grant applications, there is a two-step referral process. First, the Center for Scientific Review assigns the application to no more than one Scientific Review Group for review purposes, and, second, it assigns the application to at least one NIH institute for potential funding. Applications are assigned to more than one institute when the institutes have shared or overlapping interests in the science of the applications. In performing these referrals, the Center for Scientific Review logs in the application, checks the history of the application, and makes assignments to review groups and Institutes on the basis of established referral guidelines. For paper applications, the CSR also makes copies that are distributed to review group administrators, grants management staff, program staff, and others. From the NIH eCommons system you will receive an email from CSR days after submission, and this email will tell you the institute assignment and the name and contact information for the NIH official i. In order to achieve more consistent and uniform reviews for the 27 NIH Institutes and Centers that may address overlapping areas of science, the majority of applications are reviewed by CSR. NIDA retains review responsibilities for several specialty areas. Career, training, and center grant applications are reviewed by groups convened by OEA. Contract proposals are similarly processed to ensure appropriate review. Although CSR uses established guidelines to refer applications to Institutes, applicant input is welcome. It is best to include this request in a cover letter submitted with the application. In electronic applications this cover letter is not seen by reviewers. Back to Top May I choose where I want my application to be reviewed? You are encouraged to suggest the review group that has responsibility for reviewing the type of science contained in your application and to identify that group in a cover letter submitted with the application. The referrals are made on the basis of established guidelines, and CSR will take your suggestion into account in making the referral to a review group. If one of the NIDA review groups seems appropriate, indicate that in a cover letter. If you cannot identify a review group, referral officers will assign your application to the most appropriate one. If your application happens to be assigned to the review committee with scientists whom you know well not an unusual occurrence in specialty fields , they may be in conflict with your application based on close personal, professional or institutional associations, and the SRO will recuse them during the evaluation of your application if the association is considered to be a conflict of interest.

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Chapter 6 : A Brief Guide to the Federal Budget and Appropriations Process

The problem of money in politics is so universally recognized that even Donald Trump, the ultimate capitalist, and Bernie Sanders, a self-described Democratic socialist, agree on it.

Audio Transcript For many organizations, approaching and working with a Federal agency may seem overwhelming. When an award is made, a Federal program officer and a grants management officer will be assigned to oversee your project as it is implemented. Your program officer and grants management officer are your best resources for navigating unfamiliar territory as you implement your funded project. They are available to provide assistance for everything from setting up a new program to addressing closeout issues once a funded project has concluded. Project performance will be evaluated based on your progress regarding stated goals and objectives and fiscal performance. You will be required to provide project performance information at regular reporting intervals as specified in your grant or cooperative agreement. Tracking project activities, outputs, and timelines is critical to meeting your project goals and objectives. Your roles and responsibilities revolve around the details of your project. As a grant recipient or potential grant recipient, your responsibilities are to successfully complete your approved project within the agreed-upon budget and time frame. In order to accomplish your project goals and ensure compliance, you should: Develop and implement work plans that will ensure that the services and activities included in the approved application are achieved in an efficient, effective, and timely manner. Submit plans and procedures for the issuance of subawards for Federal approval according to the specified timeline and prior to the issuance of any such subawards if subaward plans and programs are part of grant requirements. Ensure that key project staff members attend and participate in Federal funding agency-sponsored workshops and meetings. Develop a reporting system and submit the completed required performance and financial reports on time, as required by your cooperative agreement. Work collaboratively with agency officials and other intermediary organizations. It is important to develop a good working relationship with Federal program officers and grant management officers who have oversight responsibility for your funded project. Open, clear, and consistent communication with your program officer and grants management officer will enhance your ability to effectively implement your program in compliance with the terms of your cooperative agreement. There are two Federal officers that oversee your grant. There are usually two Federal entities that play a role in overseeing your grant: The grants management officer GMO is the official responsible for the business management and other non-programmatic aspects of an award. These activities include, but are not limited to: Evaluating grant applications for administrative content and compliance with statutes, regulations, and guidelines Negotiating awards Providing consultation and technical assistance to applicants and recipients, including interpretation of grants administration policies and provisions Administering and closing out grants The GMO, or an assigned grants management specialist working on behalf of the GMO, is usually responsible for receiving and acting on requests for prior approval or for changes in the terms and conditions of the award. The GMO is the only official authorized to obligate the agency to the expenditure of Federal funds or to change the funding, duration, or other terms and conditions of an award. They have the following responsibilities related to the grant: Test your knowledge of the roles of the individuals who manage a grant. You need Adobe Flash Player to view some content on this site. Federal agency monitoring includes on-site review, audits, and reporting. In addition to review of reports and telephone contact, Federal awarding agencies may conduct site visits to your project. Program officers and grants management officers will contact project staff with questions and concerns that may arise. Site visits allow Federal staff to observe the project underway and conduct any necessary on-site review of records. Reporting As a grant recipient, you are responsible for managing and monitoring each project, program, subaward, function, or activity supported by the award. Recipients are generally required to submit the original and two copies of performance reports. Refer to your award package for details on format requirements for performance reports. Many programs are now implementing standard

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Performance Progress Report forms, and some programs are working with OMB to customize those forms in order to collect relevant performance data. When required, performance reports generally contain brief information regarding each award, including: A comparison of actual accomplishments with the goals and objectives established for the period, the findings of the investigator, or both as appropriate, and whenever the output of programs or projects can be readily quantified, such quantitative data should be related to cost data for computation of unit costs. Reasons why established goals were not met if appropriate Other pertinent information including, when appropriate, updates on expenditures and analysis or explanation of cost overruns, under-spending, or high unit costs Performance Reporting Frequency The Federal awarding agency determines the frequency with which the performance reports are to be submitted in the award package. Quarterly or semiannual reports are due thirty days after the reporting period. Final performance reports are due ninety calendar days after the expiration or termination of the award. The notice of award or the program announcement will provide details about progress reporting requirements for your grant program. Awarding agencies require evaluation because it ensures compliance and progress. The evaluation section of your application for funding may have described the amount of time needed to evaluate, how the feedback will be distributed among the proposed staff, and a schedule for review and comment for this type of communication. To be successful, most evaluations require the collection of appropriate data before, during, and after program operations. Systems for such data collection generally must be developed prior to the start of the funded project. However, your organization must absorb the costs for setting up data collection systems prior to the start of the award because the official use of Federal funds begins at the award start date. Evaluation requires both coordination and agreement among program decision makers. If you have questions or concerns after the grant award has been made, your assigned program officer and grants management officer can provide specific information about evaluation requirements. Generally, the "Criteria for Selecting Application for Funding" section of a program announcement provides a detailed description of the exact evaluation methods required for funded programs.

Chapter 7 : 1 - Understanding Roles and Achieving Objectives - Managing Public Grants

The federal government awards hundreds of billions of dollars in grants to state and local governments each year, according to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Chapter 8 : Grants Management / calendrierdelascience.com

The Arizona Office of Grants and Federal Resources (GFR) developed two versions of a Grant Pursuance Matrix as examples of decision matrixes that may assist State agencies in determining whether to pursue a grant opportunity or not.

Chapter 9 : Grant and Contract Process | Work With USAID | U.S. Agency for International Development

Comprehensive grants management policies that are applicable to all Executive Branch agencies, boards, commissions, councils, authorities and task forces, as well as forms for use throughout the grants process.