# **Grant Writing**

Partnerships in NRM PROSPECT Course



US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG®











#### **Grant Authorities**

- Authority Water Resources Development Act of 1992: 33 USC 2325 and 33 USC 2328
- ER/EP 1130-2-500, Ch. 11 The Contribution Program provides the means and processes on how to accept donations plus administer any funds the Corps might receive directly or indirectly from a grant. A Contribution Plan has to exist prior to accepting funding and needs to be consistent with the contents of the Operation Management Plan (OMP).

\*\*Grants are considered to be Contributions, not an augmentation of appropriated funds.



#### Who Gives Grants?

Federal, State, Local Governments



- Foundations
  - Typical
  - > Family
  - Community
  - Commercial
  - Congressionally chartered











#### Who Gives Grants?

#### **Corporations**

- Corporate Foundations vs. Contributions Office
  - > Timing
  - Contacts local/national
  - > Grants vs. Sponsorships
    - > Free stuff, consulting
    - > Event sponsorship, logos on media



#### Who Gives Grants?

#### **Individual Grants**

- Research who, why, past grants, etc
  - Online: Foundation Center, Google
  - ➤ Local: Community foundations, Lions, Rotary, etc.
  - Directories
  - Building contacts



#### Grants

- Few Federal grants directly available to the Corps
  - ➤ MAP-21 Transportation funds
  - US Forest Service pest Suppression program grants
  - Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership
- Some State grants are directly available to Corps, but often require matching funds up front. (State boating and waterway grants)
- Many more grants available to friends groups/cooperating associations
- Corps Foundation provided state and national lists of potential grants and is available to help with seeking grants



Grantmaker Name	Contact	Street Address 1	City	State	ZIP Code	Telephone	Fax	
3M Foundation	Cynthia F. Kleven, Secy.	3M Ctr., Bldg., 225-01-S-23	St. Paul	MN	55144-1000	(651) 733-0144	(651) 73	
Alcoa Foundation		Alcoa Corporate Ctr.	Pittsburgh	PA	15212-5858	(412) 553-2348		
Allstate Foundation, The	Jan Epstein, Exec. Dir.	2775 Sanders Rd., Ste. F4	Northbrook	IL	60062-6127	(847) 402-5502	(847) 32	
American Conservation								
Association, Inc.	Carmen Reyes, Treas.	6 W. 48th St., 10th Fl.	New York	NY	10036-1802			
American Express								
Foundation		World Financial Ctr.	New York	NY	10285-4804			
American Honda Foundation		1919 Torrance Blvd., M.S. 100-1W-5A	Torrance	CA	90501-2746	(310) 781-4090	(310) 78	
	Eduardo Cetlin, Sr. Mgr., Corp.							
Amgen Foundation, Inc.	Contribs	1 Amgen Center Dr., M.S. 28-1-B	Thousand Oaks	CA	91320-1799	(805) 447-4056	(805) 37	
Andersen Foundation, Fred	Mary Gillstrom, V.P., Secy. and							
C. and Katherine B.	Dir.	P.O. Box 80	Bayport	MN	55003			
Annenberg Foundation	Leonard Aube, Exec. Dir.	2000 Ave. of the Stars, Ste. 1000	Los Angeles	CA	90067-4704	(310) 209-4560	(310) 20	
Bank of America Charitable								
Foundation, Inc., The		401 N. Tryon St., NC1-021-02-20	Charlotte	NC	28255-0001	(800) 218-9946		
	Reymundo Ocanas, V.P. and							
BBVA Compass Foundation	Exec. Dir.	P.O. Box 10566, M.C. AL/BI/CH/ACT	Birmingham	AL	35296-0002	(205) 297-3464		
	Amy M. Meadows, V.P., Secy.,							
Belo Foundation, The	and Exec. Dir.	400 South Record St.	Dallas	TX	75202-4841	(214) 977-6661	(214) 97	
Ben & Jerry's Foundation,								
Inc.	Lisa Pendolino, Managing Dir.	30 Community Dr.	South Burlington	VT	05403-6828	(802) 846-1500		
Bingham Foundation,	Laura H. Gilbertson, Chief							
William, The	Admin.	1111 Superior Ave., Ste. 700	Cleveland	ОН	44114-2540	(216) 344-5200		
Blue Moon Fund, Inc.		222 W. South St.	Charlottesville	VA	22902	(434) 295-5160	(434) 29	
	Deanna Dugas, Mgr., BNSF							
BNSF Railway Foundation	Railway Fdn.	2650 Lou Menk Dr.	Fort Worth	TX	76131-2830	(817) 867-6458	(817) 35	
Caesars Foundation	Judi Brown, Admin.	1 Caesars Palace Dr.	Las Vegas	NV		(702) 880-4728		
	Dianne Radigan, Dir.,					, ,	, ,	
Cardinal Health Foundation		7000 Cardinal DI	Dublin	ОΠ	12017 1001	16111 757 7101		



## Grants Received by the Corps

- LRN: Nolin River Lake-National Water Safety Congress grant winner
- MVK: Lake Ouachita and DeGray Lake - \$10,000 grant from ALCOA to control hydrilla via Pakistani fly propagation





 MVS: Riverlands Project -\$100,000 grant from Missouri Department of Natural Resources Recreational Trails Program to improve an existing trail

## Grants Received by the Corps



- LRH: Paint Creek Lake- \$6,000 Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Watercraft Cooperative Boating Facility Grant to construct river access points
- NAB: Raystown Lake- \$854,450
   Transit in Parks grant for non-motorized transportation pathway
- SPN: Lake Sonoma- \$78,000 for an Interpretive and Education Master Plan; \$182,000 grant for Stream Restoration Demo Project; \$52,000 grant for trout interpretive murals

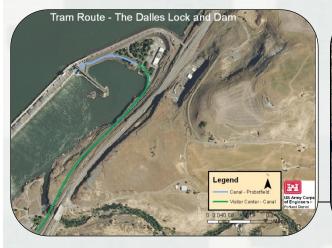
# Grants Received by the Corps

NWD: The Dalles-\$340,000 Transit in Parks grant for non-motorized

transportation pathway











#### Case Study: Lake Sonoma

- Visitor Center Manager wanted better interpretation for school groups
- USACE applied for Handshake funds, Friends of Lake Sonoma provided funds, Resource Conservation District acted as fiscal agent and PM
- RCD found California Rivers Pathway grant, CA Fish & Game offered in-kind services for habitat design and construction
- USACE created leverage by providing project and Handshake funds plus staff time, equipment/materials
- USACE helped write grant, wrote letters of support, completed permitting through Categorical Exclusion, provided on-site support



#### **Grant Tips**

- Make sure the Corps or your partner applying for the grant meet the eligibility requirements.
- Research your grantors- know what types of grants they have awarded in the past, typical amounts, what they are interested in.
- Start small to get a track record before you try for a big grant.
- Multiple partners strengthen your chance of funding
- Funders prefer to get applications <u>before</u> the deadline.
- If rejected, it is ok to call and ask for feedback to improve future submittals.
- Its similar to applying for a job.



## Writing a Strong Proposal

- Clear purpose statement
- Relevance/benefits to grantor
- Letters of Inquiry
- Strict conformance to grant requirements, format
- Avoid jargon/acronymns
- Schedule
- Budget: present entire picture
- Coordination
- Be truthful! Grantor visits are common.



## Common Elements of a Proposal

- Introduction brief reiteration
- Partners Who will accomplish what, and why chosen
- Problem Statement Why act?
  - Flows from your mission
  - Meeting a need
  - Solving a problem
- Purpose of the Request Goals/Outcomes that focus on the solution
- Work Plan/Timeline Give the reason why you chose the steps and the numbers you will serve
- Organizational Capacity Who will do the work and why qualified



## Common Elements of a Proposal

- Evaluation Product and process
- Sustainability Who will maintain the program? Can it generate fees?
- Proposal Summary This may be the 1<sup>st</sup> (or only) thing read! Include essential info
- Cover Letter One page from lead partner or applicant that tells how much and over what period of time
- Program Budget Full cost of program, direct/indirect costs, in-kind
- Grant Budget What the grant covers (specific costs)



## Common Elements of a Proposal

- Coverage Research grantor's rules for overhead. Include indirect costs
- Leverage Agency and partner support, volunteer support, other grant applications
- Required Attachments Follow the grantor's list EXACTLY
- Desired Attachments Support from partners, endorsements, materials from related efforts



## Follow Through

- Keep the funder informed of progress and completion!
- Document results
- Grant reporting requirements Meet the deadlines!
- Photos
- Publicity
- Thank You letters with photos Keep in touch with interesting materials
- Coordination with partners

\*\*New request success breeds more success!



#### **Timeline**

- Idea! You develop a concept of a project for which you would like the grant.
- 2. Scope it: What is the rough scope, scale, budget, resources available and needed.
- 3. Vet it Is it legal? Compatible with Corps and project mission. Does it have management support/partners support?
- 4. Plan it. Start a detailed scope, schedule, budget.
- 5. Find partners.

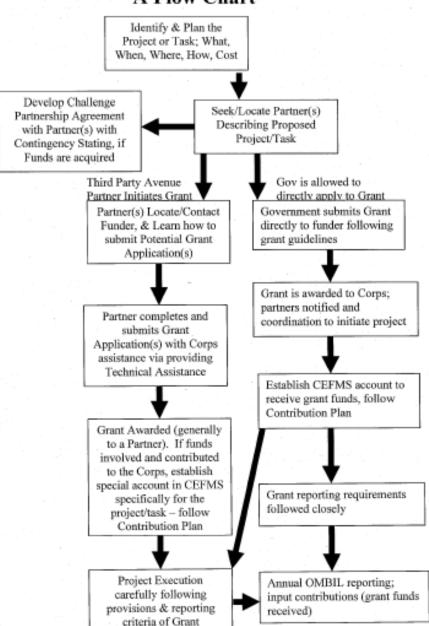


## **Timeline**

- 6. Find potential funders.
- 7. Write grant applications.
- 8. Follow through.
- 9. Thank you.
- 10. More!



## Grants Application & Execution Process A Flow Chart





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#### Natural Resources Management Gateway

Home	Visit	ors	Lal	ke Discov	ery	Recre	ation	F	Env Com	pliance	e (E	nv S	Stewards	nip	Partners	5
News/E	vents	Peo	ple	Forums	Le	arning	GETS	1	Tools	New P	ostin	gs	Submit	Ir	ndex/Searc	h

#### **Grants/Alternative Funding Sources**

Grants can be obtained from public and non-public sources consistent with the purpose of the granting entity. Cooperative associations and friends groups may apply for grants and apply the grant moneys to work activities on Corps lands. The Corps does not usually apply for grants with other Federal agencies unless the legal authority specifically addresses grants between Federal agencies. The Corps can apply for State, local, and private grants if such action does not involve lobbying Congress, the funds will be used for an authorized mission, and the acceptance is consistent with appropriation law. In practical terms, it is much easier for the partner to apply for the grant and accept the funds, so this is the preferred method. Corps employees may help partners write grant proposals, and may conduct training sessions on grant writing.

A third party entity could include a Friends Group, Cooperating Association, Non-Profit, Foundation or local governments. While the third party would usually initiate the grant application, the Corps would maintain oversight of the Project. See the Grants Application & Execution Process flow chart from NWP for a good example of the granting process.

The Corps Contribution Program provides the means and processes on how to accept donations plus administer any funds the Corps might receive directly or indirectly from a grant. A Contribution Plan has to exist prior to accepting funding and needs to be consistent with the contents of the Operation Management Plan (OMP).

#### Helpful Steps to Apply for Grants with a Third Party

- Identify and plan the project and ensure it is included in the OMP and Contributions Plan. Ensure the project is ready to go including a funding concept with any needed permits, environmental reviews, clearances and cost.
- 2. Seek a partnership with a non-profit or local government. Explain that the Corps would like to complete a project, but requires assistance that may include fundraising efforts such as seeking grants. Corps staff may be asked by the partner to help locate a potential grant. Corps participation is encouraged, but the non-profit entity would submit the application and be the proponent.
- 3. Identify potential grant sources: The non-profit may be willing to help or have knowledge of specific grants, but Corps staff could assist with identifying possible sources.
- 4. Completing the grant application: Most grant application packages have specific guidance which should be followed precisely. If application guidance is more loosely worded, it is advisable for the applicant to call the Grantor and ask for any information and submission advice they may be willing to share.
  - Grants and Funding Available to the Corps
  - Related Sites/Links
  - FAQs

- News and Current Issues
- Success Stories
- Water Safety Grants



## **Recap Questions**

TRUE or FALSE

Grants are considered an augmentation of funds.

**FALSE** 



## Recap Questions

Grants that the Corps can directly apply for include:

- Federal Highway Administration MAP-21 funds
- US Forest Service Pest Suppression Program
- Reservoirs Fisheries Habitat Partnership

