



Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov>)

Grants.gov has been designed to make it easier for organizations to find and apply for more than \$400 billion in Federal grants. With electronic access to more than 1,000 grant programs offered by all Federal grant-making agencies, Grants.gov leverages the power of the Web to streamline your grant finding process.

To search for opportunities online and in real time, simply click **Search Opportunities** in the Find Grant Opportunities submenu. This will take you to the Search Opportunities page. Once on the Search Opportunities page, you may conduct a basic search, browse grant opportunities by category, browse by agency or conduct an advanced search. To conduct a basic search, simply click on Find Grant Opportunities in the left side navigation on any Grants.gov page. Then, select Search Opportunities from the submenu, and click on Basic Search. The Basic Search page will appear.

The **Basic Search** page allows you to conduct searches in the following manner:

- **Keyword Search**- narrows a search by a programs' research areas. Each program is categorized by keywords. **THE MOST IMPORTANT FIELD.**
- **Funding Opportunity Number**- narrows a search to a specific funding opportunity by using the funding number for a specific grant
 - If you are not sure of the funding opportunity number:
 - Use an * asterisk to replace one or more of the characters
 - Use a ? question mark to replace only one character
- **CFDA Number**- narrows a search by the offering agency's Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number
 - If you are not sure of the CFDA number:
 - Use an * asterisk to replace one or more of the characters
 - Use a ? question mark to replace only one character

The **Advanced Search** page allows you to conduct searches in the following manner:

- **Keyword Search**- narrows a search by a programs' research areas. Each program is categorized by keywords. **THE MOST IMPORTANT FIELD.**
- **Search In**- allows you to specify open opportunities, closed opportunities, and archived opportunities.
- **Funding Opportunity Number**- narrows a search to a specific funding opportunity by using the funding number for a specific grant
- **Dates to Search**- narrows a search to how recently the funding opportunity was posted

- **CFDA Number-** narrows a search by the offering agency's Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number
 - If you are not sure of the CFDA number:
 - Use an * asterisk to replace one or more of the characters
 - Use a ? question mark to replace only one character
- **Funding Activity Category-** narrows a search by the subject that the research is being done in
- **Funding Instrument Type-** narrows the search by the source of the funding (i.e. grant, procurement contract, etc.)
- **Eligibility-** narrows the search by the type of institution the funding is available for
- **Agency-** narrows the search by the Government Agency that is providing the funding
- **Sub-Agency-** narrows the search by minor Government Agencies to a more specific office

Additional Grant Searching tips for Grants.gov to help improve your results in Advanced Search:

- Select multiple items when searching by Funding Activity Category, Funding Instrument Type, Agency and Office by holding down the CONTROL or SHIFT key while clicking on the items you want.
- Expanding your search by Keyword, Funding Opportunity, or CFDA Number with a wildcard:
 - **Asterisks** can be used to replace one or more characters at the end of the term. This is useful for finding pages with words that have multiple endings. For example, if you typed 'National*' into the search field, the results would list all grant opportunities that include the word National.
 - **Question marks** provide more search flexibility and can be used to replace any single character, except the first letter of a word. For example, typing 'bl?ck' would net you results with words such as black and block.
- Narrow your search by using **Boolean operators** to include or exclude words from your search:
 - **OR** (space is also considered as OR). Finds all relevant opportunities that match each word in your search. For example, 'Housing OR Farming,' would result in matches that contain the word Housing or the word Farming within the listing.
 - **AND** (+ is also considered as AND). Finds all relevant opportunities that match all the words in your search. For example, 'Housing AND Farming,' would result in matches that contain the word Housing and the word Farming within the listing.
 - **NOT** (- is also considered as NOT). Finds all relevant opportunities that contain one word but not another. For example, 'Housing NOT Farming,' would result in matches that contain the word Housing but not the word Farming within the listing.

 **REMEMBER- ALL THE BOOLEAN OPERATORS MUST BE CAPITALIZED TO BE RECOGNIZED!**