Grant-funded Program Showcases That Success Breeds Success

The Southeast Region Small Business Transportation Resource Center (SE SBTRC) has had so much success in managing its programming that it continually receives federal support to implement additional initiatives. In fact, the center has received $205,112 this year thus far. Funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), the center provides technical assistance and financial training to enable businesses, particularly minority- and woman-owned business, to better compete for, obtain, and manage contracts from the U.S. Department of Transportation.

This month alone, the SE SBTRC was granted an additional $25,000 for its Bonding Education Program (BEP). The BEP is a hands-on, multi-component program designed to address what businesses need to do to become bond-ready and includes one-on-one sessions with local surety bonding professionals to help in assembling the materials necessary for a complete bond application. The center also received federal funds to host the Semi-Annual Small Business Transportation Resource Center staff training for transportation-related small and disadvantaged businesses in Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

SE SBTRC is managed through the School of Business and housed at the North Campus.

Grants Support Entrepreneurship and Student Completion

The Kendall Campus will host a local entrepreneurship summit, funded through the National Association of Community College Entrepreneurship, to highlight best practices in entrepreneurial education and methods of integrating entrepreneurship across disciplines.

Through a grant from the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, the Homestead Campus will implement educational modules developed by the funder and participate in data collection on student persistence and completion. The goal of the program is to help students improve their knowledge, attitudes, and intent regarding preventing unplanned pregnancy and to gauge the impact of what they have learned on their continuing college enrollment and college completion.

How should I respond to a funder asking for information about my grant?

Before you respond to any inquiry, you should contact Resource Development or the Restricted Accounts Management department. We can help “decode” what the funder wants and help to draft a response. The same information can be presented in many ways. Some ways may have a negative impact on your project or the College.
Most funding agencies recognize that project success requires flexibility. This includes asking for no-cost extensions. A no-cost extension extends the duration of the funding period without adding cost for the funder. Before deciding that a no-cost extension is needed, speak to your campus or district administration to get their input. Project directors should be able to complete the project scope and objectives within the time allotted by the grant. No-cost extensions should only be requested if the end of the project period is approaching and additional time is needed to complete the original approved project scope and objectives, and there are sufficient funds remaining to cover the extended effort.

Requests for no-cost extensions are not always granted and sometimes they are not even desirable. For example, an extension may not be granted solely because there is money left over or because extra time is necessary due to delay caused by the grantee. Programmatic benefit must be justified. No-cost extensions convey the impression that the recipient is incapable of fulfilling the terms of the original grant agreement and may have a detrimental effect on future funding. Extending the timeframe for some grants, particularly multi-year grants, can cause the applicant to be deemed ineligible for the subsequent funding round. So, extending a five-year grant for six months, may mean that the applicant is not eligible to reapply in the next funding cycle and will lose the opportunity to receive an additional five years of funding.

No-cost extensions are a last resort to be used only if the project objectives cannot be met, or if significant progress cannot be documented. If a no-cost extension is deemed necessary after consulting with campus or district administration, contact the Grant Compliance Officer and the Restricted Accounts Management department for assistance. Project directors should always have a contingency plan in the event that the request is not approved.

**Resource Development Trainings for January and February 2014**

January and February training topics will include the MDC proposal development process and grant regulations. Please see the chart below for more details on the dates and locations of the grant trainings. For more information about the workshop series, contact Monica N. Rodriguez at 305-237-3268, or email mrodri41@mdc.edu.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Reference Number</th>
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<tr>
<td>Grant Regulations</td>
<td>January 21, 2014</td>
<td>2:00 pm - 4:00 pm</td>
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<td>MDC Proposal Development Process</td>
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<td>MDC Proposal Development Process</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant Regulations</td>
<td>February 4, 2014</td>
<td>2:00 pm - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Kendall</td>
<td>R402</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Debunk the Myths: Grant Application Video Series

As part of an ongoing video series on common grant myths, the Health Resources and Services Administration presents Myth 6: “Once a grant proposal is approved, the process is over; it does not come with terms and conditions/ responsibilities”.

Synopsis: In fact, getting the grant proposal approved is only the beginning. Most grants require organizations to submit carefully-prepared, detailed progress reports on the programs that were funded. An awardee’s job is to meet the goals of the application and show that the project is sustainable after the end of the funding. An organization is charged with managing a promise—to use the money according to the plan presented in the approved application. In many instances, single- or program-specific independent audits are required. Awardees are responsible for following reporting procedures to demonstrate programmatic progress. Awardees that do not meet the terms and conditions of their award can lose money and possibly future awards. Site visits may also be required to evaluate the organization’s progress. Finally, the organization may be required to provide evidence that the program that was funded had a positive, measurable impact on the target population. Failure to demonstrate progress may result in discontinuation of the award.

A link to the video can be found below:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V8eRwONYFxg&feature=youtu.be

Opportunity Knocks

Resource Development is dedicated to seeking out grant opportunities for the MDC community. Please click on the links below or contact Resource Development to find out more information about the following funding opportunities:

- **Dollar General Literacy Foundation, Adult Literacy Grants**: This program supports adult basic education, English language acquisition, and GED/high school-equivalent exam preparation programming. Proposals are due February 27, 2014. http://www2.dollargeneral.com/dgliteracy/Pages/grant_programs.aspx

If you are interested in pursuing any of these funding opportunities, please notify Patti Bartels (pbartels@mdc.edu) no later than January 24, 2014.

Show Us the Money is a publication of the Miami Dade College Department of Resource Development.

The mission of the Department is to capitalize on grant-related opportunities by providing direct services and technical support to the District and Campuses.

For further information, please contact Patti Bartels, Director, Resource Development, 305-237-3910 or
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Teresa Gonzalez, Grants Compliance Officer, 305-237-7040