



Grant Guidance

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“The skill of writing is to create a context in which other people can think.”

—Edwin
Schlossberg

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Join Us for Grantseeking Workshops!

As part of the Care Foundation’s Capacity-Building programming, we are delivering several upcoming workshops on grantseeking for beginning and experienced grantwriters. Come have fun learning about grantseeking and improving your skills! A complete listing of workshops can be found on the [Care Foundation’s website](#). Please e-mail melanie@tfkgrants.com to express interest in any sessions offered by Thomas-Forbes & Kester. We hope to see you there!

Study Shows Impact of Nonprofit Sector on Arkansas Economy

Commissioned by the Arkansas Coalition for Excellence and UALR’s Center for Nonprofit Organizations, “**The Benefit of Doing Good: The Structure, Contribution, and Impact of Arkansas Nonprofits on the State’s Economy**” was published this year—the first study of its kind in Arkansas.

The study found that the nonprofit sector provided nearly 190,000 jobs for Arkansans and brought in \$109 million in out-of-state grant funding to Arkansas in 2005-2008. Over the same time period, Arkansas nonprofits provided \$8.3 billion in goods and services, making it the state’s unofficial “5th anchor industry.”

The Arkansas Coalition for Excellence and Arkansas nonprofit professionals hope the report will serve as a springboard for additional data collection, illuminate the many benefits the nonprofit sector provides to the state, and make Arkansas federal grant proposals more competitive.

The [full report](#) can be found at ualr.edu and acenonprofit.org.

Tips for On-Line Applications

by Cheryl L. Kester, CFRE



Don't give in to the temptation of treating an on-line application as less formal or requiring less attention to detail than a written proposal.

On-line applications vary in complexity and content. Just as with written proposals, you should read and follow the guidelines carefully. Here are some tips to make your on-line grantseeking a little easier.

Get the entire application before starting, even if you must enter some placeholder text into some fields to do so. This will help you better craft your answers to each question, and will tell you all the information that you will need so that you do not have to stop in the middle of the application and risk losing your work.

Compose the narrative parts of your application in a word processor and then paste into the on-line field after you are finished. This will make it easier for you to edit, count the words or characters, and spell check, and it will ensure that you do not lose any of your work in the process.



Quick Tips

- *Get the whole application before starting*
- *Work off-line, not "live"*
- *Use word count*
- *Print everything*
- *Register & submit early to Grants.gov*
- *Pay attention after you click "submit"*

Run a word count in your word processor to ensure you meet any word count limits. Set your word processor to count "characters with spaces."

Print every form before you submit it to retain a copy of your application. Do not depend on being given the chance to print after submitting.

If you are applying through Grants.gov, your organization must register with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR). Register early and do not wait until the process is complete to begin working on your proposal. Once you are registered, submit your application to Grants.gov early to allow time to re-submit in case of technical problems.

Finally, after submitting on-line, be sure to follow the guidance for any additional materials that the funder requests via US Mail or fax.

(This article is condensed from an article by the same title published by *Grants & Foundation Review* at CharityChannel.com, March 28, 2007)

Quick Guide to Foundation Center online

If you want to improve your research and grant writing abilities but don't have the budget to purchase subscriptions or attend conferences, the [Foundation Center online](#) offers some valuable resources to help you find funders and write effective proposals. Visit the Foundation Center's website to find these and other helpful resources.

Proposal Writing Shortcourse

This free online course takes you through every step of proposal writing, outlining in detail the contents of each section.

Foundation Finder

In this free database, you can search by funder name or location to find foundations' contact information, address, financial data, and 990 forms with previous gifts lists.

Frequently Asked Questions

This FAQ section answers questions about foundation, proposal writing, and general grantseeking.

Reference Guides

This listing includes websites and print materials available to proposal writers.

Grants Questions Answered

Q. How can I determine if a funder is a "good fit" for my organization?

A. With limited time to devote to grantseeking, you should apply only to funders who are your "best fit"—those most likely to give to you. Look for funders whose interests align with your mission, who give in your geographic area, and who fund the type of project or support you seek. Check Foundations' 990 tax returns (on guidestar.org) for previously supported projects or organizations that are similar to yours.

Funders do not give to your organization—they give to the people you serve. So carefully consider how your project contributes to the kind of change the funder is aiming to make in the world, and make this connection clear to the funders you apply to.



Have a question?
Send it to Melanie
to include in next
month's newsletter!

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We are members of and follow the
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Thomas-Forbes & Kester, LLC is committed to serving non-profits through grant writing, training, strategic planning and program design and evaluation. The principles and associates have been employed by non-profit organizations, been volunteers and served on non-profit boards. We know you and are committed to your mission.

Please visit our website for more information: www.tfkgrants.com.

You may request to be removed from our newsletter mailing list at any time by sending an email to melanie@tfkgrants.com.

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

Wal-Mart Foundation State Giving Program

702 SW 8th Street, Dept. 8687, #0555
Bentonville, AR 72716
Tel: (479) 204-0018
Deadline: September 18
Grant Range: \$25,000 minimum (no maximum)
Giving in all states for education, workforce development/economic opportunity, health & wellness, and environmental sustainability
For details and to apply, visit [Wal-Mart State Giving Program](#) online.

Glass Family Foundation

17 Glenbrook
Bentonville, AR 72712
Tel: (479) 273-4316
Deadline: None
Grant Range: \$25,000—\$500,000
Giving in AR, MO, and TX for Christian agencies & churches, education, and human services
To apply, send an inquiry to the address above.

The Kerr Foundation, Inc.

12501 North May Avenue
Oklahoma City, OK 73120
Tel: (405) 749-7991
Deadline: January 15, 2010
Grant Range: \$1,000—\$150,000 (most <\$10K)
Giving challenge grants in OK, TX, NM, CO, KS, MO, and AR for education, health, human services, arts & culture, and public admin.
To apply, fill out the application form on the [Kerr Foundation website](#).

The Sunderland Foundation

P.O. Box 25900
Overland Park, Kansas 66225
Tel: (913) 319-6194
Deadline: None
Grant Range: \$5,000—\$550,000
Giving for capital projects in MO, KS, NE, AR, IA, ID, OR, WA, UT, and MT for higher education, youth services, arts & culture, and health care & hospitals
To apply, see [application guidelines](#) on the [Sunderland Foundation website](#).