

Grants for Women/Minorities  
Intercity Bus Security Grant  
(IBSGP)  
5311(f) Grant  
Grant Writing Process  
Tips - Response to RFP's

What is a grant?

“a sum of money given by a government or other organization for a particular purpose”

# All Different Kinds of Grants

Funded in Different Ways

- Grants represent a viable form of free funding for select, exceptionally talented women business owners. If you can present an especially impressive application, essay, business plan, and in some cases an in-person pitch, you might come away with some free cash to help bring your entrepreneurial dreams to fruition.

# Small Business Grants for Women and Minorities/Private Co.

- [The Eileen Fisher Women-Owned Business Grant Program](#)
- This well-known women's business grant awards up to 10 recipients each year with a minimum grant of \$10,000 each.
- There are several eligibility criteria, including that businesses be at least 51 percent women-owned, at least three years since founding and annual revenue of less than \$1 million.

# Amber Grant

- The [Amber Grant Foundation](#) awards \$1,000 to a different women-owned business every month. At the end of each year, one of the 12 grant winners is awarded an additional \$10,000. The application is relatively simple: Explain your business, describe what you'd do with the grant money and pay a \$7 application fee.
- The foundation's advisory board chooses the winners, looking for women with passion and a good story.

- **FedEx Small Business Grant**
- [FedEx](#) awards up to \$25,000 apiece to 10 small businesses annually. FedEx Office print and business services.
- The application requires an explanation of your business, how you'd use the money, photos of your business and — this part is optional — a short video explaining your business. To be eligible, you must operate a for-profit business with fewer than 99 employees and at least six months of operating history.



# Cartier Women's Initiative

- Awards annual grants to support projects by women entrepreneurs. This is one of the largest and most prestigious business grants for women, but the competition is steep. The first-place prize in this international women's business competition is **\$100,000**; second place comes with a **\$30,000** prize.

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## – Eligibility Criteria

- Women entrepreneurs in the initial stages of development (2-3 years old), in any country, of any nationality, and operating in any industry can apply for this grant. The business must have an original concept and the business must have a for-profit model.

# Women Founders Network Fast Pitch Competition

The organization's Fast Pitch competition awards **\$25,000** in free grant money to a female-led business each year; second and third place winners receive **\$10,000** and **\$5,000** and respectively.

Pitch your business at a live in-person event in Los Angeles.

Women entrepreneurs can look for small-business grants and financial resources.

- [Grants.Gov](#)
- [Small Business Innovation Research and Technology Transfer Programs](#)
- [Women's Business Centers](#)
- [Economic Development Administration](#)
- [Small Business Development Centers](#)

# Federal Grant Opportunity for Bus/Motorcoach Operators

# Intercity Bus Security Grant Program (IBSGP)



“Provides funding to protect critical infrastructure, improve physical security and enhance preparedness/response”

# Partnership

- Department of Homeland Security – (DHS)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency - (FEMA)



# Types of Funding

- Lighting
- Fencing
- GPS Systems
- Camera Systems – Onboard/property
- Locks/Security Property/Buildings

# Pre-Bid Requirement

- Vulnerability Assessment and Security Plan Certification must be completed/submitted for this grant.
- Register and pre-approved by grants.gov then move to ND Grants.gov.
- DUNS #
- SYSTEM OF AWARDS MANAGEMENT (SAMS #)

# Want to Submit

- 3 Bids
- Pictures
- Satellite images

# Funding

- Changes from year to year – %
- Number of items to apply

# ***Another Federal Grant:***

- 5311(f) is a program that funds Regular Scheduled Service from the Rural Areas to the Urban Areas and Must make a meaningful connection with a larger Inter-City Carrier.

# 5311(f) IS

- Federal Grant
- States Choose to Participate
- Federal Guidelines that each State can change to meet their needs
- Meant to meet the needs of Rural Residents

- Is successful in many States
- Is a way to start scheduled Service from the Rural to Urban Areas

# The Application and/or Grant Writing Process for Federal Grants



If I can do it...So can you!



# If you can:

- Read Carefully
- Follow close instructions
- Do your homework on the grant
- Write a college term paper
- Pay attention to details and deadlines

You can do this!

# Most reasons people don't

- Larger Grants like the IBSGP takes time
- Simply do not know what opportunities are out there
- Some do not have the people/resources to dedicate
- Some do not think they have the time to put into writing/submitting the grant.

# Important

- Read and Re-Read - Notice of Funding
- Follow Detailed Instructions
- Timeline/Deadlines

# Please remember:

- Never Guaranteed Reward
- May do everything correctly
- May be denied simply due to another area needing it more than you

# Keep Up to Date

- Set alerts on grants.gov
- State/County Website
- Get involved – Local Transit Authority
- Department of Transportation
- SBA.gov
- Notice of Funding Opportunity Documents –  
Establish that relationship with actuary so  
emailed future opportunities

# RFP's

Response to  
Request for Proposals

# Tips

- **Make sure to state Women Owned Business.**
- **Some RFP require a joint partnership with a DBE and/or Woman Owned Business. Get on State Vendor List.**
- **Be Concise – Page/Section where to find answers to critical questions**
- **Keep It Simple**



# Tips (cont)

- **Explain How You're Different**
- **Explain How You will solve their "challenge/problem"**
- **Get Started as Soon as Possible**
- **Be Pro Active - Reach out to schools, companies, City/County, Department of Transportation**

ASK LOTS OF  
QUESTIONS  
AND THEN.....

ASK LOTS MORE!!





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Lynn@OnYourMarkTransportation.com

www.OnYourMarkTransportation.com

