Association Board Update: Fixed Amount Grants

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Fixed Amount Grants

Authorized by Serve America Act

- A specific amount of money per VSY, “Significantly less than the reasonable and necessary cost of administering the program”
- CNCS must consider the, “Capacity of the entity carrying out the program to manage funds and achieve programmatic results”
- National performance measures, now in development by CNCS
## What Changes?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Cost Reimbursement</strong></th>
<th><strong>Fixed Amount</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Detailed line item budget</td>
<td>One line item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget negotiation by line item</td>
<td>No budget negotiation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin to volunteer expense ratio tracked</td>
<td>No 80/20 ratio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific allocations between CNCS, Grantee, and Excess columns</td>
<td>No division of funds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum 10% match</td>
<td>No match documentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grantees document all costs charged to grant and volunteer impact</td>
<td>Grantees document results of volunteers’ efforts (impact) only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-annual FFR reporting and end-of-performance period final FFR</td>
<td>One end-of-performance period FFR</td>
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</table>
What Remains?

- Outputs: you must produce agreed level of VSY
- Outcomes: you must demonstrate the changes your volunteers make
- Final FFR
- Volunteer record keeping
- Unexpended funds are aggressively managed
- A-133 audit requirement if over $500K
- Stipend hourly rate
**Feedback from Initial AmeriCorps Pilot**

- Timely guidance, clear process and consistent messaging needed
- *Non-CNCS* budgeting & financial reporting varies
- Focusing on what’s important – which is not chasing receipts – is good
- Fixed amount is independent of local cost of living, so benefit varies
- Attrition could cost you funding
- Though the federal audit becomes outcome focused, state and private audits may still apply
Operations

- Separate (new) eGrants NOFA
- Phasing in
  - First cycle: 1/1/11 grantees in year one of a three year cycle
  - Small potential starting class: 15 SCP; 33 FGP
- Policy 850
Operations

- Communication
  - PO will communicate eligibility
  - CSO will share guidance and FAQ regarding budget and performance measurement
  - GO will monitor actual VSY level
Funds Analysis

FGP: FY2011

- Median FGP total cost per VSY: $5760
  - $4543 Federal
- 60th percentile: total cost per VSY: $5900
  - $4597 Federal
- Recommended Federal fixed amount: Up to $4600/VSY
Funds Analysis

SCP: FY2011

- Median SCP total cost per VSY: $5882
  - $4424 Federal
- 60th percentile: total cost per VSY: $6148
  - $4548 Federal
- Recommended Federal fixed amount: Up to $4550/VSY
Questions?

Thank you!