



City of Bristol, Virginia

300 Lee Street,
Bristol, VA 24201
www.bristolva.org

GRANT ADMINISTRATION AND FEDERAL AWARDS UNIFORM GUIDANCE

GRANT ADMINISTRATION

The City of Bristol, Virginia (“the City”) does not have a centralized grants department. Therefore, it is the responsibility of each department obtaining a grant to care for and be familiar with all grant documents and requirements. If a grant is Federal, the department should immediately notify the Chief Financial Officer for inclusion in the City’s Single Audit. For the purpose of this policy, “Program Director” applies to the individual within a given department who will be responsible for the grant.

1. Grant Development, Application, and Approval –
 - a. Legislative Approval – Legislative approval is determined by the requirements of the grant program. If the grant must be submitted by “an individual authorized by the legislative body”, then City Council approval is required prior to submitting the application. If such legislative approval is not specifically required by the written terms of the grant, then the department head may, at his or her discretion, approve grant applications. In this case, a copy of the application shall be sent to the City Manager’s office. If an award is given, a copy of the agreement shall also be furnished to the City Manager’s office. Electronic copies are preferable.
 - b. Matching Funds – Grants that require cash local matches must be coordinated through the City Manager’s office. At a minimum, funds must be identified within the existing budget to provide the match, or a budget adjustment will be required. Depending on the nature of the grant, there may also be some policy implications that will bear discussion. (For example, will the grant establish a level of service that cannot be sustained once the grant funds are depleted?)
 - c. Grant Budgets – Most grants require the submission of an expenditure budget. The department head should review this portion of the grant request prior to submission. The Chief Financial Officer will need to be contacted regarding personnel projections.

2. Grant Program Implementation –

- a. Notification and Acceptance of an Award – Official notification of a grant award is typically sent by a funding agency to the program director and/or other official designated in the original grant proposal. However, the authorization to actually spend grant funds is derived from City Council through the approval of a grant budget. This is done with the adoption of the Government-wide operating budget, as the grant budget is a component of such.
- b. Establishment of Accounts – The department that obtained the grant will provide the Finance Department with information needed to establish revenue and expense accounts for the project. Ordinarily, this information will include a copy of a summary of the project and a copy of the full project budget.
- c. Purchasing Guidelines – All other City purchasing and procurement guidelines apply to the expenditure of grant funds. The use of grant funds does not exempt any purchase from normal purchasing requirements. All typical paperwork, staff approvals, and bidding requirements apply. When in doubt, the Program Director should contact the Finance Department for further assistance.

3. Financial and Budgetary Compliance –

- a. Monitoring Grant Funds – Departments may use some internal mechanism (such as a spreadsheet) to monitor grant revenues, expenditures and budgetary compliance, however all such financial information will also be maintained in the City's finance software at some level. The finance software is considered to be the City's "official" accounting system. Ultimately, the information in this system is what will be audited and used to report to governing councils, not information obtained from offline spreadsheets. Program Directors are strongly encouraged to use inquiries and reports generated directly from the finance software to aide in grant tracking. If any "off-system" accounting records are maintained, it is the responsibility of the Program Director to ensure that the program's internal records agree to the City's accounting system.
- b. Fiscal Years – Occasionally, the fiscal year for the granting agency will not coincide with the City's fiscal year. This may require adjustments to the internal budget accounts and interim financial reports as well as special handling during fiscal year-end close. It is the responsibility of the department head to oversee grant budgets within his/her department and to bring such discrepancies to the attention of the Finance Department at the time the grant accounts are established.
- c. Grant Budgets – When the accounting structure for a grant is designed, it will include the budget that was prepared when the grant application was submitted. The terms of each specific grant will dictate whether any budget transfers between budgeted line items will be permitted. In no case will the Program Director or department head be authorized to exceed the total budget authority provided by the grant.

If grant funds have not been totally expended by fiscal year-end, it is the responsibility of the department head to notify the Chief Financial Officer that budget funds need to be carried forward to the new fiscal year, and to confirm

the amounts of such carry-forwards. Carry-forwards of grant funds will be subjected to maximum allowable amounts/percentages based on the grant award agreement and/or the Uniform Guidance compliance supplement.

- d. Capital Assets – The City of Bristol, Virginia is responsible for maintaining an inventory of assets purchased with grant monies. The City is accountable for them and must make them physically available for inspection during any audit. The Chief Financial Officer must be notified immediately of any sale of these assets.

Customarily, the proceeds of the sale can only be used on the grant program that purchased them. In most cases, specific governing regulations can be found in the original grant.

The individual department overseeing the grant will coordinate this requirement. All transactions that involve the acquisition or disposal of grant funded fixed assets must be immediately brought to the attention of the Chief Financial Officer.

4. Record Keeping –

- a. Audit – The City’s external auditors may audit grants at the end of each fiscal year. The department who oversees the grant will provide any necessary information requested to the City’s auditors.
- b. Record Keeping Requirements – Grant record keeping requirements may vary substantially from one granting agency to another. Consequently, a clear understanding of these grant requirements at the beginning of the grant process is vital. The Program Director within a department applying for a grant will maintain copies of all grant draw requests, and approved grant agreements (including budgets). Records shall be retained for a minimum of 5 years from the date on which the final Financial Status Report is submitted, or as otherwise specified in the requirements of the federal award, unless a written extension is provided by the awarding agency, cognizant agency for audit or cognizant agency for indirect costs.

UNIFORM GUIDANCE COMPLIANCE SUPPLEMENT

General Information

City Policies: City Council has adopted various financial policies independent of those now required for federal awards under the Uniform Guidance. These policies can be found on the Finance Department's page of the City website. All of the established policies also apply to federal grants where appropriate. These policies include but are not limited to:

- **Budget Policy**
- **Credit Card Policy**
- **Purchasing Policy**
- **Travel Policy**
- **Financial Policies**

Activities Allowed/Unallowed and Allowable Costs/Cost Principles

The requirements for allowable costs/cost principles are contained in the Uniform Guidance, program legislation, Federal awarding agency regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award.

In order to ensure compliance with these requirements, The City has implemented the following procedures:

1. All grant expenditures will be in compliance with the Uniform Guidance, State law, City policies, and the provisions of the grant award agreement will also be considered in determining allowable costs. Grant funds will only be used for expenditures that are considered reasonable and necessary for the administration of the program and treatment will be consistent with the policies and procedures the City would apply to non-federally financed work.
2. Grant expenditures will be approved by the department head at the time the requisition is submitted. The terms and conditions of the Federal Award will be considered when approving. The approval will be evidenced by the department head's signature approval of the requisition.
3. Payroll costs will be documented in accordance with the Uniform Guidance. Specifically, compensation for personal services will be handled as set out in §200.430 and compensation for fringe benefits will follow §200.431 of the Uniform Guidance.
4. An indirect cost rate will only be charged to the grant to the extent that it was specifically approved through the grant budget/agreement.

Part 200 examines the allowability of specific cost items (commonly referred to as Selected Items of Cost) at 2 CFR 200.420-200.476. These cost items are listed in the chart below along with the citation where it is discussed whether the item is allowable. The City must follow these rules when charging these specific expenditures to a federal grant. When applicable, staff must check costs against the selected items of cost requirements to ensure the cost is allowable. The selected item of cost addressed in Part 200 includes the following (in alphabetical order):

Item of Cost	Citation of Allowability Rule
Advertising and public relations costs	2 CFR § 200.421
Advisory councils	2 CFR § 200.422
Alcoholic beverages	2 CFR § 200.423
Alumni/ae activities	2 CFR § 200.424
Audit services	2 CFR § 200.425
Bad debts	2 CFR § 200.426
Bonding costs	2 CFR § 200.427
Collection of improper payments	2 CFR § 200.428
Commencement and convocation costs	2 CFR § 200.429
Compensation – personal services	2 CFR § 200.430
Compensation – fringe benefits	2 CFR § 200.431
Conferences	2 CFR § 200.432
Contingency provisions	2 CFR § 200.433
Contributions and donations	2 CFR § 200.434
Defense and prosecution of criminal and civil proceedings, claims, appeals and patent infringements	2 CFR § 200.435
Depreciation	2 CFR § 200.436
Employee health and welfare costs	2 CFR § 200.437
Entertainment costs	2 CFR § 200.438
Equipment and other capital expenditures	2 CFR § 200.439
Exchange rates	2 CFR § 200.440
Fines, penalties, damages and other settlements	2 CFR § 200.441
Fund raising and investment management costs	2 CFR § 200.442
Gains and losses on disposition of depreciable assets	2 CFR § 200.443
General costs of government	2 CFR § 200.444
Goods and services for personal use	2 CFR § 200.445
Idle facilities and idle capacity	2 CFR § 200.446
Insurance and indemnification	2 CFR § 200.447
Intellectual property	2 CFR § 200.448
Interest	2 CFR § 200.449
Lobbying	2 CFR § 200.450
Losses on other awards or contracts	2 CFR § 200.451
Maintenance and repair costs	2 CFR § 200.452
Materials and supplies costs, including costs of computing devices	2 CFR § 200.453
Memberships, subscriptions, and professional activity costs	2 CFR § 200.454
Organization costs	2 CFR § 200.455
Participant support costs	2 CFR § 200.456
Plant and security costs	2 CFR § 200.457
Pre-award costs	2 CFR § 200.458
Professional services costs	2 CFR § 200.459

Proposal costs	2 CFR § 200.460
Publication and printing costs	2 CFR § 200.461
Rearrangement and reconversion costs	2 CFR § 200.462
Recruiting costs	2 CFR § 200.463
Relocation costs of employees	2 CFR § 200.464
Rental costs of real property and equipment	2 CFR § 200.465
Scholarships and student aid costs	2 CFR § 200.466
Selling and marketing costs	2 CFR § 200.467
Specialized service facilities	2 CFR § 200.468
Student activity costs	2 CFR § 200.469
Taxes (including Value Added Tax)	2 CFR § 200.470
Telecommunication costs and video surveillance costs	2 CFR § 200.471
Termination costs	2 CFR § 200.472
Training and education costs	2 CFR § 200.473
Transportation costs	2 CFR § 200.474
Travel costs	2 CFR § 200.475
Trustees	2 CFR § 200.476

Cash Management

Source of Governing Requirements – The requirements for cash management are contained in the Uniform Guidance, program legislation, Federal awarding agency regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award.

In order to ensure compliance with these requirements, the City has implemented the following procedures:

1. Most of the City's grants are awarded on a reimbursement basis. As such, program costs will be expended and disbursed prior to requesting reimbursement from the grantor agency. If Federal grant funds are received first, care will be taken in order to minimize the time elapsing between receipt of Federal funds and disbursement to contractors/employees/sub recipients according to §200.302 (6) of the Uniform Guidance. Expenditures will be compared with budgeted amounts for each Federal award.
2. Cash draws will be initiated by the Program Director who will determine the appropriate draw amount. Documentation of how this amount was determined will be retained. Payments and travel costs will be handled in a manner consistent with the City's existing policies and in accordance with §200.305 (payments) and §200.474 (travel costs) of the Uniform Guidance.
3. The physical draw of cash will be processed in the City's finance software, or through the means prescribed by the grant agreement for other awards.
4. Supporting documentation or a copy of the cash draw paperwork will be filed along with the approved paperwork described above and retained for audit purposes.

Eligibility

Source of Governing Requirements – The requirements for eligibility are contained in program legislation, Federal awarding agency regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award.

Additional Policies and Procedures. The following policies and procedures will also be applied:

1. Federal grants will only benefit those individuals and/or groups of participants that are deemed to be eligible.
2. Initial eligibility determinations will be made by the Program Director based on the grant award/contract. Sufficient documentation to support these determinations will be retained and made available to administration, auditors, and pass-through or grantor agencies, upon request. It is the department's responsibility to maintain complete, accurate, and organized records to support eligibility determinations.

Equipment and Real Property Management

Source of Governing Requirements – The requirements for equipment are contained in the Uniform Guidance, program legislation, Federal awarding agency regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award.

Additional Policies and Procedures. The following policies and procedures will also be applied:

In order to ensure compliance with these requirements, the City has implemented the following procedures:

1. All equipment will be used in the program for which it was acquired, or, when appropriate, in other Federal programs.
2. When required, purchases of equipment will be pre-approved by the grantor or pass-through agency. The Program Director will be responsible for ensuring that equipment purchases have been previously approved, if required, and will retain evidence of this approval.
3. Property/Equipment records will be maintained and an appropriate system shall be used to safeguard assets.
4. When assets with a current per unit fair market value of \$5,000 or more are no longer needed for a Federal program, a request for written guidance shall be made from the grantor agency as to what to do with the property/equipment prior to sale or relocation. The City shall abide with the requirements set out in §200.311 and §200.313 of the Uniform Guidance in this regard. If a sale will take place, proper procedures shall be used to provide for competition to the extent practical and result in the highest possible return.

Matching, Level of Effort, and Earmarking

Source of Governing Requirements – The requirements for matching are contained in the Uniform Guidance, program legislation, Federal awarding agency regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award. The requirements for level of effort and earmarking are contained in program legislation, Federal awarding agency regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award.

The City defines “matching”, “level of effort”, and “earmarking” consistent with the definitions of the Uniform Guidance Compliance Supplement:

Matching or cost sharing includes requirements to provide contributions (usually non- Federal) or a specified amount or percentage to match Federal awards. Matching may be in the form of allowable costs incurred or in-kind contributions (including third-party in-kind contributions).

Level of effort includes requirements for (a) a specified level of service to be provided from period to period, (b) a specified level of expenditures from non-Federal or Federal sources for specified activities to be maintained from period to period, and (c) Federal funds to supplement and not supplant non-Federal funding of services.

Earmarking includes requirements that specify the minimum and/or maximum amount of percentage of the program’s funding that must/may be used for specified activities, including funds provided to sub recipients. Earmarking may also be specified in relation to the types of participants covered.

In order to ensure compliance with these requirements, the City has implemented the following procedures:

1. Compliance with matching, level of effort, and earmarking requirements will be the responsibility of the Program Director in conjunction with the Chief Financial Officer.
2. Adequate documentation will be maintained to support compliance with matching, level of effort, and earmarking requirements. Such information will be made available to administration, auditors, and pass-through or grantor agencies, as requested.

Period of Performance

Source of Governing Requirements – The requirements for period of performance of Federal funds are contained in the Uniform Guidance, program legislation, Federal awarding agency regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award.

In order to ensure compliance with these requirements, the City has implemented the following procedures:

1. Costs will be charged to an award only if the obligation was incurred during the funding period (unless pre-approved by the Federal awarding agency or pass-through grantor agency).

2. All obligations will be liquidated no later than 90 days after the end of the funding period (or as specified by program legislation).
3. Compliance with period of performance requirements will initially be assigned to the Program Director. All AP disbursements are subject to the review and approval of accounts payable staff and the Chief Financial Officer as part of the payment process.

Procurement, Suspension, and Debarment

Source of Governing Requirements – The requirements for procurement are contained in the Uniform Guidance, program legislation, Federal awarding agency regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award.

The requirements for suspension and debarment are contained in OMB guidance in 2 CFR part 180, which implements Executive Orders 12549 and 12689, Debarment and Suspension; Federal agency regulations in 2 CFR implementing the OMB guidance; the Uniform Guidance; program legislation; Federal awarding agency regulations; and the terms and conditions of the award.

In order to ensure compliance with these requirements, the City has implemented the following procedures:

1. Purchasing and procurement related to Federal grants will be subject to the general policies and procedures of the City, and to the provisions of the uniform guidance as detailed below.
2. Contract files will document the significant history of the procurement, including the rationale for the method of procurement, selection of the contract type, contractor selection or rejection, and the basis of contract price.
3. Procurement will provide for full and open competition.
4. No employee, officer, or agent may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a Federal award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract. The officers, employees, and agents can neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts. If the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value, no further action will be taken. However, disciplinary actions will be applied for violations of such standards otherwise.
5. The City will avoid acquisition of unnecessary or duplicative items. Consideration will be given to consolidating or breaking out procurements to obtain a more economical purchase. Where appropriate, an analysis will be made of lease versus purchase alternatives, and any other appropriate analysis to determine the most economical approach. The City will also analyze other means, as described in §200.318 of the Uniform Guidance, in order to ensure appropriate and economic acquisitions.

6. The City is prohibited from contracting with or making subawards under covered transactions to parties that are suspended or debarred or whose principals are suspended or debarred.

“Covered transactions” include those procurement contracts for goods and services awarded under a nonprocurement transaction (i.e., grant or cooperative agreement) that are expected to equal or exceed \$20,000 or meet certain other specified criteria. All nonprocurement transactions (i.e., subawards to subrecipients), irrespective of award amount, are considered covered transactions.

7. The City will include a suspension/debarment clause in all written contracts in which the vendor/contractor will certify that it is not suspended or debarred. The contract will also contain language requiring the vendor/contractor to notify the Government immediately upon becoming suspended or debarred. This will serve as adequate documentation as long as the contract remains in effect.
8. If a vendor is found to be suspended or debarred, the City will immediately cease to do business with this vendor.
9. Executed contracts will be retained and filed by the City’s Procurement Office.
10. When a request for purchase of equipment, supplies, or services for a federal program has been submitted, City policies and federal procurement guidelines will be followed at all times.

Program Income

Source of Governing Requirements – The requirements for program income are found in the Uniform Guidance, program legislation, Federal awarding agency regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award.

In order to ensure compliance with these requirements, the City has implemented the following procedures:

1. Program income will include (but will not be limited to): income from fees for services performed, the use or rental of real or personal property acquired with grant funds, the sale of commodities or items fabricated under a grant agreement, and payments of principal and interest on loans made with grant funds. It will not include interest on grant funds, rebates, credits, discounts, refunds, etc., or interest earned on any of these items unless otherwise provided in the Federal awarding agency regulations or terms and conditions of the award. It will also not include proceeds from the sale of equipment or real property.
2. The City will allow program income to be used in one of three methods:
 - a. Deducted from outlays
 - b. Added to the project budget
 - c. Used to meet matching requirements

Absent specific guidance in the Federal awarding agency regulations or the terms and conditions of the award, program income shall be deducted from program outlays.

3. Program income, when applicable, will be accounted for as a revenue source in the same program code as the Federal grant.

Reporting

Source of Governing Requirements – Reporting requirements are contained in the following documents:

Uniform Guidance, Performance reporting, 2 CFR section 215, Performance reporting, 2 CFR section 215.51, program legislation, ARRA (and the previously listed OMB documents and future additional OMB guidance documents that may be issued), the Transparency Act, implementing requirements in 2 CFR part 170 and the FAR, and previously listed OMB guidance documents, Federal awarding agency regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award.

In order to ensure compliance with these requirements, the City has implemented the following procedures:

1. Reports will be submitted in the required frequency and within the required deadlines.
2. Reports will be completed using the standard forms (as applicable) and method of delivery (i.e., e-mail, grantor website, postal service, etc.).
3. Regardless of the method of report delivery, a copy of the submitted report will be retained along with any documentation necessary to support the data in the report. The report will evidence the date of submission in order to document compliance with timeliness requirements. This may be done either physically or electronically.
4. Financial reports will always be prepared based on the general ledger using the required basis of accounting (i.e., cash or accrual). In cases where financial data is tracked outside of the accounting system (such as in spreadsheets or paper ledgers), this information will be reconciled to the general ledger prior to report submission.
5. Any report with financial-related data will either be prepared or reviewed by the Program Director and will have the appropriate review based on specific grant guidelines.
6. Preparation of reports will be the responsibility of Program Director. All reports (whether financial, performance, or special) must be reviewed and approved (as applicable) prior to submission. This will be evidenced by either physical signatures or electronic timestamps of approval.
7. Copies of submitted reports will be filed with supporting documentation and any follow-up correspondence from the grantor or pass-through agency. Copies of all such reports will be made available to administration, auditors, and pass-through or grantor agencies, as requested.

Subrecipient Monitoring

Source of Governing Requirements – The requirements for subrecipient monitoring are contained in 31 USC 7502(f)(2)(B) (Single Audit Act Amendments

of 1996 (Pub. L. No. 104-156)), Uniform Guidance, program legislation, 2 CFR parts 25 and 170, and 48 CFR parts 4, 42, and 52 Federal awarding agency regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award.

The City will review and oversee subrecipient activity and obtain a copy of their single audit. Additionally, the City will evaluate the subrecipient's risk of noncompliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the subaward for purposes of determining the appropriate monitoring procedures as required by the Uniform Guidance Title 2 CFR 200.331. Other oversight processes and procedures will be established on a case by case basis, dependent on grant requirements and the level of activity of the subrecipient.

Special Tests and Provisions

Source of Governing Requirements – The laws, regulations, and the provisions of contract or grant agreements pertaining to the program.

Additional Policies and Procedures. The following policies and procedures will also be applied:

In order to ensure compliance with these requirements, the City has implemented the following procedures:

The Program Director will be assigned the responsibility for identifying compliance requirements for special tests and provisions, determining approved methods for compliance, and retaining any necessary documentation.

Federal Program Travel Costs

The City shall reimburse administrative, professional, and support employees, and officials, for travel costs incurred in the course of performing services related to official business as a federal grant recipient.

For the purposes of this policy, travel costs shall mean the expenses for transportation, lodging, subsistence, and related items incurred by employees who are in travel status on official business as a federal grant recipient.

Employees shall comply with the applicable City policies and administrative regulations established for reimbursement of travel and other expenses.

The validity of payments for travel costs shall be determined by the Program Director.

Travel costs shall be reimbursed in accordance with City policies. Mileage reimbursements shall be at the rate established by City policy. Actual costs for meals, lodging and other allowable expenses shall be reimbursed only to the extent they are reasonable and do not exceed the per diem limits established by City policy.

If travel reimbursement costs are charged directly to a federal award, documentation must be maintained that justifies that (1) participation of the individual is necessary to

the federal award, and (2) the costs are reasonable and consistent with the City's established policy.