



CABINET FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Andy Beshear
Governor

Old Capitol Annex
300 West Broadway
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Jeff Noel
Secretary

May 7, 2024

Dear Kentucky Counties, Cities and Non-Profit Entities:

The Kentucky legislature recently changed the existing Government Resources Accelerating Needed Transformation (GRANT) program through House Bill 723 (HB 723). HB 723 ended the previous program as of April 15, 2024, and requires us to start over with the new GRANT program.

The new program has significantly changed and will now be administered by the Cabinet for Economic Development. Like the previous program, the new program provides a unique opportunity to make state funding available to your organization to help meet the non-federal share for federal grant program applications. This is another avenue for Team Kentucky to collaborate with all 120 Kentucky counties while also enhancing the impact of federal funding.

We believe it is critical that all organizations involved are aware of the changes to the GRANT Program and the next steps as we quickly move toward implementation.

The new GRANT Program includes the following changes:

- By ending the previous GRANT Program on April 15, 2024 all pending applications are null and void - a new application will be required
- Eligible grant recipient is defined as a county, city or 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization instead of a public agency or nonprofit entity
- Includes a local match requirement based upon a county population ranking as calculated by a formula outlined in the statute
- Modifies the scoring and evaluation criteria
- Removes the requirement for a project to be located in a priority community

As a result of these changes, all applicants interested in applying for the GRANT Program of 2024 will need to meet the requirements of the new program.

Standing up this new program will require the Cabinet to build new internal capacities with added levels of expertise. Please understand we are working diligently to put in place the necessary resources to best serve you and meet the requirements outlined in House Bill 723.

House Bill 723 required the Cabinet to determine the calculation for the local match requirements by May 1. That information is attached to this notice.

We kindly ask for your patience as we work through the remaining requirements for implementation in the weeks ahead.

The Cabinet is currently developing fact sheets, applications and other documents for the GRANT Program of 2024 with plans to begin accepting applications on Wednesday, May 15th. The application deadline will be established as the first day of each month thereafter, whereupon the 21-day requirement contained in the legislation for evaluating, scoring and providing feedback on the grants shall commence. The Cabinet is also developing a website for the GRANT Program of 2024 as a resource to find all of the documents, information and reports on the program.

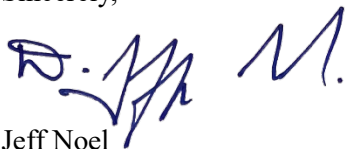
Additionally, we will host an introductory webinar later this month with two dates available to accommodate your schedule. We will share further details in the coming days. The webinar will be recorded and included on the GRANT Program of 2024 website for access whenever needed.

It is vitally important to all of us at Team Kentucky to maintain an open pathway of communication with you and our other key partners across the state as we navigate this new process.

We pride ourselves on our ability to deliver in our role to help create jobs for all Kentuckians and be a super collaborator for all our interdependent communities. The new GRANT Program of 2024 provides yet another opportunity for us to work together to continue to help build off the foundation of success we have experience over the past several years across the state.

We embrace this new opportunity and look forward to working with you. More information will be made available very soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Noel", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Jeff Noel
Secretary