

This newsletter is published on a monthly basis to provide relevant information to government purchasing and contracting professionals regarding public procurement and contracting topics. Hope you enjoy!

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Texas Legislative Watch



The 85th Texas Legislative Session ends on May 29, 2017. GPS is tracking procurement and contract related bills throughout the session and will update and post a weekly [Legislative Watch](#)

on the GPS website.

Is it a Grant or a Contract?

People are often confused by the terms "grant" and "contract". Below are some examples of their differences:

CONTRACTS

A **contract** is a legally binding document in which one party agrees to deliver a product or service in exchange for consideration (usually money).

Contracts are used as a procurement funding mechanism for the direct benefit or use of the government.

Failure to perform a contract can result in potential legal action or financial consequences.

Characteristics indicative of a **procurement relationship** between a governmental entity and a contractor when the governmental entity is receiving federal/state funds:



Training Schedule



2017 Workshop

Prices:

\$300 (1-day)

\$515 (2-day)

Group Discounts Available



Agile Project Management

October 6, 2017

Austin



Communications & Stakeholder Management in Projects & Contracting

October 5, 2017

Austin



- Provides the goods and services within normal business operations.
- Provides similar goods or services to many different buyers.
- Normally operates in a competitive environment.
- Provides goods or services that are ancillary to the operation of the federal/state program.

GRANTS:

A **grant** is an award of assistance in the form of money, equipment, supplies, or other resources paid or furnished by the state or federal government to an eligible grantee to carry out a program in accordance with the terms of the grant award and all applicable state and federal laws, rules, and regulations.



Grants are funding mechanisms designed to support a public purpose.

Grants are more flexible as to change in the scope of work, budget, etc., but must be carefully managed to avoid cost disallowances, waste, fraud and abuse.

Failure to adequately perform a grant could result in loss of funding, suspension or debarment, or other consequences.

Characteristics of a **subrecipient** classification include when the non-federal entity:

- Determines who is eligible to receive federal/state assistance.
- Has its performance measured in relation to whether objectives of a federal/state program are met.
- Has responsibility for programmatic decision making.
- Uses the federal/state funds to carry out a program for a public purpose specified in authorizing statute, as opposed to providing goods or services for the benefit of the pass-through entity.
- Provides matching funds or cost sharing.

For more information about grants, see the [Grants Learning Center](#).

Contracting in an Agile Project Environment

July 19, 2017
DFW

Essentials of Contract Management

June 28-29, 2017
Austin

Sept. 27-28, 2017
Houston



Effectively Managing Multiple Projects /Contracts & Time Management

July 18, 2017
DFW

Ethics in Contracting

June 6, 2017
Houston

July 13, 2017
DFW

Sept. 12, 2017
Austin

Sources: Office of Management & Budget (OMB) Uniform Guidance; Washington University; and www.grants.gov website.

Question of the Month

QUESTION:

Can you please explain the difference between grantor, grantee, recipient, and subrecipient. I always get these terms confused.



ANSWER:

Grantor - A user registered in grants.gov on behalf of their grant-making agency to post funding opportunities or manage submissions to these funding opportunities.

Grantee - The entity to which a grant is awarded and which is accountable for the use of the funds provided.

Recipient - A non-federal entity that receives a federal award directly from a federal awarding agency to carry out an activity under a federal program. "Grantee" is synonymous with "recipient".

Subrecipient - A non-federal entity that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a federal program; but does not include an individual that is a beneficiary of such program. A subrecipient may also be a recipient of other Federal awards directly from a Federal awarding agency.

Subgrantee - The government or other legal entity to which a subgrant is awarded and which is accountable to the grantee for the use of the funds provided. "Subgrantee" is synonymous with "subrecipient".

Source: Grants.gov

[Click here](#) for a full list of **Grants Terminology** from Grants.gov

Fundamentals of Public Purchasing

May 30-31, 2017
Houston

Sept. 14-15, 2017
DFW

Dec. 12-13, 2017
Austin

Negotiation Skills

June 7, 2017
Houston

November 14, 2017
DFW

Procurement Management Academy

Sept. 21-22, 2017
Austin

October 4-5, 2017
Houston

Purchasing 101 for Everyone

November 9, 2017
Houston



Schedule Management in Projects &

Contracts

June 28, 2017

Austin

November 17, 2017

DFW



Scope Management in Projects & Contracts

June 27, 2017

Austin

November 16, 2017

DFW

Specification Writing

September 13, 2017

Austin

November 8, 2017

Houston

Using Request for Proposals

Oct. 10-11, 2017

DFW

Nov. 14-15, 2017

Austin