



## Recent FTC Win Highlights Importance of Grant Industry Certifications

The Federal Trade Commission won a \$29.8 million judgment in November against a company accused of peddling fake grants and other bogus services. Grant Connect had been charged with making misleading claims to consumers about securing free government grants.

The U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada found that Grant Connect marketed a line of grant products using images of President Obama and the American flag to create the false impression that federal grants were “available quickly and easily for personal needs,” according to the FTC.

As part of the judgment, the defendants have been banned from selling or marketing grant-related products and services.

The defendants were also found to be conducting a number of other fraudulent consumer practices, including deceptively marketing dietary supplements; making unsupported claims that consumers could earn thousands of dollars working from home; and using fake testimonials to sell products.

See *Bogus Grants*, p. 6

### *GPA NCA Regional Conference*

## State and City Governments Find Success With Targeted Funding

Having a strong local focus has become increasingly important for grantseekers in today’s uncertain economic climate.

Speaking at the recent Grant Professionals Association National Capital Area Regional Conference, grants officials from state and city governments said that targeted funding efforts are proving to be particularly effective in the current economic crunch.

Eric Brenner, director of the Maryland Governor’s Grants Office and co-chair of the National Grants Partnership, said local governments and nonprofits in his state have had a “surprising” amount of success with grant applications that are tied to state policy priorities.

“It makes it look like they are part of a bigger policy effort with the state,” Brenner said. Even a sentence or two mentioning how a specific project is allied with Maryland Governor Martin O’Malley’s 15 policy goals have helped grant applicants make a positive connection between their work and the state’s initiatives and investments.

See *Targeted*, p. 3

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### Audio Conference Alert

Don’t miss Thompson’s Nov. 30 audio conference, “Supporting Allowable Costs With Written Policies On ‘The Big 5.’” Grants expert Richard Solloway will discuss best practices for developing and maintaining written policies and procedures for the five major grant-related operating areas, how they relate to one another and the role they play in the audit process.

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# State and Local Governments Hungry for Transportation Money While Bills Stall

Transportation funding has moved to center stage again as legislators continue to negotiate the spending priorities for fiscal year 2012 and struggle to agree on a surface transportation reauthorization bill that remains uncertain.

Infrastructure spending has been a thorny issue. President Obama pushed Congress to expedite the transportation piece of his jobs bill in an effort to boost employment, but so far the bill has not advanced. Obama's push earlier this year for high-speed rail funding also met resistance on Capitol Hill.

The transportation proposal favored by many Democrats and the White House would have allotted \$60 billion for transportation investments, including \$10 billion for the creation of a national infrastructure bank and an immediate \$50 billion investment in the country's transportation infrastructure. The measure failed to pass the Senate earlier this month.

A more recent proposal for a surface transportation bill from House Republicans would tie transportation funding to revenue generated by expanded oil and gas drilling. In communications with the White House earlier this year, Republicans identified transportation as a possible area of bipartisan compromise, but in a politically savvy move, the proposed funding was tied to something that the Obama administration might have difficulty supporting.

As part of Obama's public relations push this fall to pressure Congress to pass elements of his job proposal,

the White House released a report in early November with recent examples of the economic benefits that are derived from infrastructure investments. The report argued that since the U.S. relies heavily on transportation infrastructure that currently is unable to keep up with its economic activity, immediate investments in roads and highways, railways, public transportation, sea-ports and aviation are required.

There is broad agreement that the nation's infrastructure desperately needs to be updated, and local and state officials have been advocating for an infusion of funds since the Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) expired in 2009, but Congress has been unable to pass a comprehensive, multiyear transportation package since then. A series of short-term funding measures have kept programs running.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors has been pushing for action on a surface transportation reauthorization bill for months. The organization advocates for expanding federal investments in infrastructure, particularly in transportation infrastructure.

In a front-page article in the group's Nov. 7 issue of *U.S. Mayor*, the organization touted its efforts to win passage of a transportation funding bill. In early November, Conference of Mayors President and Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa wrote to senators urging them to support Obama's Rebuild America Jobs Act and its \$60 billion infrastructure plan. When the Senate failed to move the package, the Conference of Mayors shifted its lobbying toward renewing the basic federal surface transportation law rather than advocating for increased investment.

The Republican plan for tying infrastructure funding to drilling in the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge and other domestic drilling projects is expected to be introduced in the coming weeks. Drilling in ANWR has been a hot-button topic for environmentalists for years, and it would likely be difficult for Obama to support, particularly in an election year.

Transportation issues could be further complicated by other factors. A recent report in the Pew Center for the State's *Stateline* found that in the wake of a record number of natural disasters over the last year, states are finding it difficult to come up with money for road and infrastructure investments. According to *Stateline*, the

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See *Transportation*, p. 6

The state-level Grants Office has also targeted its grant searching around those policy goals, Brenner said, which has helped it focus its limited time and resources more effectively. Most of the funding received by the office is redistributed at the local level, he added.

O'Malley's goals include reducing violent crime, ending childhood hunger, increasing the state's renewable energy portfolio, improving student achievement and increasing the number of state residents who receive skills training.

Lafayette Barnes, director of the Office of Partnerships and Grant Services in the Executive Office of the Mayor of the District of Columbia, said that his office has a similar approach at the city level. The OPGS office is oriented around helping nonprofits, community and faith-based organizations and city government agencies find, apply and secure resources that will help them meet the mayor's top priorities.

Washington D.C. Mayor Vincent Gray's policy priorities include unemployment, education, jobs and public safety, Barnes said.

The city has also made collaboration an ongoing focus, to accomplish goals that might be difficult for a single organization or agency to achieve. The city can better serve its partners if it can foster collaborative relationships that encourage resource sharing and flexibility, Barnes noted.

Both Brenner and Barnes said that their offices work particularly hard to offer local grantseekers tailored funding resources, both through the grant dollars they redistribute and the informational resources they offer.

The Maryland Governor's Grants Office recently added a listing of available federal grants to its webpage, Brenner said. However, the number of federal grants currently available is fewer than usual, as federal agencies are holding off on soliciting applications and releasing awards until the funding outlook is more certain.

The good news, Brenner said, is that state governors were very successful in getting some crucial state funding streams (like Medicaid) and some formula grants exempted from the cuts in the deficit reduction package that will be implemented in future fiscal years if they Super Com-

mittee fails to reach agreement on how to reduce federal spending.

"That's good for local governments and nonprofits because some of those cuts would reverberate right through," Brenner said.


With federal funding streams up in the air, alternate resources such as foundations are even more important, he stressed. The Maryland grants website includes links to locally available foundation grants in addition to federal and state grants, offering grantseekers a one-stop shop when looking for funding.

The Washington D.C. grants office also works to keep its grantseeking constituents apprised of available opportunities by sending out a weekly funding alert and connecting organizations with foundations. The city houses a "mini-Foundation Center" for grantseekers called the Grant Information Resource Center, Barnes said. GIRC offers technical assistance and other resources to organizations looking for funding.

Federal resources like USASpending.gov and Grants.gov are still important resources, both officials acknowledged, but a more focused local approach is proving effective for many grantseekers.

### Need More Information?

The Washington D.C. Office of Partnerships and Grant Services is at <http://www.opgs.dc.gov/opgd/site/default.asp>.

The Maryland Governor's Grants Office is at <http://grants.maryland.gov/Pages/grantsHome.aspx>. 

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# Program Notebook

## HHS' Health Care Innovation Challenge

The Department of Health and Human Services is currently accepting applications for grants to improve health care and lower costs for enrollees in Medicare, Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program.

The HHS' Health Care Innovation Challenge will provide funds to a broad range of applicants to:

- identify new workforce development, training and education models;
- reduce costs and improve care by identifying and testing new models for care delivery and payment; and
- support grantees who can deploy the care improvement models within six months of receiving awards, either through new efforts or by expanding existing efforts to reach new patients.

Projects that are focused on rapidly expanding workforce development — hiring, training and deploying health care workers — will be given priority.

Organizations that qualify for Health Care Innovation Challenge funding include local governments, health systems, provider groups, nonprofits, for-profit organizations and public-private partnerships. State governments are not eligible to receive funding through this program. To be considered, eligible entities must meet the application criteria specified in the funding announcement, including staying within the budget range.

Grant funds may not be used to provide recipients with services that are already funded through Medicare, Medicaid or CHIP. Award funds also may not be used to: match other federal funds; provide services that are the legal responsibility of another party, like employer obligations; supplant existing funding for infrastructure, services or salaries; meet state matching requirements (by local entities); or pay for specific items that are not integrated into the entire service delivery and payment model.

Matching funds are not required.

Applications are evaluated by a review panel made up of HHS staff and outside experts based on specific rating factors:

- project design (up to 30 points);
- organizational capacity and management plan (up to 25 points);
- budget plan and sustainability (up to 20 points);
- workforce goals (up to 15 points);
- evaluation and reporting (up to 10 points).

All awards are made for a period of three years. For the current competition, HHS will distribute up to \$1 billion. Awards are expected to range from approximately \$1 million to \$30 million.

All applicants must submit a letter of intent before submitting a full application. Letters of intent are due by Dec. 19 and must be submitted using an electronic form on the agency's website. Full applications must subsequently be submitted through Grants.gov no later than Jan. 27, 2012.

HHS expects to make awards by March 30, 2012.

A recording of a webinar for potential applicants is available at <http://www.visualwebcaster.com/CMS/83452/reg.html>.

Programmatic questions should be emailed to the Health Care Innovation Challenge at [InnovationChallenge@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:InnovationChallenge@cms.hhs.gov). Responses to questions that are submitted to HHS will be posted on <http://innovations.cms.gov> within 48 business hours.

### Health Care Innovation Challenge

**CFDA:** 93.610

**Objective:** To improve health care and lower costs for enrollees in Medicare, Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program

**Eligibility:** Local governments, health systems, provider groups, nonprofits, for-profit organizations and public-private partnerships


**Funding:** \$1 billion

**Match:** No match required

**Deadline:** Letters of intent are due Dec. 19, 2011, and applications are due Jan. 27, 2012

**Contact:** Dorothy Frost Teeter, 410-786-0660. 

### Need More Information?

To view the full grant announcement, go to <http://www.innovation.cms.gov/documents/pdf/innovation-challenge-foa.pdf> 

### Ethics of a Grant Professional

*This article was written by Amy Whitlock Jennings, MS, GPA, a coauthor of the Study Guide and Bibliography: Support for the Grant Professional Certification Examination (Second Edition). The study guide, which Thompson has partnered with the authors to make available, may be found at <http://www.thompson.com/public/offerpage.jsp?prod=GYPY>. This piece is the sixth in a series of columns written by the authors of the study guide for Local/State Funding Report on a range of grant topics.*

According to Merriam-Webster (2011), ethics are the “moral principles that govern a person’s or group’s behavior.” The Grant Professionals Association (GPA), a nonprofit membership association, provides such guidance through its Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Practice (2007) (<http://grantprofessionals.org/about/ethics>). Per that guidance, as a grant professional, you should:

- Practice your profession with the highest sense of integrity, honesty and truthfulness to maintain and broaden public confidence;
- Adhere to all applicable laws and regulations in all aspects of grantsmanship;
- Continually improve your professional knowledge and skills;
- Promote positive relationships between grant professionals and stakeholders;
- Value the privacy, freedom, choice and interests of all those affected by your actions;
- Ensure that funds are solicited according to program guidelines;
- Adhere to acceptable means of compensation for services performed; pro bono work is encouraged;
- Foster cultural diversity and pluralistic values and treat all people with dignity and respect;
- Become leaders and role models in the field of grantsmanship; and


- Encourage colleagues to embrace and practice GPA’s Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Practice.

One of the most common questions asked of professional grantwriters is “do you get a percentage of the grant?” The answer is always the same, “Absolutely not! That is considered unethical.” And as a grant professional, you cannot be “written into the grant” for your services. Funders typically do not allow the costs of a grantwriter to be included in a grant.

It is also unethical to “hide” your fees in a line item to be paid after the grant is awarded. Professional grantwriters can work for a salary or fee. We may accept performance-based compensation, such as bonuses, as long as the bonus is not based on a percentage of grant funds awarded.

As with any professional, a grantwriter should be paid for their services at the completion of the work, i.e., at the time a grant is submitted. You delivered an excellent proposal and provided the organization with every competitive advantage and a persuasive argument for funding. At that point, the result is out of your hands and up to the reviewers. Sometimes even the most brilliantly written proposal will not be funded, but a grantwriter should be paid for their services regardless of the outcome of them.

Ethics also apply to preparing the program narrative and budget. Present the facts and do not put falsehoods into the application because you think it will increase the likelihood of receiving funding. Funders award grants based on what is presented in the proposal. Any changes to the program and/or budget will require the funder’s approval. If you work with a grant-funded organization after it receives an award, the same principle holds true for reporting grant activities. If you are not meeting your objectives as defined in the proposal, be honest about it. Funders are usually eager to work with organizations to help them meet their project objectives.

Ethics in grantwriting means, as Mark Twain said, “when in doubt, tell the truth.” 



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## **Bogus Grants** (cont. from p.1)

The FTC had already reached a \$29.8 million settlement in October with some of the defendants involved with Grant Connect. The November judgment covered a different list of defendants.

Fake grant schemes have become so problematic that the FTC has created an informational website about them for consumers at <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/phonefraud/government.shtml> and released a publication called “Free Government Grants: Don’t Take Them for Grant-ed.”

According to the FTC, grant scammers capitalize on the general public’s unfamiliarity with how grants work. Scams typically start with an individual receiving a phone call from someone posing as a federal agency employee, requesting checking account information to supposedly deposit a “grant” the individual has won or cover processing fees. In other scenarios, bogus grant companies tell consumers that they will be eligible for a grant if they pay a fee.

With such high-profile examples of false grant companies preying on consumers, the actual grants industry has established a couple of professional certifications to help keep the industry’s image untarnished and to help consumers recognize who the legitimate experts are.


At the Grant Professionals Association’s annual conference in Las Vegas, Rod Helm, president of Grant Writing USA (<http://grantwritingusa.com/>), said that predatory scam artists working in the grants space in

Nevada have impacted his business. Grant Writing USA received phone calls complaining about bogus grants, he said in his keynote address, even though the company was completely unrelated to the fraudulent companies.

In reaction to the companies that were offering bogus grants and grants services, Nevada legislators attempted (and failed) to pass a bill that would have put potentially disastrous limits on the legitimate grant professionals industry, Helm said. In an effort to secure the industry’s reputation, both the GPA and the National Grants Management Association have established formal certifications to give grants professionals an official seal of approval.

The effort to confront bogus grant companies will “elevate the discussion about the grants industry,” Helm said, and the industry must self-regulate in order to survive. Going after a credential like the Grant Professional Certification (GPC) is the right thing to do, he added.


Helm advocated for everyone in the grants industry to rethink any opposition they might have to certification or credentialing, in the collective interest of keeping the industry’s reputation on solid ground. He also challenged the organizations that get and receive grants and utilize the services of grant professionals — as employees or as contracted resources — to institute a hiring process that values the professional certifications.

NGMA offers the Certified Grants Management Specialist credential and GPA offers the GPC credential to qualified grant professionals who pass an exam. 

## **Transportation** (cont. from p.2)

Federal Highway Administration reportedly has billions of dollars in backlogged repair claims.

On Nov. 15, Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood said that a record number of applications received for Transportation Investment Generation Economic Recovery (TIGER) grants far surpassed the amount of available funding. The TIGER III grant competition received 828 applications totaling \$14.1 billion in funding; DOT has \$527 million set aside for the program. “The tremendous demand for TIGER grants clearly shows that communities across the country cannot wait any longer for crucial upgrades to the roads, bridges, rail lines, and bus routes they rely on every day,” said LaHood. “It’s important to make these vital investments in transportation so we can put Americans back to work rebuilding our nation’s crumbling transportation systems.”

Earlier this month, Obama directed DOT to expedite the distribution of TIGER III funds. He pushed for awards to be made by the end of 2011, months earlier than expected. Applications for the two earlier rounds of TIGER funding also exceeded the amount available. According to DOT, the department received a total of 2,400 applications between 2009 and 2010 totaling \$76 billion, which was much higher than the \$2.1 billion that was available for those competitions. 

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# Grant & Regulation Alert

A compilation of funding notices and regulations issued by federal agencies and foundations

## Agriculture

**Plant Feedstock Genomics for Bioenergy: A Joint Research Funding Opportunity Announcement USDA, DOE** — **Deadline:** Feb. 24, 2012. **Eligibility:** Institutions of higher education, nonprofits, for-profit organizations, state and local governments, state agricultural experiment stations, research institutions, federal agencies and national laboratories. **Fund uses:** To support research that will improve the use of biomass and plant feedstocks for the production of fuels such as ethanol or renewable chemical feedstocks. **Contact:** Catherine Ronning, Catherine.Ronning@science.doe.gov. **More information:** <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?oppld=131094&mode=VIEW>.

**Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers** — **Deadline:** Dec. 21, 2011. **Eligibility:** Institutions of higher education, tribal governments and nonprofits. **Fund uses:** To provide outreach and technical assistance to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in a linguistically appropriate manner and to increase their participation in agricultural programs provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. **Contact:** Advocacy Outreach, 202-720-6350; oasdf2012@usda.gov. **More information:** <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?oppld=131193&mode=VIEW>.

**Disaster Designation Process** — **C.F.R.:** 7 CFR Parts 759, 1945 and 762. **Action:** The Farm Service Agency proposed to amend the disaster designation regulations with simplified procedures for designating USDA Secretarial disaster areas. **Contact:** Steve Peterson, 202-720-5172. **More information:** <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-11-14/pdf/2011-29011.pdf>.

## Arts/Culture

**John Cotton Dana Awards to Honor Outstanding Library Public Relations Efforts** — **Deadline:** March 15, 2012. **Eligibility:** Libraries. **Fund uses:** To honor outstanding library public relations, including summer reading programs, yearlong centennial celebrations, fundraising for a new college library, an awareness campaign or an innovative partnership in the community. **Contact:** John Cotton Dana Award, johncottondanaaward@ala.org. **More information:** <http://www.ebscohost.com/resources/john-cotton-dana/overview.pdf>.

**Summer Seminars and Institutes** — **Deadline:** March 1, 2012. **Eligibility:** State, local and tribal governments, nonprofits and institutions of higher education. **Fund uses:** To support summer development programs in the humanities for teachers, including college and university level teachers. **Contact:** Division of Education Programs, 202-606-8471; sem-inst@neh.gov. **More information:** <http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/seminars.html#poc>.

**Connecting to Collections Statewide Implementation Grants** — **Deadline:** Feb. 1, 2012. **Eligibility:** Partnerships that include libraries, museums, archives, state agencies or statewide service organizations. **Fund uses:** To support collaborative approaches in each state that address the most pressing needs of its

collections-holding institutions. **Contact:** Connie Cox Bodner, 202-653-4636; cbodner@imls.gov. **More information:** <http://www.imls.gov/applicants/detail.aspx?GrantId=5>.

**Landmarks of American History and Culture** — **Deadline:** March 1, 2012. **Eligibility:** State, local, tribal governments, nonprofits and institutions of higher education. **Fund uses:** To support a series of one-week residence-based workshops for K-12 educators nationwide that use historic sites to address central themes and issues in American history, literature, art, government, music and other related humanities subjects. **Contact:** Division of Education Programs, 202-606-8463; landmarks@neh.gov. **More information:** <http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/landmarks.html#poc>.

## Children/Youth

**PeyBack Foundation Accepting Applications for At-Risk Youth Programs in Indiana, Louisiana, and Tennessee** — **Deadline:** Feb. 1, 2012. **Eligibility:** Nonprofits. **Fund uses:** To provide leadership and growth opportunities for at-risk children in Indiana, Louisiana and Tennessee. **Contact:** Elizabeth Ellis, PeyBack@PeytonManning.com. **More information:** [http://www.peytonmanning.com/media/2012-PeyBack-Foundation-Grant-Application\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.peytonmanning.com/media/2012-PeyBack-Foundation-Grant-Application_FINAL.pdf).

## Community Development

**FY 2012 Native American CDFI Assistance Program** — **Deadline:** Jan. 18, 2012. **Eligibility:** Certified native CDFIs. **Fund uses:** To provide financial and technical assistance to existing Native Community Development Financial Institution and technical assistance grants to entities that will become or will create a Native CDFI. **Contact:** Ruth Jaure, 202-622-9156. **More information:** [http://www.cdfifund.gov/what\\_we\\_do/programs\\_id.asp?programID=3](http://www.cdfifund.gov/what_we_do/programs_id.asp?programID=3).

## Economic Development

**FY 2012 Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs Opportunity** — **Deadline:** Dec. 15, 2011. **Eligibility:** State, county, local and tribal governments, institutions of higher education and nonprofits. **Fund uses:** To support development in economically distressed areas by fostering job creation and attracting private investment, primarily through construction, non-construction, and revolving loan fund investments. Revolving deadlines; see funding announcement. **Contact:** H. Philip Paradice, Jr., 404-730-3002; pparadice@eda.doc.gov. **More information:** [http://www.eda.gov/PDF/FY\\_2012\\_EDAP\\_FFO\\_11-18-11\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.eda.gov/PDF/FY_2012_EDAP_FFO_11-18-11_FINAL.pdf).

## Emergency Preparedness

**Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program** — **Action:** The Federal Emergency Management Agency provided guidelines describing the application process for grants and the criteria for awarding grants in the fiscal year 2011 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program year. **Contact:** Catherine Patterson, 866-274-0960. **More information:** <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-11-16/pdf/2011-29500.pdf>.

See Grant Alert, p. 8

## Environment

**Five Star Restoration Grant Program — Deadline:** Feb. 15, 2012. **Eligibility:** Nonprofits. **Fund uses:** To support community-based wetland, coastal habitat and riparian restoration projects. **Contact:** Amanda Bassow, Amanda.Bassow@nfwf.org. **More information:** [http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Charter\\_Programs\\_List&Template=/TaggedPage/TaggedPageDisplay.cfm&TPLID=60&ContentID=22020](http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Charter_Programs_List&Template=/TaggedPage/TaggedPageDisplay.cfm&TPLID=60&ContentID=22020).

**FY 2012 Request for Proposals from Indian Tribes and Intertribal Consortia for Nonpoint Source Management Grants Under Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 319 — Deadline:** January 20, 2012. **Eligibility:** Tribes or intertribal consortia. **Fund uses:** To provide, develop and implement watershed-based plans and other on-the-ground watershed projects for tribes to implement their nonpoint source (NPS) management programs which seek to control NPS pollution. **Contact:** Nancy Arazan, arazan.nancy@epa.gov. **More information:** <http://water.epa.gov/pol-waste/mps/tribal/upload/fy12-tribal-319-rfp.pdf>.

## Health

**Screening and Brief Alcohol Interventions in Underage and Young Adult Populations (R03) — Deadline:** Jan. 7, 2015. **Eligibility:** State, county, local and tribal governments, school districts, institutions of higher education, public housing authorities, nonprofits and for-profit organizations. **Fund uses:** To encourage research on screening and brief interventions to prevent and/or reduce alcohol use and harm that is alcohol-related. **Contact:** Mariela C. Shirley, 301-443-9787; shirleym@mail.nih.gov or Judy Fox, 301-443-3891; jfox@mail.nih.gov. **More information:** [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-029.html#\\_Section\\_VII.\\_Agency](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-029.html#_Section_VII._Agency).

**Screening and Brief Alcohol Interventions in Underage and Young Adult Populations (R21) — Deadline:** Jan. 7, 2015. **Eligibility:** State, county, local and tribal governments, school districts, institutions of higher education, nonprofits, public housing authorities and for-profit organizations. **Fund uses:** To encourage research on screening and brief interventions to prevent and/or reduce alcohol use and harm that is alcohol-related. **Contact:** Mariela C. Shirley, 301-443-9787; shirleym@mail.nih.gov or Judy Fox, 301-443-3891; jfox@mail.nih.gov. **More information:** [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-030.html#\\_Section\\_VII.\\_Agency](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-030.html#_Section_VII._Agency).

**Screening and Brief Alcohol Interventions in Underage and Young Adult Populations (R01) — Deadline:** Jan. 7, 2015. **Eligibility:** State, county, local and tribal governments, school districts, institutions of higher education, nonprofits, public housing authorities and for-profit organizations. **Fund uses:** To encourage research on screening and brief interventions to prevent and/or reduce alcohol use and harm that is alcohol-related. **Contact:** Mariela C. Shirley, 301-443-9787; shirleym@mail.nih.gov or Judy Fox, 301-443-3891; jfox@mail.nih.gov. **More information:** <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-031.html>.

**Regional Hemophilia Network — Deadline:** Jan. 10, 2011. **Eligibility:** State, county, local and tribal governments, nonprofits

and tribal organizations. **Fund uses:** To establish integrated and collaborative regional networks to promote the comprehensive care of individuals with hemophilia and related disorders. **Contact:** Kathryn McLaughlin, 301-443-6829; kmclaughlin@hrsa.gov. **More information:** <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?oppld=131013&mode=VIEW>.

**Health Care Innovation Challenge — Deadline:** Jan. 27, 2012. **Eligibility:** Provider groups, health systems, payers, nonprofits, local governments, for-profit organizations and public-private partnerships. **Fund uses:** To improve the quality of health and health care and to lower costs for Medicare, Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program enrollees by supporting new models of service delivery and payment improvements. **Contact:** Mary Greene, Mary.greene@cms.hhs.gov. **More information:** <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?oppld=130614&mode=VIEW>.

**Area Health Education Centers — Deadline:** Feb. 15, 2012. **Eligibility:** Allopathic and osteopathic medical and nursing schools. **Fund uses:** To establish interdisciplinary, community-based, primary care training programs. **Contact:** Louis D. Coccodrilli, LCocodrilli@hrsa.gov. **More information:** <https://grants.hrsa.gov/webExternal/FundingOppDetails.asp?FundingCycleId=58DB07A1-7ED2-429C-9879-B4A8B8B95C1A&ViewMode=EU&GoBack=&PrintMode=&OnlineAvailabilityFlag=&pageNumber=&version=&NC=&Popup=>.

## Housing

**Amendments to the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act — C.F.R.:** 24 C.F.R. Part 1000. **Action:** The Department of Housing and Urban Development proposed several amendments to regulations governing the Indian Housing Block Grant Program and the Title VI Loan Guarantee Program. **Contact:** Rodger J. Boyd, 202-401-7914. **More information:** <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-11-18/pdf/2011-29642.pdf>.

**Public Housing Energy Audits — C.F.R.:** 24 C.F.R. Part 905. **Action:** The Department of Housing and Urban Development proposed to revise its energy audit requirements for public housing. **Contact:** Jeffrey Riddel, 202-402-7378. **More information:** <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-11-17/pdf/2011-29640.pdf>.

**Fair Housing Act's Discriminatory Effects Standard — C.F.R.:** 24 C.F.R. Part 100. **Action:** The Department of Housing and Urban Development proposed to establish uniform standards for determining when a housing practice with a discriminatory effect violates the Fair Housing Act. **Contact:** Jeanine Worden, 202-402-5188. **More information:** <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-11-16/pdf/2011-29515.pdf>.

## Technology

**Partnerships for Innovation — Deadline:** March 1, 2012. **Eligibility:** Institutions of higher education. **Fund uses:** To facilitate the movement of academic research into the marketplace and increase its contributions to economic growth by building innovation capacity and accelerating innovation research. **Contact:** Sara Nerlove, 703-292-7077; snerlove@nsf.gov or Karlene Hoo, 703-292-4609; khoo@nsf.gov. **More information:** <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2012/nsf12511/nsf12511.htm#cont>. 