

154.14-030 Government Resources Accelerating Needed Transformation (GRANT) Program -- Administration -- Administrative regulations -- Operation -- Sunset -- Assistance by area development districts and state universities -- Identification of and application for available federal grants.

- (1) The Government Resources Accelerating Needed Transformation Program is hereby established under the cabinet. The cabinet's administration of the program includes but is not limited to the following:
 - (a) Creating and making available a standardized grant application and a regional grant application for the obligation of state funds under this subchapter to apply for matching federal funds;
 - (b) Developing a standardized scoring system pursuant to this section and KRS 154.14-050;
 - (c) Reviewing and processing applications submitted to the cabinet by eligible grant applicants;
 - (d) Verifying that an eligible grant applicant is seeking a federal grant for an eligible project;
 - (e) Evaluating the project proposed by the match application in accordance with the evaluation criteria set forth in this section and KRS 154.14-050;
 - (f) Scoring each application pursuant to the scoring system described in KRS 154.14-050;
 - (g) Ranking each match application:
 1. To prioritize the greatest return on investment and relative positive impact of the eligible project; and
 2. Based on the project evaluation and the project score described in this section and KRS 154.14-050;
 - (h) Identifying eligible grant applicants whose eligible project demonstrates a high level of investment potential if a match is provided, as revealed by the evaluation, scoring, and county population ranking process described in this section and KRS 154.14-050;
 - (i) Providing detailed feedback to the eligible grant applicants after the project evaluation and project score are completed and the application is approved or denied by the cabinet, unless otherwise prohibited by federal or state law;
 - (j) Obligating matching funds to selected eligible grant applicants; and
 - (k) Compiling the monthly and annual reports to be submitted under KRS 154.14-070.
- (2) The cabinet shall determine the terms, conditions, and requirements of grant awards from the GRANT Program fund. The cabinet may establish procedures and standards for the review and approval of the obligation of match funds through the promulgation of administrative regulations in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A.
- (3) The secretary of the cabinet shall have the authority to hire staff, contract for services, expend funds, and operate the normal business activities of the GRANT Program. Notwithstanding KRS Chapter 45A, the cabinet may contract with a third party for implementation and administration of the program.

- (4) The GRANT Program shall sunset on December 31, 2026, unless authorized by the General Assembly to continue its work for a specified period of time.
- (5) The Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts and local area development districts shall assist eligible grant applicants in identifying available federal grant opportunities and preparing federal grant applications and GRANT Program applications. This subsection shall not prevent any public agency or nonprofit entity from assisting eligible grant applicants in identifying available federal grant opportunities and preparing federal grant applications and GRANT Program applications.
- (6) Upon request of the local area development districts, a local public institution in the postsecondary education system as defined in KRS 164.001 shall assist the eligible grant applicants in their area by including but not limited to:
 - (a) Identifying opportunities for federal grants;
 - (b) Rendering supplemental support for federal grant applications on behalf of the communities including but not limited to providing data and analysis for the federal grant application; or
 - (c) Acting as the contact person for the local public institution to the Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts and to the area development district in which the local public institution is located and updating the contact person information.

Effective: March 24, 2025

History: Amended 2025 Ky. Acts ch. 71, sec. 2, effective March 24, 2025. -- Created 2024 Ky. Acts ch. 188, sec. 3, effective April 12, 2024.