

Grants Management

Grant Thornton value proposition

Grant funding is subject to laws and regulations that require compliance, accountability, monitoring and stewardship of award dollars. Grant Thornton utilizes strategies consistent with the President's Management Agenda (PMA) Cross-Agency Priority (CAP) Goal 8 — Results Oriented Accountability for Grants: 1) Standardize Data, 2) Develop Digital Risk Management Tools, and 3) Implement maturity models for grant programs; to develop tools and services that help agencies and recipients to effectively manage their grant awards portfolio.

Grant Thornton capabilities

The Risk Advisory Services (RAS) grant management capabilities are a nexus solution that combines offerings from Financial Management, Data Analytics, Strategy & Performance Improvement, and Assurance.

- Evidence based performance management
- Emergency management
- Performance audits
- Enterprise risk management and internal controls
- Fraud risk assessment and analytics

Client benefits

- Achieve compliance with legislation and regulations— DATA Act, GONE Act, 2 CFR 200 Uniform Guidance etc.
- Enhance decision making capability by quickly identifying patterns and trends in grant transactions.
- Leverage technology and data analytics to track and report performance and financial data, guide compliance reviews and monitoring of sub-recipients.
- Utilize data visualization tools to monitor grant spend & performance to validate scope outcomes.
- Increase data fidelity to properly account for funds during post-award monitoring of payments, account reconciliations & closeout de-obligations.

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Triggers

The awarding agency's objectives are:

- Compliance with the Government Accountability Office (GAO) Green Book and Uniform Guidance.
- Reduce fraud, prevent & abuse.
- Prevent and detect improper payments.

Client and thought leadership

- Assisting Florida Division of Emergency Management with conducting analysis of applicant expenditures in the FEMA grants portal comprised of 80,000+ applicants.
- Advised NASA in the reconciliation and closeout of over 6,000 grant transaction records to remediate an audit finding. Completed \$706 million in grant reconciliation & closeout transactions.
- Supported DOT Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration with a grants organizational review that consisted of observations and recommendations covering the grants lifecycle.
- Assessed the Annie E. Casey Foundation's single audit preparedness via grants management recommendations focused on process, people, strategy and structure.
- Partnered with the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) to co-chair the quarterly Grants Management Symposium to foster knowledge sharing and problem solving of critical issues in the grants management community.

What success looks like?

- Articulate grant program goals and results.
- Reduce time expended on administrative compliance.
- Enhance efforts to report program results.
- Achieve performance compliance through innovation.

Questions to ask?

- Are programmatic policies, procedures, and processes in place to achieve compliance?
- Do agreements clearly outline administrative requirements & state the desired outputs and outcomes?
- Does the workforce have the core competencies and experience to support & adapt to the use of innovative technologies?

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