Project Management and Grant Writing

Krisztina Barcsa

This teaching material has been made at the University of Szeged, and supported by the European Union. Project identity number: EFOP-3.4.3-16-2016-00014.



Lesson 4. **Grant Writing**

Grant writing is the "practice of completing an application process for a financial grant provided by an institution such as a government department, corporation, foundation or trust. Such application processes are often referred to as either a grant proposal or a grant submission." Those people, who are trained to write grant proposals, are called grant writers. Writing grants is not an easy job. You have to be very precise and accurate when you prepare a grant proposal and provide all the necessary documents and other components required by the funding organization.

There are two types of scenarios can be mentioned here:

1. You have a prepared project idea/project plan and you are searching for funding provided by an institution to be able to implement it. In this case, you are searching for those financial grants purposely, which are overlapping with your project. Crowdfunding, as an alternative way to gain financial support for your projects, is really popular nowadays. Crowdfunding is "the practice of obtaining needed funding (as for a new business) by soliciting contributions from a large number of people especially from the online community." The most popular crowdfunding websites are Kickstarter and Indiegogo.

>> Short Task <<

Browse a little on Kickstarter or Indiegogo, and check out some projects. Collect and write down 3-4 project idea, which are interesting for you.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

2. The second scenario is used by companies that specialized for grants and projects more often. In this case, you develop and design your project in the light of the available financial grants.

¹ Wikipedia.com, s.v. "Grant writing," https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grant writing.

² Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary, s.v. "crowdfunding," https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/crowdfunding.

The basic activities to write a grant proposal are:

- Go through and try to understand the call for grant proposals
- Analyzing the target audience and the purpose of the proposal
- Gathering the necessary information about the subject of the proposal
- Write and format the proposal
- Before you submit, revise and if it's necessary, edit your proposal
- Submit your proposal

Always be sure, that your proposal meets the specifications and requirements given by the funding organization!

This article summarizes well the most important tips and tasks to develop a good grant application. Please, read it. https://www.nonprofitpro.com/article/10-things-you-wish-you-knew-about-grant-writing/all/

Also, watch the following videos please:

- Grant Writing: The Basics. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WddrcheOYkA
- Project Proposal Writing: How To Write A Winning Project Proposal. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jsGBuu88WE0

It is not obligatory but highly recommended to watch this video as well, if you are want to learn more of the details of grant writing: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hFBRgiyTt7E

Assignment

Practice Quiz

• You can find the quiz here: https://forms.gle/8DC6hQ3w7VWC4poM7