




Organization Background –

The Qualifications Component of the Proposal

Irene A. Taylor, PAD5850



“A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour than silver and gold.” Proverbs 22:1

The **Organization Background** statement, like a good name, establishes the credibility of an organization.

How credible is your organization?

The grantor wants to know that you can pull off the project if given the money.





Describe your organization –

- **Past** – Who are you? What have you done?
- **Present** – What are you doing?
- **Future** – What are your operational goals?



Past — Who are you? What have you done?

■ Brief History of Organization

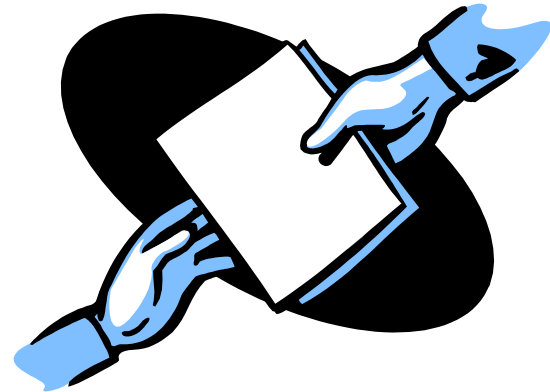
- When and where did you start
- Legal status
- Board Members – Brief Introduction/Biography
- Mission

■ Accomplishments

- Completed Projects/Programs
- Previous Funding

Present – What are you doing?

- Current Programs and Funding
- Financial Stability
- Size/Growth
- Target Audience
- Supporting Organizations



Future – What are your operational goals?

- Sustainability Plans
- Connection between Organization and Grantor





Suggestions

- Know the History of your Organization
 - Is there a current website?
- Know the Financial Status
 - Review the 990 Forms on GuideStar
- Know the Accomplishments
 - What recognition has your organization received?

Summary

The **Organization Background** statement paints a picture of an organization that causes the grantor to believe in its worthiness to receive funding.



References

Carlson, M. (2002). *Winning Grants - Step by Step* (Second ed.). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

NP Times How To - Grants. (2008). Retrieved September 2, 2009, from The NonProfit Times - The Leading Business Publication for Nonprofit Management:

<http://www.nptimes.com/howtos/grants.html>

Preparing the Proposal. (1996-2009). Retrieved September 2, 2009, from Winning Grant Proposals:

<http://teacher.net/archive/grants.html>

Thompson, F. C. (Ed.). (2003). *The Thompson Chain-Reference Bible King James Version* (fifth ed.). Indianapolis, Indiana: B. B. Kirkbride Bible Co., Inc.

Tips on Writing a Grant Proposal. (2009, September). Retrieved September 4, 2009, from US EPA Grants and Debarment:

<http://www.epa.gov/ogd/recipients/tips.htm>