Applying for Federal Funding Using Grants.gov

- 1: Understand the federal funding agency
- 2: Grants.gov: Search and apply
- 3: Tips for Applicants

RECLAMATION

1. The federal funding agency

Each agency has its own mission, goals, and expectations on the use of federal funds.

Sometimes a proposed project will complement the work of multiple federal agencies.

The NOFO should detail how to find information about the funding agency: website, regional or local office contact, *etc*.

As an executive agency, we do what the legislative branch tells us to do. In the absence of such direction, we can exercise discretion.

If you understand the agency's perspective, you might be able to design a project that has a more meaningful ROI for the funding agency.

2. Grants.gov

- Funding is for your project; your project is not for funding.
- Money is competitively awarded through Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs).
- NOFOs are “forecasted”, “posted”, “closed”, or “archived”.
- Previous NOFOs can provide insight into current and future NOFOs and how to apply.

Navigating Grants.gov (1 of 2)

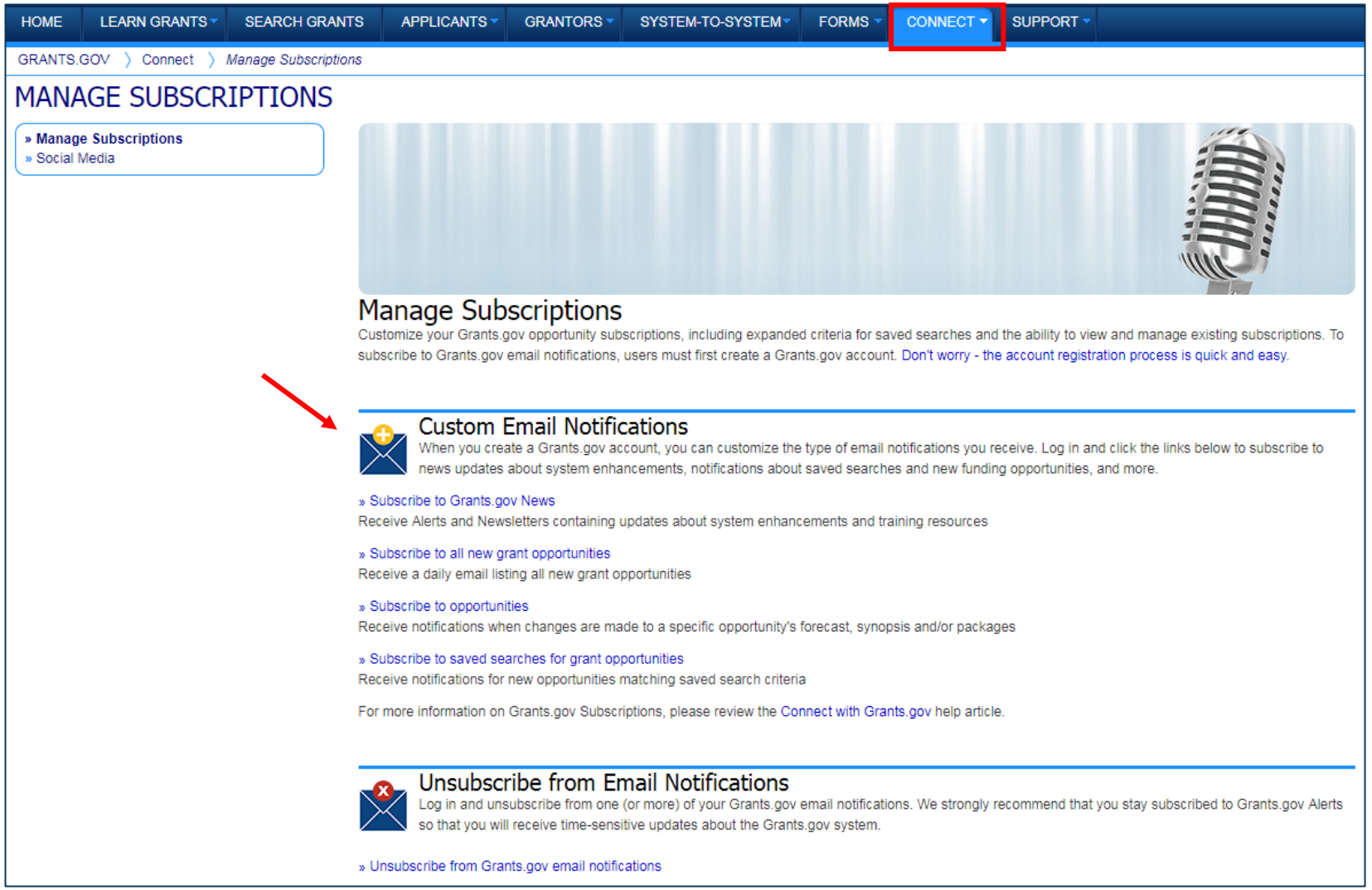
Applicant Resources: Videos, User Guide, Training Content, FAQs and More



RECLAMATION

Navigating Grants.gov (2 of 2)

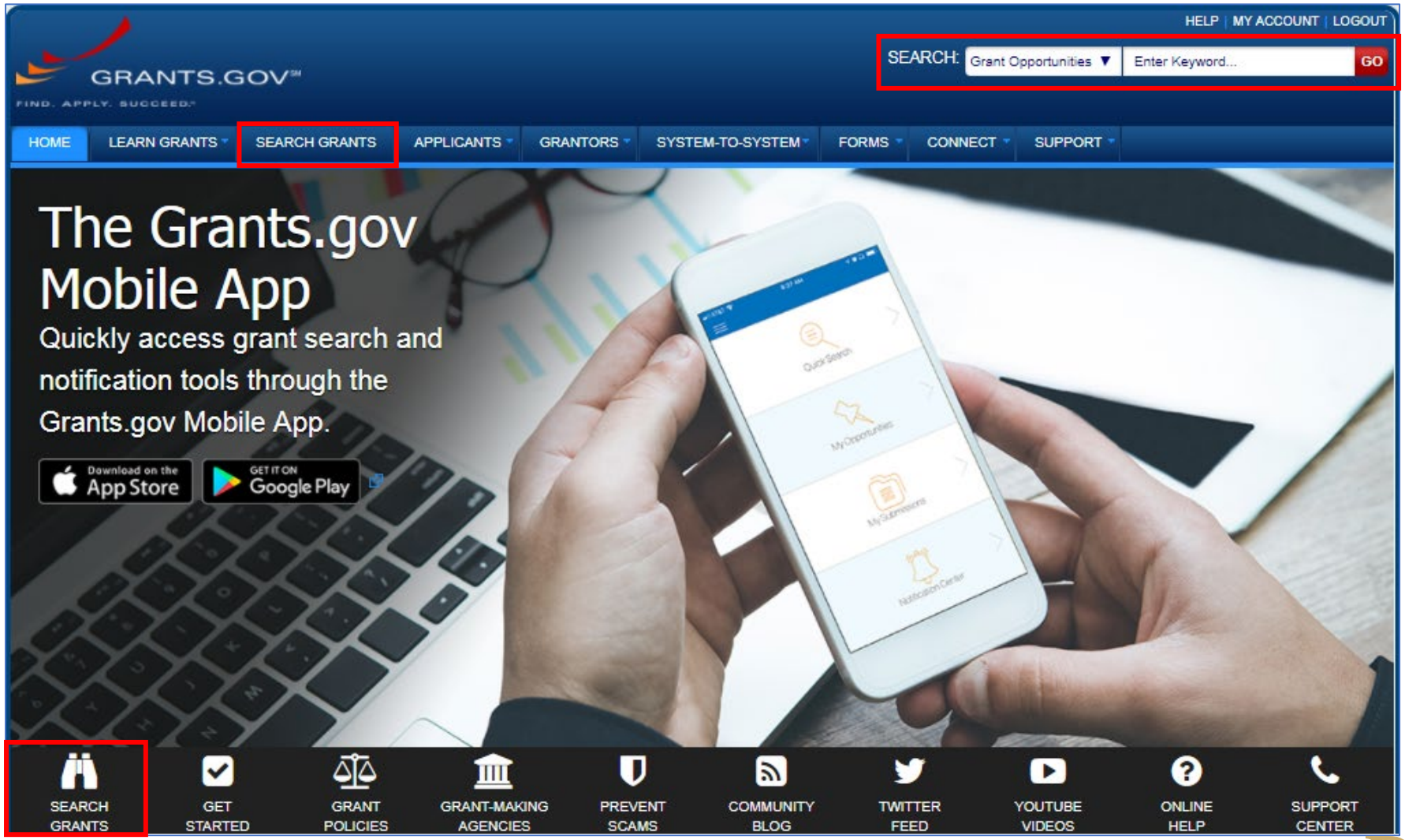
Subscriptions and Email Notifications



RECLAMATION

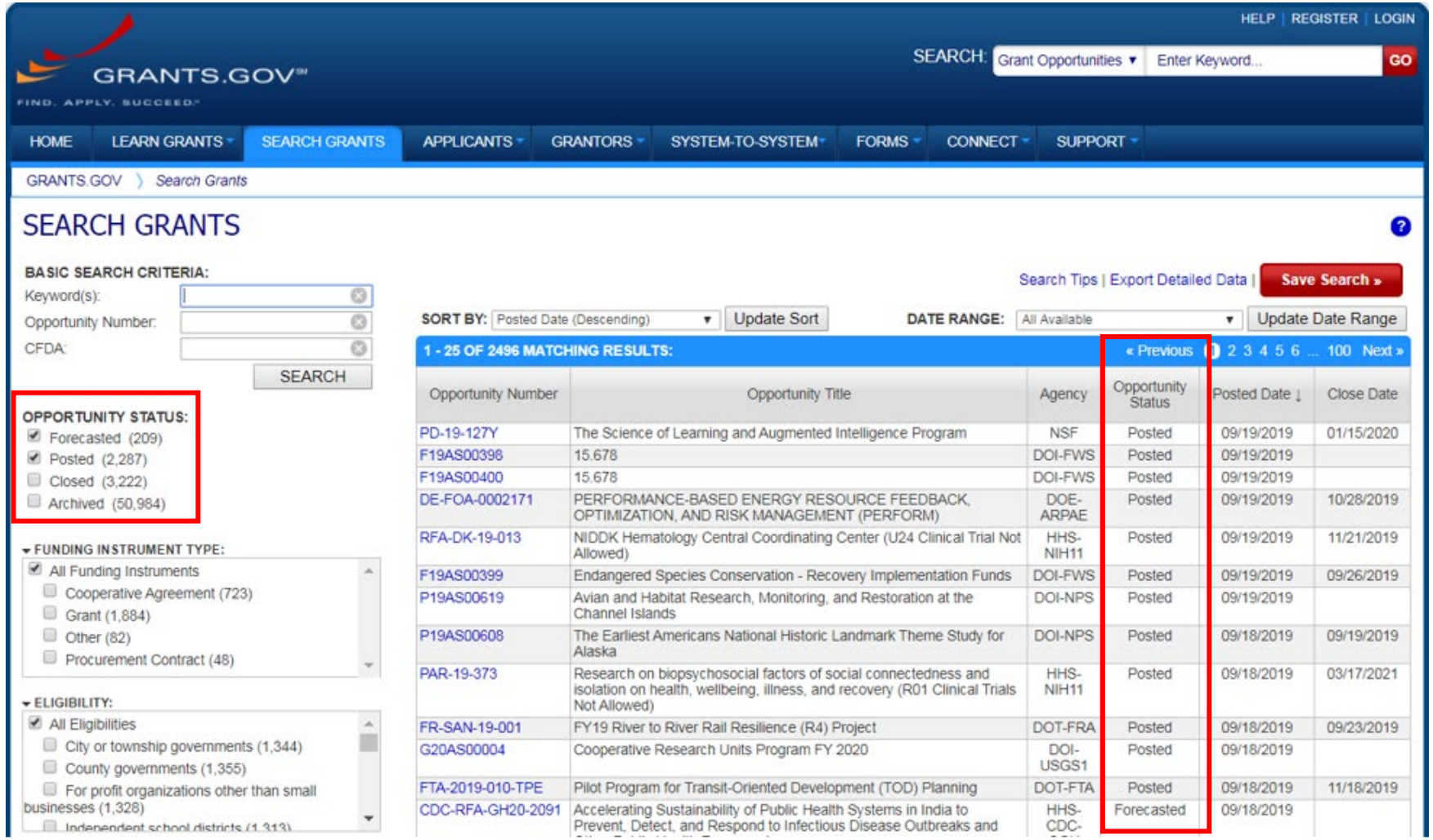
Searching for Funding Opportunities (1 of 3)

Using the Grants.gov Search Fields



RECLAMATION

Searching for Funding Opportunities (2 of 3)



Select the Opportunity Status to find what you are looking for:

Forecasted - Potential grants in the near future

Posted - Currently open grants

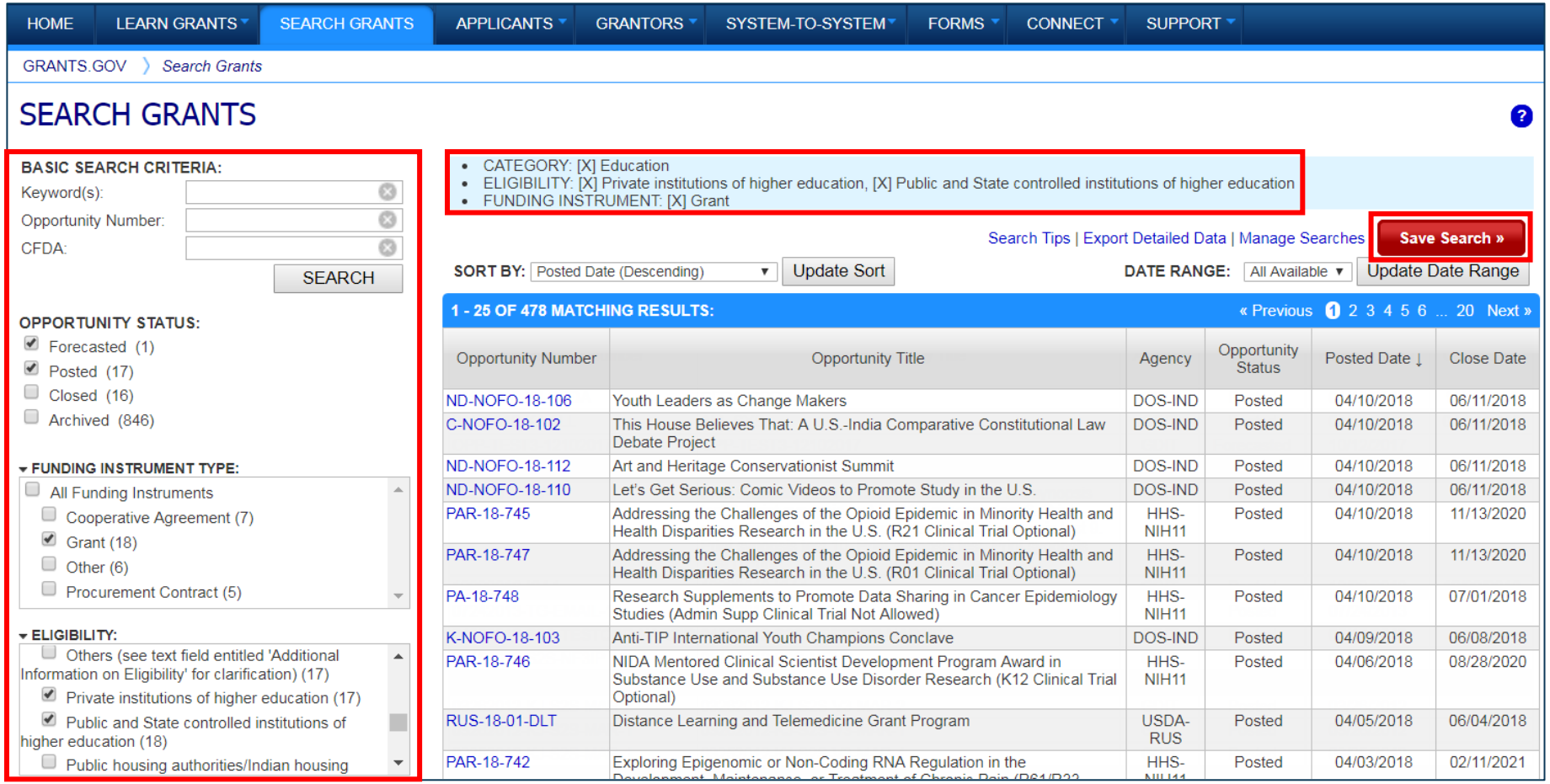
Closed - Recently ended grants

Archived - Past grants available for reference

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Searching for Funding Opportunities (3 of 3)

Sign In and Save Your Search



Search:

- CFDA Number
- Keyword
- Eligibility
- Funding Agency
- Opportunity Status

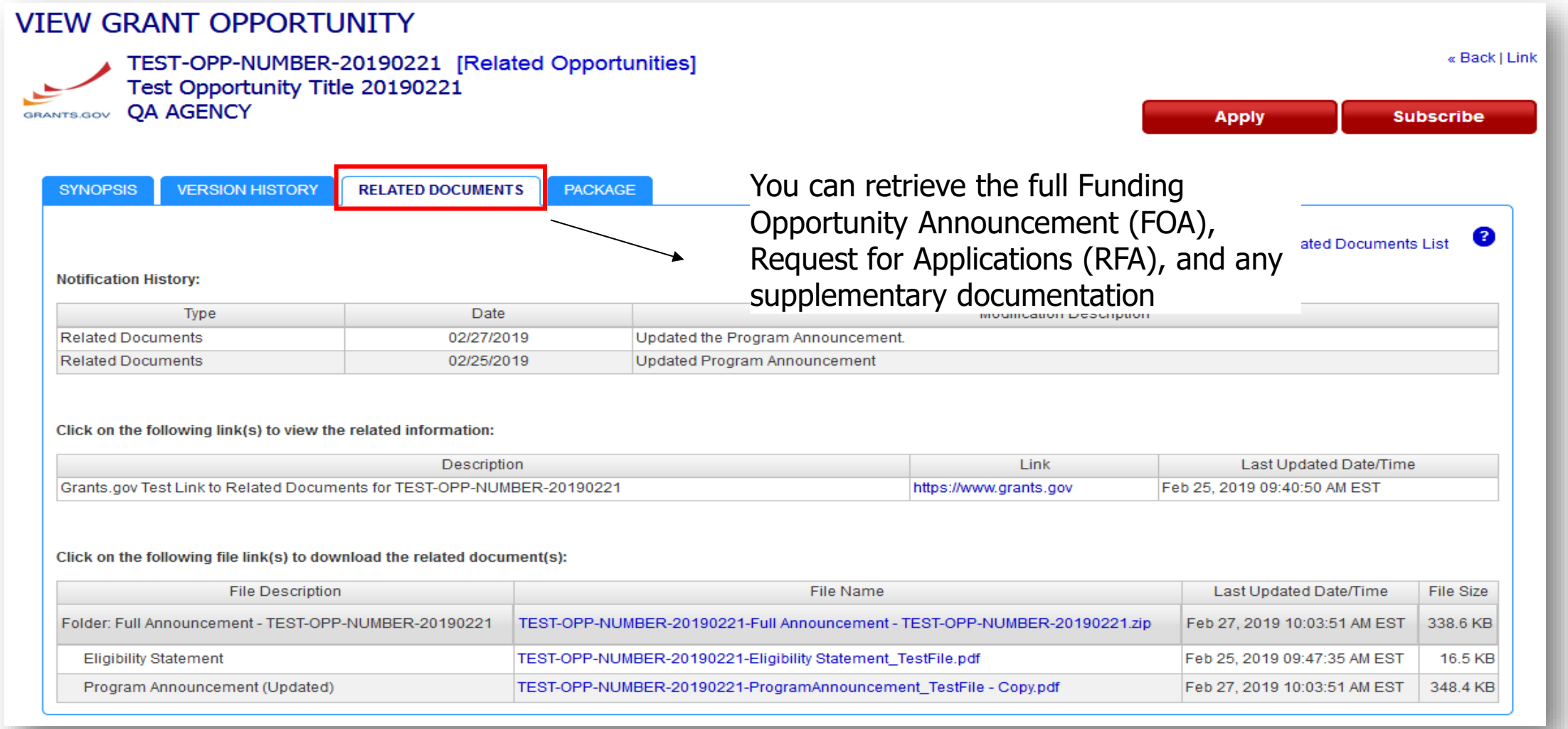
Click "Save Search" button to store this set of search criteria to receive emails

Click "Manage Searches" link to review your saved searches

RECLAMATION

What's in a Funding Opportunity?

Full Announcement – Under "Related Documents" Tab



VIEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY

TEST-OPP-NUMBER-20190221 [Related Opportunities]
Test Opportunity Title 20190221
QA AGENCY

« Back | Link

Apply | Subscribe

SYNOPSIS | VERSION HISTORY | RELATED DOCUMENTS | PACKAGE

ated Documents List

Notification History:

Type	Date	Modification Description
Related Documents	02/27/2019	Updated the Program Announcement.
Related Documents	02/25/2019	Updated Program Announcement

Click on the following link(s) to view the related information:

Description	Link	Last Updated Date/Time
Grants.gov Test Link to Related Documents for TEST-OPP-NUMBER-20190221	https://www.grants.gov	Feb 25, 2019 09:40:50 AM EST

Click on the following file link(s) to download the related document(s):

File Description	File Name	Last Updated Date/Time	File Size
Folder: Full Announcement - TEST-OPP-NUMBER-20190221	TEST-OPP-NUMBER-20190221-Full Announcement - TEST-OPP-NUMBER-20190221.zip	Feb 27, 2019 10:03:51 AM EST	338.6 KB
Eligibility Statement	TEST-OPP-NUMBER-20190221-Eligibility Statement_TestFile.pdf	Feb 25, 2019 09:47:35 AM EST	16.5 KB
Program Announcement (Updated)	TEST-OPP-NUMBER-20190221-ProgramAnnouncement_TestFile - Copy.pdf	Feb 27, 2019 10:03:51 AM EST	348.4 KB

You can retrieve the full Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), Request for Applications (RFA), and any supplementary documentation

RECLAMATION

NOFO: Understanding the Goals

RECLAMATION
Managing Water in the West

Funding Opportunity Announcement No: R15AS00026

Bay-Delta Restoration Program: CALFED Water Use Efficiency Grants



U.S. Department of the Interior
Mid-Pacific Region
Sacramento, California
Bureau of Reclamation

January 2015

Synopsis

Synopsis

Federal Agency Name:	Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region
Funding Opportunity Title:	Bay-Delta Restoration Program: CALFED Water Use Efficiency Grants, California Bay-Delta Constituents
Announcement Type:	Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)
Funding Opportunity Number:	R15AS00026
Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:	15.533
Dates: (See FOA Sec. IV.B)	Application due date: **March 20, 2015** 12:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time
Eligible Applicants: (See FOA Sec. III.A)	Indian tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, or other organizations with water or power delivery authority located in the state of California.
Recipient Cost Share: (See FOA Sec. III.E)	Non-Federal Sources: 50% or more of project costs
Estimated Federal Funding Amount: (See FOA Sec. II.B)	Up to $750,000.00 per agreement.
Estimated Number of Agreements to be Awarded: (See FOA Sec. II.B)	Approximately 4-12, depending on requested funding amounts for selected projects and final Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 appropriations.
Estimated Total Amount of Funding Available for Award: (See FOA Sec. II.A)	Up to $8.0 million is estimated to be available for award under this FOA, Applications submitted under this FOA also may be considered if other funding becomes available in FY 2015 or thereafter. This FOA may be canceled at any time if sufficient funding is not available.

NOFO: The Criteria

The evaluation criteria portion of your application should thoroughly address each criterion and sub-criterion in the order presented to assist in the complete and accurate evaluation of your proposal.

It is suggested that applicants copy and paste the evaluation criteria and sub-criteria in into their applications to ensure that all necessary information is adequately addressed.

Table 1. Evaluation Categories and Point Distribution

Category	Possible Points
1. Conservation Benefits	20
2. Water Benefits in Relation to Delta Supply	15
3. Environmental Benefits	15
4. Technical/Scientific Merit	10
5. Cost Effective Budget and Project Costs	10
6. Performance Measures and Project Monitoring	10
8. Ability to Implement the Proposed Project	15
9. Water Management Plan	05
Total	**100**

The Technical Proposal should thoroughly address, in the order presented below, each of the following categories.

1. Conservation Benefits (20 points maximum)
Please calculate the *lifetime* project water savings as related to the percentage of the applicant's water supply received from the Bay-Delta by multiplying the project's total *lifetime* conserved water benefit by the percent of Bay-Delta water supply received by the applicant. For implementation projects that ONLY result in water better managed, attribute 10% of benefits to conservation (*i.e.*, multiply benefit by 0.1 in calculation).

Example:
A subcontractor of a primary contractor (Contractor) has submitted a project proposal.
The project is estimated to save 1,670 AF of water over the life of the project.
The subcontractor gets 65% of their water from the Contractor (the rest is groundwater and recycled). The Contractor receives 60% of their water from the Delta.

1,670 X .65 (65% of subcontractor's water is from Contractor) = 1,085 AF
1,085 X .60 (60% of Contractor's water is from the Delta) = 651 AF of water is their Delta Water Savings

2. Water Benefits in Relation to Delta Supply (15 points maximum)
Using the *annual* quantity of Delta water conservation benefits, please calculate and state the percentage of Delta water supply that will be conserved by the project. For implementation projects that better manage water, attribute only 10% of benefits to conservation (*i.e.*, multiply benefit by 0.1 in calculation)

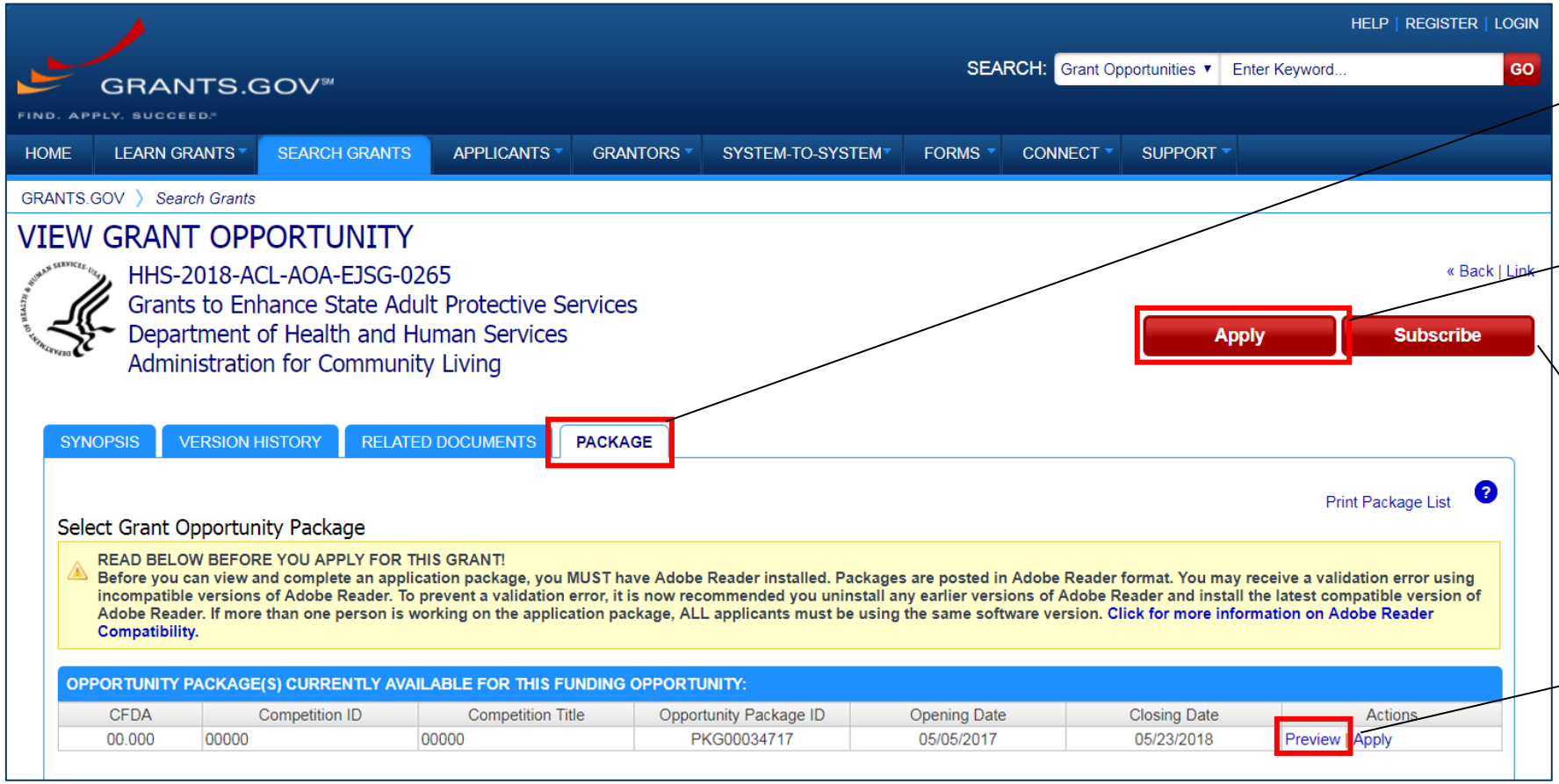
Example (Based upon the same application as above):
The project is estimated to save 85 AF/year. 85 X .65 = 54 AF of water from Contractor
54 X .60 = 32 AF of water is attributed to Delta water
32 AF divided by 180,000 AF (total annual supply for the subcontractor) = 0.01%

3. Environmental Benefits (15 points maximum).
Using qualitative and quantitative data about the proposed project, please address the following:

- Contribution towards one or more of the CALFED objectives: improving flows in the Bay-Delta, reducing irrecoverable water losses, attaining water quality benefits or attaining ecosystem benefits.
- Describe measurable benefits that are quantified or qualitative targets.
- Identify the direct benefits of the proposed work, including estimated acre-feet of water conserved or better managed, and any indirect benefits. Provide support for how estimates of the benefits were made (*e.g.*, calculations, measurements and references).
- Identify the estimated period of time during which direct and indirect benefits will be derived (*i.e.*, life of the project in number of years and whether benefits would occur year-round).
- Describe any long-term direct Bay-Delta benefits.
- Describe any State-wide (*i.e.*, not local) benefits.
- Complete and include the following Project Benefit Table:

Benefit	Calculated Amount
Reduce Leaks and Seepage	Acre-Feet/Year
Reduces System Spills	Acre-Feet/Year
Makes More Water Available for Crop Use	Acre-Feet/Year
Reduces Diversions	Acre-Feet/Year
Reduces Operation Costs	$/Year
Reduces Energy Costs	$/Year
Reduces Waste Treatment Cost	$/Year
Improves Crop Yield	%/Year
Reduces On-Farm Costs	$/Year
Reduces Per Capita Use	Gals/Capita/Day
Provides Technical Training	# of People
Provides Water Conservation Education	# of People
Improves Water Supply Reliability	Frequency (Years)
Reduces Drainage Induced Erosion	Tons/year
Improves Water Quality	% Reduction of
Enhances Aquatic/Riparian Habitat	Acres
Endangered Species	Yes/No

Grants.gov—The Application Package



Click the Package tab to preview the application package forms

Log in to create a workspace to apply

Sign up for emails of changes made to this funding opportunity

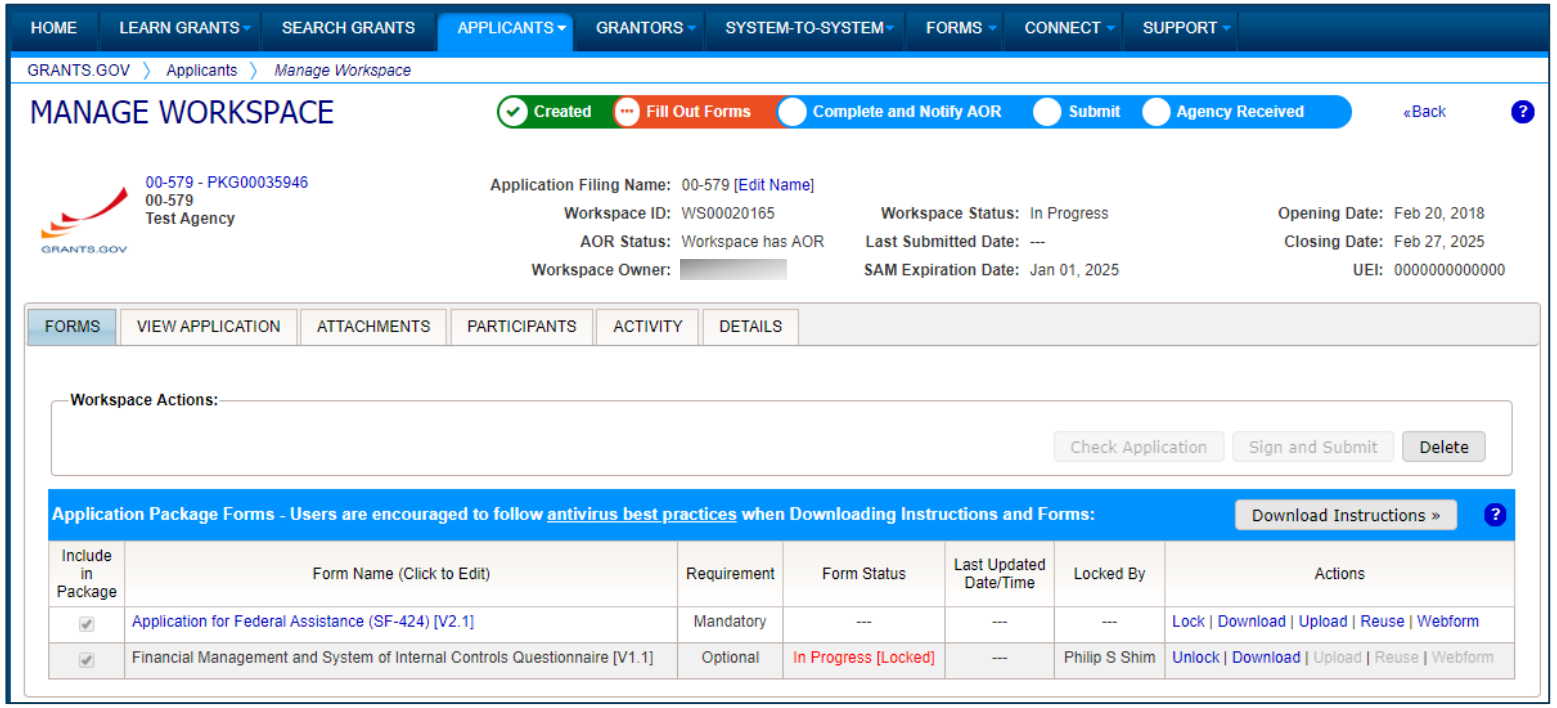
Click Preview link to access read-only forms and application instructions

*Any Closed packages associated with the NOFO will be listed near the bottom of the Package tab, within a separate grid.

RECLAMATION

What Is Grants.gov Workspace?

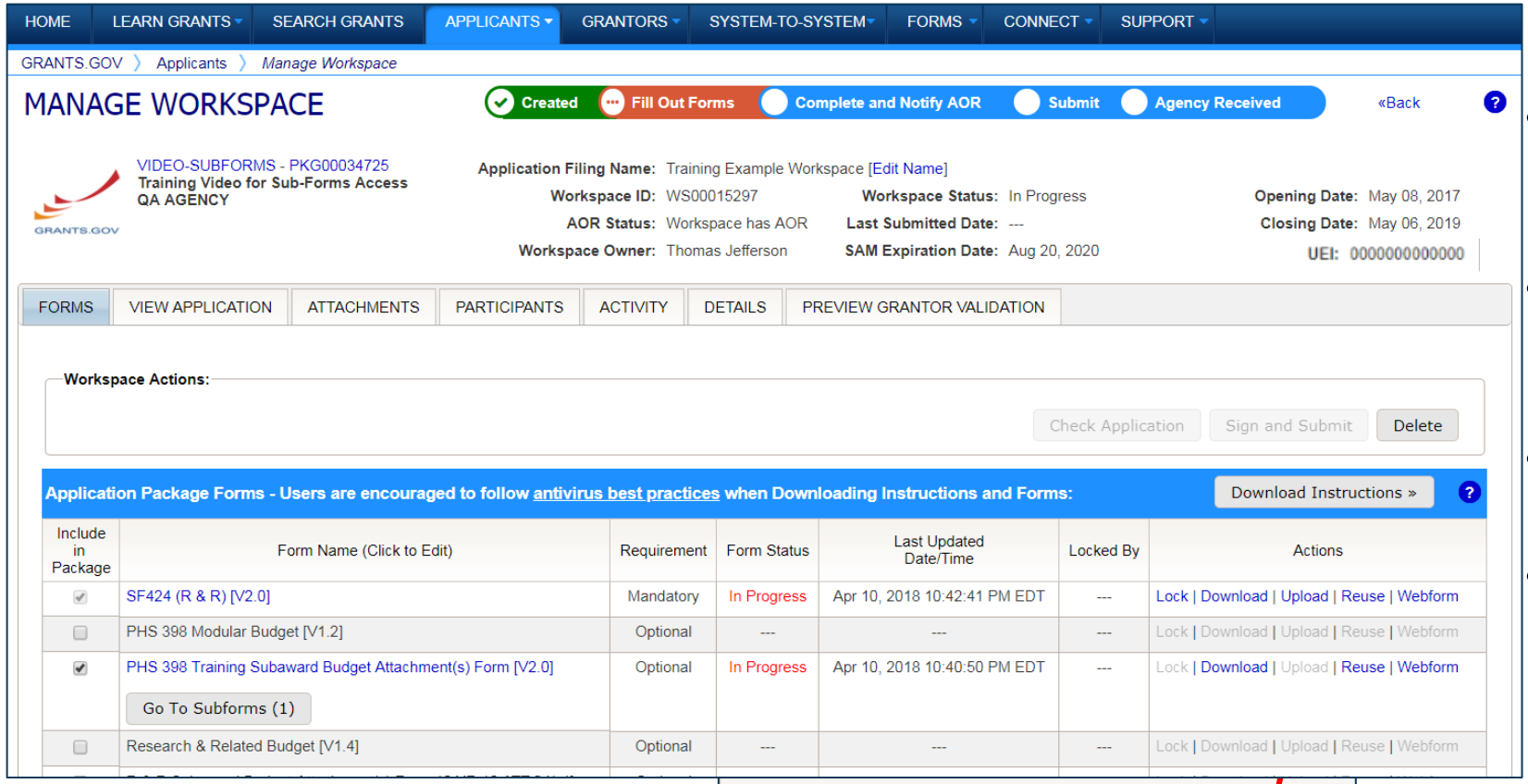
The online space on where you work on your grant application

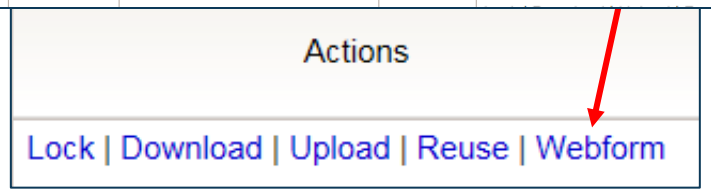


Workspace is a **shared, online environment** where members of a grant team may simultaneously access and fill out forms within an application.

RECLAMATION

Completing Workspace Forms



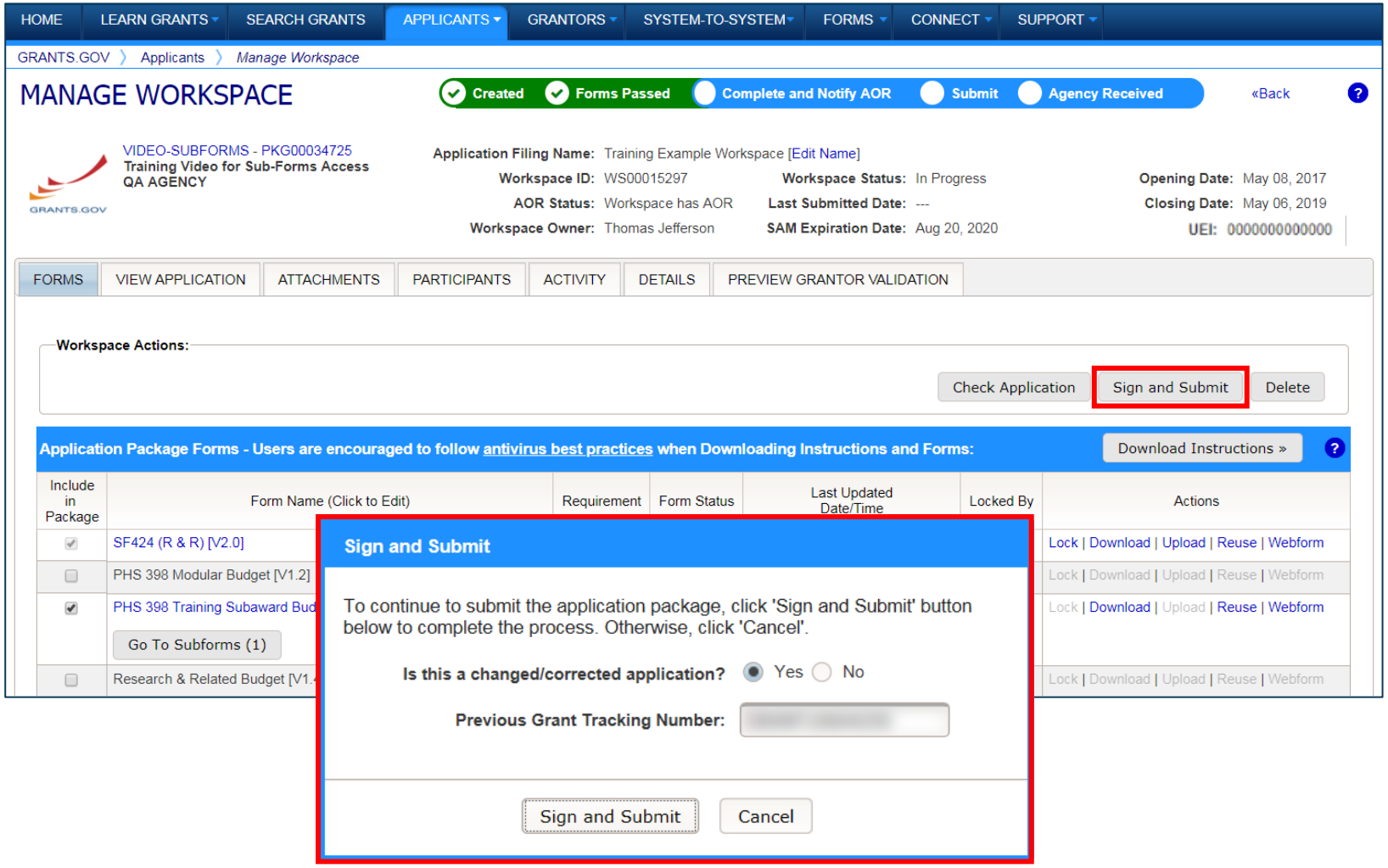


Key Actions:

- Fill out webforms (*if available*)
- Download and Upload PDF forms
- Lock/Unlock forms
- Reuse forms from other workspace

RECLAMATION

Workspace: Submit Application



Process:

- Workspace Manager notifies users with AOR role
- User with AOR role submits
- Workspace Manager or AOR may choose to Reopen Workspace

RECLAMATION

After Submitting Your Application

- Make sure you receive an on-screen confirmation receipt
- Document your Grants.gov Tracking Number (GRANTXXXXXXXX)
- The date/time stamp is the official time of submission
- You will also receive email confirmations

Submission Confirmation Messages

Grants.gov Submission Receipt Email

- Your application has been received by Grants.gov
- Grants.gov E-mail Verifying Receipt *(with Track My Application URL)*

Grants.gov Submission Validation or Rejection Email

- Grants.gov E-mail Verifying Successful Submission
- **OR** Rejection Due to Errors with a description of issue

Transmission to Agency

- The Agency has received the Agency Retrieval Email from Grants.gov

Agency Emails

- The Agency may also send you an agency tracking number, notes, or other confirmation emails

3. Tips for Applicants

- Register and submit early
- Thoroughly read and follow all of the instructions provided by the agency
- Fill out SF-424 forms first
- Include sufficient program and budget details
- Recommend completing the optional forms in the application
- Your project will be evaluated based solely on what is in the application.
- Tell a compelling story about your project.
- Limit application file size / file name characters (50 characters or less)
- Use only UTF-8 characters in file names
- Use correct DUNS number (Unique Entity Identifier or UEI) when creating a workspace
- Make sure you have Grants.gov compatible PDF software (Adobe Reader)
- NEPA compliance is not required prior to award, but must be completed prior to any ground-disturbing activities. NEPA cannot be retrospective.