

Grant Proposals for Community College Adjuncts **By Lisa Chaddock, Grossmont Cayumaca College, San Diego**

If you don't ask, the answer is no.

First, check with your administrator (Chair, Dean) - some either do not want to work with you, or do not have the qualifications to do the work on the grant. Or, your school may have a grant writing group or committee with whom you must work. Find out the steps before you go charging off.

Look for a grant that will fit your school. You will not qualify for a huge amount of money if you are at a small college on your own. Look for other schools or college/universities to collaborate with, in case your school is not eligible because of either size or lead person degrees.

Community Colleges are teaching facilities. Dept of education is always an option, even though they focus on K-12.

Other government agencies give block grants to colleges (like Title V) so that a lot of small amounts are shared within the larger campus. Check with your administrator to see if there are any state grants already received for which you can apply.

Industry partnership and Government agency partnership can also be an option. Maybe you are near a National or State Park that would like to work with you, or perhaps the local industry would like your campus to run a special training in something that you can work on for both curriculum and instruction.

Formulate your idea for your project. Outline a problem that can be solved through research experience with students involved. Create a book of poetry with you as editor and students as writers, picking a hot topic. Create a campus piece of public art while teaching students the process of getting the funding, clearances, licenses, etc., for that art. Whatever your specialty, there is a way to turn it into a program that can be funded.

Attend conferences put on by the granting organization, to get a feel for what they are looking for. Look at the proposals previously granted to see what the organization tends to put money toward, especially recently. Talk to others who have received that grant to learn about the proposal process.

Go to the grant website, and when you are ready to put forth a proposal, read through the instructions carefully to make sure that your idea is a good fit, and that you have the necessary personnel at your campus to work on this grant proposal. For instance, if you are going for a science grant that requires your lead to be the dean, and your dean has a BA in business, you won't qualify. If you are going for a grant, and your school does not have a person who can serve as an accounting source, you may need to collaborate with a school that does have the infrastructure in place to keep the grant running.

Assemble your team, and get others to work together with you. Most government agencies would prefer that you work in a team in case one person drops out. Schools can be reticent for this reason, to even go for grant funding, because they are left to finish the work if the proposing faculty were to leave.

FOR LINKS TO AVAILABLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE GRANT APPLICATIONS GO TO:

